ABSTRACT

The integrated farming may be defined as a farming practice which utilizes the same unit of land in the production of various crops and rearing of animal concurrently. The important role played by crop-livestock industry in such a system is identified with such farmer benefits as additional farm income, source of food consumption, draught power and farm manure for various crop, in the integrated farm. This study was conducted in Nikkavaratiya Divisional Secretarial and Bingiriya Divisional Secretarial in the Kurunagale district. The main objective includes the determination of contribution of crop-livestock integrated farming on nutritional requirements on farm family, in the two study villages. Four farms were randomly selected (Two integrated and two non integrated) from the villages and the study was carried as a case study. Questionnaire and interview schedule methods were used to obtain the necessary data.

Of the studied farms, a higher amount of income was provided by the integrated farming. Also 82.8% of energy, 65.02% of protein, 66.9% of fats and 67% of carbohydrate were provided by the integrated farm from milk, eggs, and meat were the main sources of food from livestock in the integrated farming. Farmers in the study area grew paddy, coconut - their perennial high land crop mixed with other crops like banana, pineapple, vegetable and some of the fruit crops which were cultivated in crop-livestock farm. The other advantages like Biogas unit and the use of animal droppings to produce compost, which is good source for the cultivation of crops. The farmers did not use chemical fertilizers and pesticides. These farmers maintained an environment friendly production unit.

When integrated farms and non-integrated farms were compared, the average percentage of monthly income was higher in the integrated farm. New technology and credit facilities should be provided to improve the integrated farms further. Providing proper market system and transport facilities can increase the efficiency of the production.

Key words: - Integrated farm, Nutritional requirements