

Review of: "Land Size Class Wise Growth of Crop Diversification Index: A Case Study From Murshidabad District of West Bengal"

Masaaki Kurasaki¹

¹ Hokkaido University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This manuscript describes an increasing trend in crop diversification at both the land area class category level and the block level in Murshidabad district of West Bengal from 1995-96 to 2015-16. The authors highlighted that some blocks within this district had seen significant improvements in their dispersion index over a 20-year period. Additionally, they reported that across land size categories, boundaries and smaller landholdings were found to have an increased predominance within districts. However, little explanation has been given as to why diversifying crop varieties is beneficial for farmers. The authors need to demonstrate the advantages of crop diversity in agriculture over large-scale monocrop agriculture with a concentration of small farmers. One method may be to examine changes in income by crop or farm size during 1995-96 to 2015-16.

In addition, there are some points which the authors should address as follows:

1. There are some typographical and grammatical errors in the manuscript. English should be checked again throughout.
2. The purpose of the research in the "Abstract" is ambiguous.
3. It was unclear what was meant by "tackle those abovementioned challenges" in the first paragraph of the "Introduction".
4. In the second paragraph of the "Introduction", the authors only provided one example, even though they state the following; "the concept of diversification carries different meanings to different scholars at different levels."
5. Why did the authors choose one district in West Bengal and two periods?
6. "Result and Discussion" should be "Results and Discussion."
7. The content of the first paragraph of "Results and Discussion" seems to be based on the data in Table 1 rather than on Figure 2.
8. It seems difficult to understand how to view Figure 2. Please explain in more detail.