

# Review of: "Urban Agroecosystems in Dynamic Yamuna River Sandbars in Delhi, Capital City of India"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## Urban Agroecosystems in Dynamic Yamuna River Sandbars in Delhi, Capital City of India: Pulak Dash

### My observations about the paper

1. The author has studied the socio-economic aspect of sand bars at two sites in Yamuna river, near Delhi (India). Methodology involved using a semi-structured questionnaire to get the relevant information about the resource extraction and livelihood practices of the people dependent on the sandbars. Focus group discussions (FGDs) were used to find out the relevant information.
2. The paper has been well written, The introduction part is little longer, which may be reduced.
3. The study assumes significance because it has brought out the significance of small area like sand bar, in the vicinity of big cities like Delhi, which are used for vegetable cultivation, livestock rearing and fisheries right in the consumption in the city.
4. The author has given good information about Site 1. Completely attached to the bank, and a new, comparatively smaller bar emerged parallelly towards the upper left side. The channel deposits have 23.7 acres in 2016 out of which 8 acres is under cultivated mainly for vegetables. The sandbars also being visited by people who practice livestock rearing and those raise chickens which are dependent for various types of insects that they eat grains that bloom over grasses.
5. Similarly for Site 2., There are only two bars in 2016. The area coverage also changed from around 44.7 acres to 51.4 acres in 10 years. One farmer cultivated (area a) around 20 acres in 2016, while the other farmer cultivated about 8. The crops grown include pumpkin, ridged gourd, bitter melon, bottle gourd, and tomato. Farmers also graze their animals such as cow, buffalo, and goat on the naturally occurring grasses. Total population dependent on the sandbar for various activities is 124, out of which 90 are labourers who are engaged in the agricultural fields of the farmers. These labourers are dependent on the island for 8 months, after which they migrate to their hometown in Bihar.
6. I recommend the paper for publication.