



# THE CHALLENGES AND IMPACT OF CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

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## ABSTRACT

For the improvement of conservation agriculture (CA), various countries deal with various issues. Despite the fact that there are various impediments that keep CA from being broadly embraced, drives to create, improve, and scatter conservation-based rural innovation have been continuous in India for around 20 years and have accomplished extraordinary advancement from that point forward. In the Indo-Gangetic fields, huge exertion has been placed into no-till wheat development in a rice-wheat pivot. Reception of CA has a larger number of advantages than disadvantages, yet the two adopters and advertisers know about how the two variables should adjust each other. Using CA innovation, it is feasible to bring down creation costs, monitor water and supplements, help yields, enhance crops, upgrade resource use, and safeguard the climate. Nonetheless, there are still boundaries to the advancement of CA innovations. These incorporate the absence of appropriate seeders, especially for little and medium-sized ranchers, the contention between CA use and domesticated animals taking care of over crop buildups, the consuming of yield deposits, the absence of gifted and logical work, and the need to change individuals' insights about culturing. One of the few post hoc studies on the impact of incorporating conservation agriculture into household food security outcomes is presented in this handout. Given the disjointed findings, this review suggests that conservation agro-ranchers in the three countries are encouraged to adopt value chain systems. This requires the consideration of high-worth or business crops in conservation agriculture programs, the improvement of rancher yield, admittance to the fundamental help administrations, like business sectors for seed, manure, gear, and herbicides, and dependable expansion. In these circumstances, we figure conservation agriculture can effectively bring down food uncertainty and destitution for a really long time.

**Keywords:** Conservation Agriculture, Sustainable Agriculture, Challenges, Resource use Efficiency

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The principal challenges confronting most of Asian nations are guaranteeing food security for a developing populace and lessening destitution while keeping up with horticultural frameworks in the ongoing climate of exhausting regular resources, unfavorable impacts of climatic changeability, spiraling info expenses, and unpredictable food costs. Notwithstanding these troubles, salinization, soil disintegration, and soil natural matter decrease are the principal signs that rural frameworks are not sustainable. They are generally achieved by: (a) weighty culturing-initiated soil natural matter decrease, (b) soil underlying corruption, (c) inadequate natural material return, (d) surface fixing and crusting, (e) lower water infiltration rates, and (f) monocropping. Consequently, a worldview change in cultivating rehearses is fundamental for future efficiency propels while saving regular resources (killing unsustainable parts of ordinary agriculture, like furrowing/plowing the dirt, eliminating all-natural material, and monoculture).

Quite possibly of the greatest trouble confronting the world in the 21st century is guaranteeing food security for a developing populace, particularly in less evolved nations, and making sustainable rural creation frameworks. The trouble is to give sufficient food to everybody while at the same time satisfying the rising need for meat, eggs, organic products, and vegetables from the fostering scene's quickly developing working class. Because of approaching environmental change-related risks, which have previously started to have adverse results on numerous rural creation frameworks all over the planet, the troubles are turning out to be substantially more convoluted. We should create additional food from less-developed land as increasingly more horticultural land is being changed over completely to modern and private uses all over the planet. This will make it harder to meet the world's food needs since it would overburden the generally powerless regular resource base, especially water and land. To keep regular resources from being disintegrated by water and wind, which is hurried by human action, there is a pressing need to monitor or try and further develop them.

Conservation agriculture was initially practiced as a method of gathering water and conserving fuel. It is more than just a moisture- and fuel-saving technique, though. Reduced cost of fuel and lubricant used in tractors and other self-propelled vehicles is related to less soil disturbance under CA. Crop residue left on the soil surface in California promotes soil aggregate and organic carbon while reducing runoff, soil erosion, and evaporation. Under CA, productivity and profitability are significantly impacted by efficient weed control. Crop rotation is a CA component that supports biodiversity, balances soil nutrients, and reduces weed spectrum. Despite its many advantages, CA has not been widely used. The primary areas to concentrate on to promote CA among farmers are farmer awareness of CA, field level training, creation and field demonstration of simple and effective CA machines, and efficient weed control methods.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Conservation agriculture (CA), which is characterized as negligible soil unsettling influence (no-till, NT) and extremely durable soil cover (mulch), matched with turns, is underscored by Hobbs, P. R., Sayre, and Gupta (2008) as a more sustainable creation approach for what's to come. Agriculture relies vigorously upon development and culturing. Prior to taking on conservation culturing (CT), a training that rose up out of the American residue bowl of the 1930s, the benefits of culturing in agriculture are analyzed.

The possibilities of current sugarcane cultivating rehearses are portrayed, and some better development and the executives works on tending to the standards of conservation agriculture (CA) in conquering these obstructions are assessed by Tabriz, S. S., Kader, M. A., Rokonuzzaman, M., Hossen, M. S., and Awal (2021). Monoculture, unreasonable culturing, and trash consuming in the wake of reaping have all been viewed as significant supporters of rising sugarcane creation costs, disintegrating soil wellbeing, and declining stick yields. Ranchers in Bangladesh are accessing various better conservation culturing gadgets used for cereals, beats, and different yields; be that as it may, these machines are not utilized for sugarcane manors. While least culturing can be a resource-saving choice for sugarcane development,

its use is compelled because of an absence of gear that is satisfactory for the errand.

The overall dismissal of orientation worries in research on CA in SSA was noted by Wekesah, F. M., Mutua, E. N., and Izugbara, C. O. in 2019. The sum and extent of the accessible examinations were both limited to a couple of nations in the district. Few examinations considered orientation concerning the socially made jobs of people, though the larger part outlined it regarding the sexual classifications of male and female. There was likewise insignificant accentuation on orientation as a social peculiarity. Ladies' ranchers embraced CA less and dis-embraced it more than guys, part of the way because of gendered requirements, including restricted admittance to land, hardware, inputs, augmentation administrations, and money offices.

The advantages and hardships of North Cooperation (SSC) in cultivating the reception of best administration rehearses (BMPs) including conservation agriculture (CA) and sustainable strengthening are talked about by Lal (2019). (SI). The key principles of CA incorporate holding crop lingering mulch, including cover crops and convoluted turns, overseeing supplements comprehensively, and limiting soil unsettling influence.

In order to further the body of knowledge, Tambo, J. A., and Mockshell (2018) look at the motivations for and welfare effects of implementing each of the three CA components separately and in combination. We use propensity score matching and inverse probability weighted regression adjustments with multiple treatment estimators.

By analyzing CA reception in northern Malawi, Ward, P. S., Ringer, A. R., Droppelmann, and Benton (2018) mean to close this basic information hole. Ranchers see the reception of CA as a progression of unmistakable choices as opposed to a solitary one, in spite of what is implicitly guessed when these heaps of practices are given. Hence, the reception decisions don't need to be totally independent.

In the majority of Indian countries, low agricultural yields and soil degradation are problems that have been presented as solutions by Mkonda, M. Y., and He, X. (2017). One of the climate-smart strategies

suggested in Tanzania to lessen the effects of climate change is conservation agriculture. It entails the application of organic soil management techniques like mulching, decreased tillage, and leguminous crops. Agroecosystems including improved crop rotation, organic fertilization of the soil, and agroforestry are also covered. This chapter examines conservation agriculture adoption patterns in Tanzania and how they affect the country's socioeconomic and environmental advantages.

The rationale for the study by Mango, N., Siziba, S., and Makate (2017) is to determine whether conservation agriculture provides quantifiable labor benefits to smallholder farmers. An assessment of the ex-post impact of adopting conservation agriculture on food security, one of her most important professional outcomes, was completed using a counterfactual outcome approach.

#### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The objective of the venture is to interface ranchers' encounters with food security to their reception of conservation rural strategies. This report utilizes a sample of 1,623 households surveyed by the Indian Rural Research Council (FARA) as a feature of the final survey of the Indian Challenge Program (SSA CP). Information from another irregular sample of ranchers in Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique was collected through survey surveys. The study area, population test selection method, food security estimation, and econometric strategy to express the causal relationship between food security and CA use are briefly outlined below.

#### **The research area**

The Global Community for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), as a component of the Indian Challenge Program, has been executing conservation agriculture techniques in chose districts of the Jharkhand-Himachal Pradesh-Madhya Pradesh Pilot Learning Site (ZZM PLS) beginning around 2008. A 274,000 sq km cut across passageway through Jharkhand, the focal point of Madhya Pradesh, and northern Himachal Pradesh makes up the ZMM Pilot Learning Site. The maize-blended farming framework prevails in the ZMM PLS. Cotton and tobacco are among different harvests. The region is overwhelmed by

sandy soils, and the typical yearly precipitation is somewhere in the range of 600 and 750 mm.

**The socioeconomic setting of the study area**

Maize, tobacco, cotton, grain vegetables, little ruminants, poultry, and off-ranch business exercises are the primary kinds of revenue. The maize-blended framework is at present in emergency because of smallholder ranchers utilizing less science-based inputs because of an absence of further developed assortment seed, compost, and agrochemical deficiencies, as well as high contribution to-yield cost proportions. Likewise, there are issues with contracting ranch sizes and draft animal proprietorship, a lessened work pool because of HIV/Helps, and diminished traveler settlements. As yields drop and soil richness declines, smallholder ranchers are going to concentrated creation procedures. Thus, there are commonly supporting elements that are making land corruption increment, which thusly is making destitution and food instability increment. Needs in low-thickness regions incorporate land extension and strengthening through zero culturing, conservation cultivating, including grain vegetables, rancher-based seed and establishing material duplication, and local area-based land residency change.

**Population sample**

In this review, we look at the consequences of mediation (CA-rehearsing homes) and non-intercession utilizing a semi trial system (non-CA rehearsing households). This includes treatment-getting exploratory locale and a benchmark group that gets no treatment. Under ideal conditions, randomization empowers the assessment of mean program influence through clear correlations of treatment and control bunch results. Ten houses in every one of the picked towns were decided aimlessly for observing and influence appraisal. The's program will probably decide if conservation agriculture greater affects food security and occupation in the mediation locale contrasted with the counterfactual areas.

**The idea of food security**

In this description, food security is characterized as the situation in which households have physical and financial access to adequate, safe, and supportive

food to help them cope with their problems and healthy lifestyle choices. IAR4D aims to improve ranch efficiency, income and food security by supporting the coordinated organization of entertainers in the agricultural value chain, as mentioned in a recent article. The cohesiveness of linkages in esteem chains improves the probability that cultivating households will embrace sustainable rural practices (advances and techniques) like CA, as well as their admittance to creation and market data, to give some examples benefits. The use of CA has been vigorously showcased determined to increment creation in the three nations' practically indistinguishable cultivating frameworks. Ranchers' expanded harvest yield brings about better food accessibility, access, and surplus available to be purchased. This proposes that, ceteris paribus, the reception of CA might well affect household Food Utilization Scores. Also, CA can in a roundabout way raise household food utilization scores by utilizing the cash procured from selling overflow crop results to purchase other important groceries. Subsequently, utilizing Food Utilization Scores as an intermediary metric for food security, we guess that CA adopters will be in an ideal situation in every one of the examined regions regarding food security.

**Soil fertility improvement**

The supplement levels in the dirt are worked on by the utilization of natural and living mulches, which makes numerous other positive impacts. How much soil supplements impacted will rely upon the sort of material utilized, the dirt's properties, and the environment. Since natural mulches can break down in a reasonable climate and give the supplements found in Fig. 1, their utilization is more worthwhile. A few examinations have shown that natural mulches including wood chips, straw, green excrements, and bark convey a bigger number of supplements than inorganic mulches. In any case, in light of the fact that their far and wide application to rural fields can hurt sensitive yields, living things, and water assets, natural mulches with a superior limit with respect to supplement supply are principally utilized for finishing. Mulches with a higher ability to supply supplements should consequently be properly taken care of.

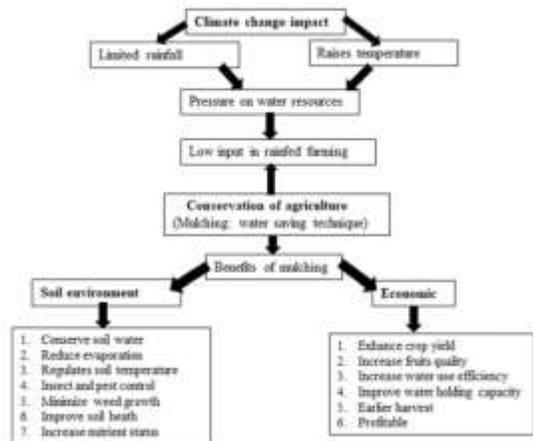


Fig1: Flowchart for the conservation Climate and crop interactions affect agriculture

**Impact evaluation**

The review uses the forthcoming results structure, which was grown prior work, to imagine and evaluate the effect. This idea expresses that the result for openness (interest) less the result for non-openness (non-investment) can be used to characterize influence (treatment impact). In our specific example, it is the variety in Food Utilization Score for CA use versus non-use. This technique depends on different people to gauge treatment impact because seeing an outcome and counterfactuals for a similar individual simultaneously is unthinkable. Ranchers who got treatment and the people who didn't will generally be efficiently unmistakable sub-tests because of choice predispositions. Disconnecting the treatment's impact from different elements and potential choice predispositions is subsequently the natural issue of effect assessment. The two basic assumptions of contingent autonomy and cross-over are habitually utilized to address choice inclination and produce measurably comparable groupings. Given a bunch of detectable covariates X that are unaffected by treatment, the restrictive freedom presumption expresses that planned results Y are free of treatment task T. This implies that X should think about openness related factors to such an extent that, subsequent to adapting to them, the impact of executing CA not entirely settled without choice predisposition. As indicated by the cross-over suspicion, there should be both treated and untreated units for all doable upsides of X. Solid ignitability is

the means by which specialists allude to contingent autonomy and cross-over.



Fig 2: The conservation agriculture covers three basic principles: (i) direct seeding or planting or minimum soil disturbance; (ii) minimum soil disturbance or direct seeding, maintaining soil cover permanently or semipermanently ; and (iii) diversified crop rotation

k, the closest neighbor coordinating technique was used to survey the typical treatment impact. As indicated by factors X, this technique uses normal results for individuals with comparative noticed qualities to surmise the missing imminent results for the untreated gathering.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Implementing conservation agriculture**

Table 1 records the all-out number of ranchers remembered for the study as well as the recurrence with which CA reception happened in the three countries. Most of ranchers (36%) in Jharkhand announced utilizing conservation agriculture, making that country the one with the most elevated use. Madhya Pradesh (12.5%) came in second, and Himachal Pradesh (5.8%) had a recognizably lower reception rate. These numbers seem, by all accounts, to be exact for the CA showcasing period: Contrasted with different nations, Zimbabwe started CA promoting essentially sooner. In general, CA is a moderately new innovation that presently can't seem to arrive at most of the ranchers in the sub-district, with a typical reception pace of 19.8%.

Table 1: The impacts of conservation agriculture reception on smallholder ranchers' capacity to take care of their families in semi-parched districts of India

| Country          | Sample size | % using CA  |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Himachal Pradesh | 540         | 5.8         |
| Madhya Pradesh   | 423         | 12.5        |
| Jharkhand        | 654         | 36.3        |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>1622</b> | <b>20.7</b> |

**Farmer socioeconomic differences between California and non-CA**

The impacts of conservation agriculture reception on smallholder ranchers' capacity to take care of their families in semi-parched districts of India.

Table 2: The impacts of conservation agriculture reception on smallholder ranchers' capacity to take care of their families in semi-dry districts of India

| Country                | Jharkhand |       |                  | Himachal Pradesh |       |                  | Madhya Pradesh |       |                  |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|----------------|-------|------------------|
|                        | No n-CA   | C A   | T test (Pr(T>t)) | N n-CA           | C A   | T test (Pr(T>t)) | N n-CA         | C A   | T test (Pr(T>t)) |
| Food Consumption Score | 33.16     | 32.6  | 0.087            | 35.41            | 35.61 | 0.526            | 34.93          | 38.22 | 0.087            |
| Head age (years)       | 52.64     | 51.17 | 0.646            | 41.28            | 43.88 | 0.741            | 45.05          | 44.33 | 0.336            |
| Gender (prop. male)    | 0.72      | 0.73  | 0.632            | 0.84             | 0.87  | 0.641            | 0.92           | 0.84  | 0.093            |
| Household size         | 5.88      | 5.91  | 0.505            | 5.17             | 4.87  | 0.236            | 7.22           | 8.37  | 0.972            |
| Draft cattle           | 1.38      | 1.22  | 0.127            | 0.03             | 0.01  | 0.353            | 0.57           | 1.51  | 0.996            |
| Mobile phone (prop)    | 0.14      | 0.15  | 0.566            | 0.16             | 0.12  | 0.301            | 0.12           | 0.32  | 0.997            |

|                         |        |        |       |       |       |       |       |        |       |
|-------------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| Ox-plough (prop.)       | 0.85   | 0.83   | 0.247 | 0.03  | 0.01  | 0.352 | 0.04  | 0.08   | 0.831 |
| Arable land (acres)     | 8.93   | 7.64   | 0.006 | 2.65  | 2.79  | 0.654 | 4.04  | 4.04   | 0.502 |
| Cultivated land (acres) | 6.07   | 5.15   | 0.008 | 2.42  | 2.63  | 0.711 | 3.22  | 2.48   | 0.025 |
| Crop income (Usd)       | 125.50 | 113.31 | 0.352 | 75.11 | 82.98 | 0.572 | 65.81 | 124.82 | 0.955 |

Breeds of particular importance among CA and non-CA ranchers were access to agricultural land in Jharkhand (non-CA ranchers had more prominent land tenure), Madhya Pradesh household head orientation (women households headed by CA), and the size of the farms developed. land in Zimbabwe and Mozambique (in these two countries, ranchers in California have developed a more modest bunch of land); There were no differences between California and non-California ranchers on several other household factors, including age, household size, number of service animals owned, rut ownership, wireless ownership, and income. was. Table 2 presents the measurements taking into account the financial status of her CA ranchers and non-CA ranchers in the three countries surveyed.

**Adoption of CA's effects on FCS**

The assessed impact on food security of undergoing CA is shown in Table 3. Using the NNMATCH module of STATA, we constructed three boundaries for ATE, ATE1, and ATE0 using head age, orientation, and household size factors as covariates. ATE is typical treatment effect for individuals randomly selected from the population, ATE1 is treatment effect for individuals randomly selected from uncovered subpopulations, ATE0 is treatment for individuals not yet discovered It's an effect.

Table 3: The impacts of conservation agriculture reception on smallholder ranchers' capacity to take care of their families in semi-bone-dry areas of India

| Country | Jharkhand |       |       | Himachal Pradesh |       |       | Madhya Pradesh |       |       |
|---------|-----------|-------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
|         | Coef.     | SE    | P> Z  | Coef.            | SE    | P> Z  | Coef.          | SE    | P> Z  |
| ATE     | -2.051    | 2.081 | 0.323 | 0.193            | 2.713 | 0.942 | 0.994          | 2.776 | 0.733 |
| ATE1    | -2.051    | 2.081 | 0.323 | -0.031           | 3.031 | 0.911 | 5.475          | 3.231 | 0.091 |
| ATE0    | -2.211    | 1.921 | 0.248 | -0.204           | 2.748 | 0.942 | 0.242          | 2.841 | 0.931 |

Although acceptance of CA is modest, it has had a negative impact on food security in Himachal Pradesh and Jharkhand. For example, in Jharkhand, the introduction of CA was expected to reduce his FCS for ranchers using CA by 2.05 (ATE1). We had great results in Mozambique. Here, CA reception resulted in a measurably significant (P 0.1) improvement in the CA user's FCS of 5.475. The unassuming area regions presently committed to CA and the inability to apply the total supplement of practices vital for trigger the biophysical cycle expected to produce yield gains are two likely clarifications for the negligible effect of CA on food security in Jharkhand and Himachal Pradesh. For example, ranchers habitually can't accomplish significant buildup maintenance and additionally incorporate herbicides to oversee weeds because of constraints forced by the biophysical, institutional, and financial setting [Siziba S (2008)]. The way that CA is regularly pushed close by other prevalent harvest the executives' procedures like ideal weeding and further developed seed assortments, which are ineffectually used by most of ranchers in a country simply recuperating from a conflict period, might be one consider the viability of CA in Mozambique. Generally, particular reception of CA standards normal in the area, as featured by researchers [Giller KE (2009)], and the more limited time span (from the outset of IAR4D exercises to the end-line overview information assortment) considered to conceptualize the effect of CA on cultivating households in this

review, could be faulted for the absence of hearty, steady, and positive effects of CA reception across the three concentrated on nations. Moreover, taking into account the varieties in the three dissected countries' macroeconomic circumstances and agrarian augmentation frameworks, which might impact and make sense of the varieties in CA reception however are excluded from the informational index, the shortfall of solid outcomes appears to be possible.

As per studies, the absence of resources to develop high-esteem crops, work needs, and limited admittance to useful data sources keep ranchers in India from executing all the appropriate CA standards [11-12]. It's likewise critical to recollect that institutional associations that should abbreviate the hole between specialized advancement, scattering, and ranchers' genuine reception need time to produce results.

#### CONCLUSION

As per studies, the utilization of CA standards contrasts in India, where it is found that ranchers get less advantage than expected. Legitimate CA impact assessment can be supported by monitoring any restrictions that would keep ranchers from embracing all of the CA standards. Aside from the typical worldview for horticultural innovative work, which was basically focused on gathering explicit food grain creation focuses in India, conservation agriculture offers a new methodology. Given the inescapable issues with resource corruption that showed up with past strategies to support creation with little respect for resource honesty, a change in outlook has become fundamental. To accomplish nonstop efficiency development, it is currently fundamental to coordinate issues connected with efficiency, resource conservation, soil quality, and the climate. The information base expected for making and advancing CA frameworks will be very hard to meet. It will be important for researchers to have essentially further developed frameworks based critical thinking abilities, have the option to team up intimately with ranchers and different partners, and have expanded information and data sharing techniques. By bringing down development costs, expanding resource use efficiency, seriousness, and

manageability in agriculture, conservation agriculture gives an opportunity to end and converse the descending winding of resource corruption. The new mission should be "rationing resources while further developing creation."

#### FUTURE WORK

It is important to look into the connections between these problems and recognize the cycles that are starting to emerge. To lessen the obstacles to farmers adopting CA, future researchers can examine the social networks of farms. Another idea for future research is to examine the methods used by farmers to overcome difficulties. It might be advised that farmers' involvement in extension activities such as assessing their situation in relation to planning, carrying out, and evaluating activities connected to the development of CA be expanded.

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