

Climate Resilient Crop Varieties in Sri Lanka for Enhancing Food Security: Compilation of Literature

S.U. Attygalle*

Department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Peradeniya, Peradeniya Sri Lanka
**fst17003@pdn.ac.lk*

Climate change is affecting the consistency of crop production and one of the main challenges to achieve food security. Cultivation of climate resilient crop varieties has been identified as an effective solution in combating this challenge globally as well as locally. In Sri Lanka, there are many researchers and institutions involved in developing climate resilient crop varieties, yet there are inefficiencies in applying these findings to the practical context. In order to enable the efficient utilization of these crop varieties towards establishment of climate resilient food systems, it is important to collect and compile the relevant research findings that have been made so far. Related to this objective, research studies regarding climate resilient crop varieties were referred and the findings were compiled into an excel data base. Data collection was done through the internet, published journal articles, conference proceedings, etc. and contacting and referring to reports of research institutions that conduct relevant research. Information related to approximately 70 crop varieties those were grouped under 6 main crop categories namely paddy, fruits, vegetables, other field crops, tea, and other crops, based on the tolerance under drought, salinity, and submergence. Compilation of these findings will facilitate knowledge dissemination programs and easy access of this information by the farmers. It was noted that identification of salinity tolerant varieties has not been paid much attention to hence can be considered as a new research direction. Identification of climate resilient varieties of many commercially valuable crops have not been done yet, which should be given more consideration in the process of enhancing food security through climate resilient crop systems.

Keywords: Climate resilient crop varieties, Food insecurity, Compilation