

**IMPACT OF SOIL CONSERVATION MEASURES ON THE  
PRODUCTIVITY OF TEA SMALL HOLDINGS IN PASSARA TEA  
INSPECTION (TI) RANGE.**

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by

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## ABSTRACT

Sri Lankan total tea production is lower when compared with other tea exporting countries. Severe soil degradation in tea lands is the major reason for such productivity. Likewise soil degradation in the tea smallholdings may be the reason for lower productivity in tea smallholdings. Therefore a study was undertaken to evaluate the correct adaption level of soil conservation measures and its impact on the productivity of tea small holdings in the Passara TI range. Using of this study in the propose suitable. 150 tea smallholders were randomly selected from 5 randomly selected tea small holdings societies and they were interviewed using a structure questionnaire. Data were analyzed using simple linear regression model. Results showed that tea bush density, forking, soil rehabilitation, maintenance of biological hedges and organic fertilizer application were positively correlated with the yield of tea. High male population, income generated from the tea sale also positively correlated. While income earned from other ways was negatively correlated. 86% growers haven't achieved average yield of 600Kg/ Ac/ month. The study suggest that by infilling can be increase the bush density and subsidies and good extension services for infillings. Awareness programs are required for good shade management and intercropping. Attitude change of small holders is required.

Keywords: Soil conservation, Soil degradation, Tea productivity, Tea small holding Sector, Passara TI range.