

# **Farm Waste Utilization of Rice Farmers in the Municipalities Of Narra and Taytay, Palawan, Philippines**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Rice farmers in the municipalities of Narra and Taytay, Palawan generate large amounts of rice wastes being the top two rice producers in the province of Palawan. Hence, this study investigated the farm waste utilization practices of rice farmers in the two municipalities and their reasons for adopting these practices. Results revealed that the respondents commonly leave uncollected straw and chaff in the field while they typically incorporate the stubble into the soil during plowing. They normally utilized collected chaff and straw as animal feeds or composted naturally. There are more respondents in Taytay who leaves uncollected straw and chaff in the field, use the collected chaff as animal feeds, and plow the stubble into the soil than in Narra. There are more respondents in Narra who burn uncollected straw and chaff in the field than in Taytay. They leave the uncollected straw and chaff in the field, incorporate the stubble into the soil, and compost the collected straw primarily for its use as fertilizer to rice and other crops. Some respondents burned uncollected straw and chaff to maximize the use of land for planting, to facilitate land preparation and cleaning of the field, to apply the ashes immediately as soil fertilizer, and to eliminate the waiting time of decomposing rice residues. All in all, the study suggests that the respondents preferred less laborious waste management practices. The differences in the farm waste utilization practices of farmers in Narra and Taytay are dictated by their capacity to buy agricultural inputs.

**Keywords:** rice, farm waste, waste utilization, Narra, Taytay, Palawan