Title: Impacts of Agriculture on the Inland Capture Fisheries in the Mekong Delta

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Abstract:

Inland capture fisheries in the Mekong Delta play an important role in terms of food security and employment. Fish and other aquatic animals together with rice are important components in their local people's diet and many people participate in fishing mainly for household consumption. Mekong Delta is one of the most important fishing ground in Vietnam, its inland capture production accounts for 75% of the total national inland capture production. Its value contributes to the national economies with about 105 million \$US in 2006. Seasonal floods are a common natural feature in the Mekong Delta. Agricultural activities take place during the dry season (6 months). Almost all agricultural activities stop cultivating due to flooding during the flood season (6 months). The level of flooding that depends on the strength of the annual monsoon is the most important driving factors to both inland fisheries (more habitat and nutrient) and agriculture sector (more productive land) in the Mekong Delta. The findings of this study showed that there is a positive relationship between annual inland capture production and water level (Pearson correlation = 0.76; p