



**ENHANCING EFFICIENCY AND  
SUSTAINABILITY IN PADDY WAREHOUSING  
IN COLOMBO DISTRICT**

by

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## ABSTRACT

Paddy warehousing contributes significantly to the paddy supply chain in Sri Lanka. However, the following several challenges have emerged which hinder the efficiency and sustainability of paddy warehousing and harming the operation of an important link of the agricultural supply chain. The failure of the sustainable paddy warehouse causes inefficient paddy storage, post-harvest loss, poor quality of the paddy and steady and reliable supply of this very important crop. Therefore, the main research objective of this dissertation is to analyze the current situation and challenges in relation to paddy warehousing in Sri Lanka and find ways to enhance the efficiency and performance. The specific objectives of the study were achieved through interviews with the participant of the studied area, including paddy farmers, warehouse operators, and employees of the Ministry of Agriculture. Initially, the thematic analysis was employed to describe the currently adopted technology, practice, and physical facilities. After that, the main issues influencing the efficiency and productivity of paddy warehousing in Sri Lanka are revealed. Moreover, this current study deals with the current best practices from the international context and their possible application in the context of Sri Lanka. This study provides suggestions for these challenges in the aforesaid sectors including the area of Modernization of structures, Logistics improvement, Pest management integration, Communication and knowledge sharing, Infrastructure development, and Policy and funding support on sustainable paddy storage in Sri Lanka.

**Keywords:** *Paddy Warehousing, Warehouse Efficiency and Sustainability, Pest Management, Storage Infrastructure, Sri Lanka Agriculture*