

Sri Lanka Country Profile Special Reference to Agriculture

➤ Total land area sq.km.	65610
➤ Population 2004 '000	19462
➤ Provinces	9
➤ Districts	22
➤ Labor force 2004	48.8%
➤ Unemployment rate	8.5%
➤ Employment by sector 2004 (Ag)	34.1%
➤ Contribution to GDP 2004 (Ag.Li.Fi)	19%
➤ Per capita GDP at market price 2004	1031 US\$
➤ Literacy rate 2002	91.8%
➤ Life expectancy 2002 (5Y&above)	91.4 Y
(Central Bank of Sri Lanka-Socio Economic Data book)	

Climate & Agro - ecological regions

- Rainfall follows a bi - modal pattern
- Northeast monsoon - October to January
- Southeast monsoon - May to September

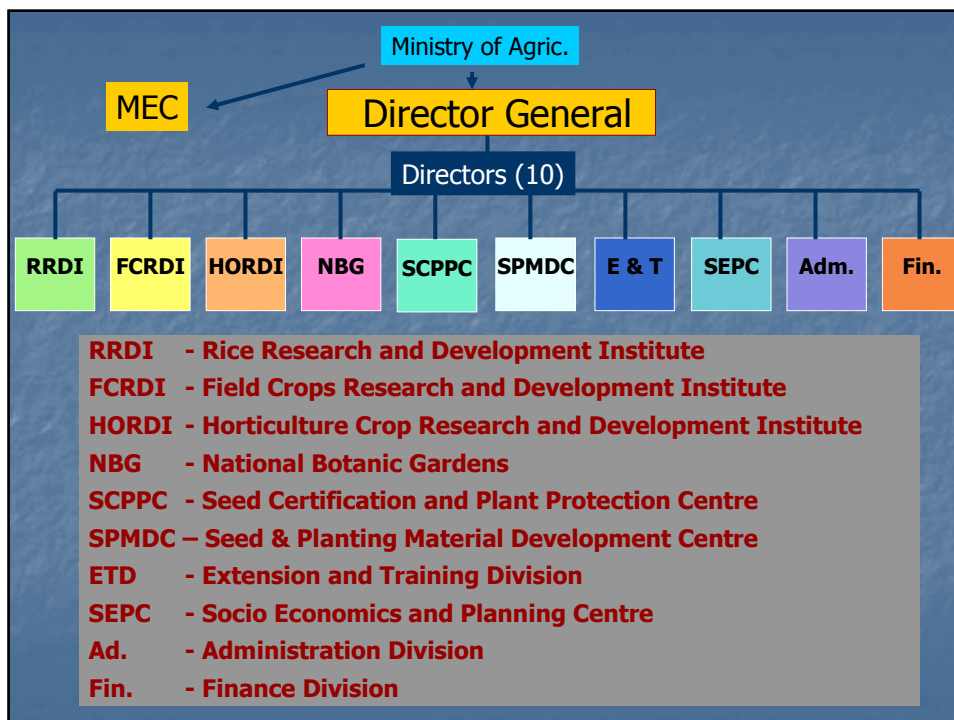
- Two cropping seasons

- Yala & Maha



Mission of DOA..

**Achieve Excellence
in Agriculture
for National Prosperity**



Seed & Planting Material Development Centre -SPMDC

Mission

Assure timely Availability of
Quality Seed & Planting Material
at Competitive Prices



Seed Program Evolution

Organized program started by DOA – 1950's

DOA – Sole supplier up to late 1980's

Private sector involved in production & supply
from 1990

National Seed Policy (NSP)

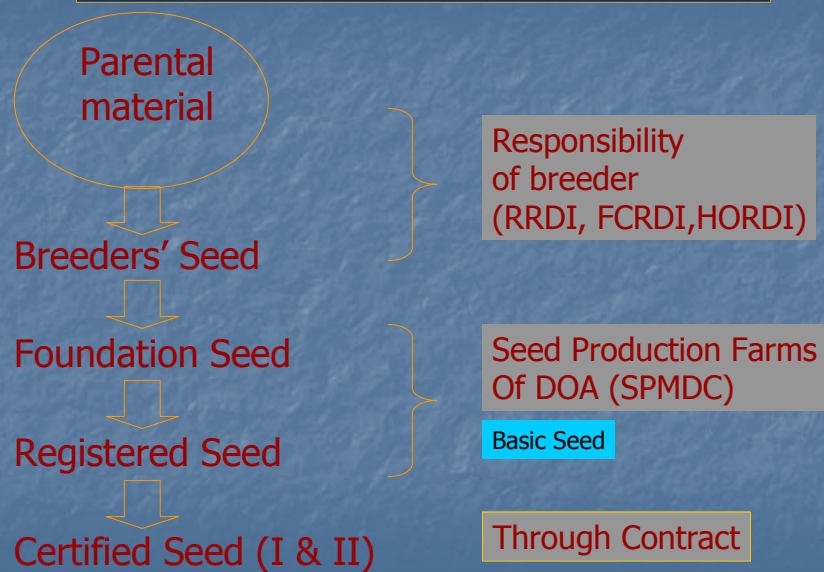
Govt. introduced NSP in 1996

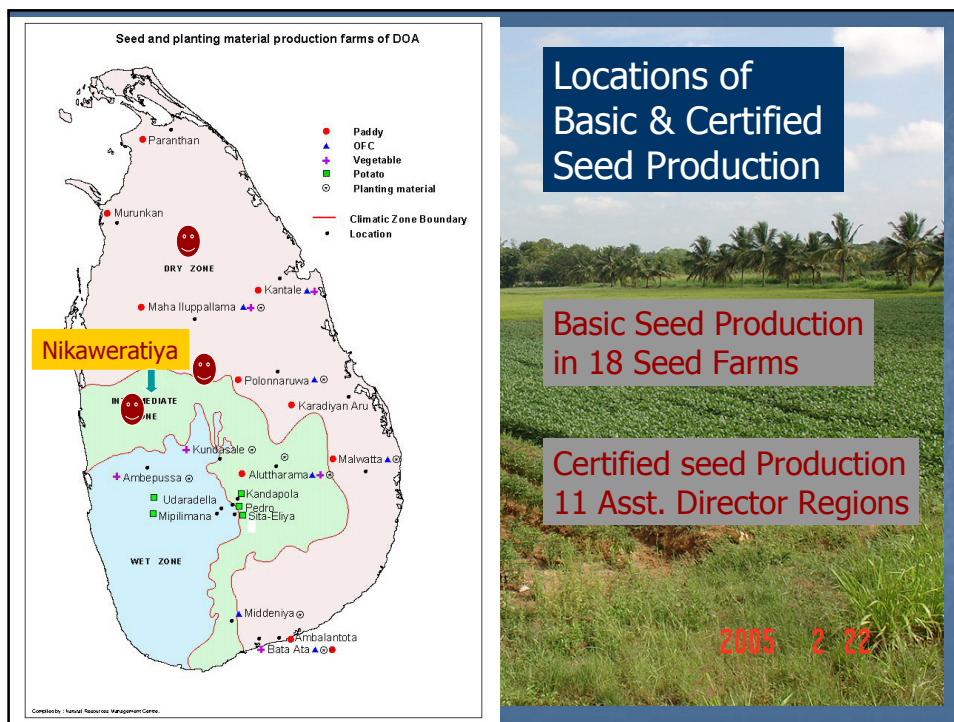
Objective was to establish viable seed enterprises for easy access for high quality seed

With the new developments new policy being formulated – 2005

As a result the national seed program becomes a multi institutional function involving the public & private sectors

Seed Multiplication Program of DOA





Types of Certified Seed Produce under Contract

Paddy

3 different age groups – 3m, 3.5m, 4-4.5m
23 varieties

Other Field Crops

9 crops, 31 varieties

Green gram, black gram, Chilli, Cowpea, Sesame
Ground nut, Finger Millot, Maize, Soybean

Vegetables

17 Crops, 42 Varieties

Beans, Bitter gourd, Brinjal, Bushitavo, Capsicum
Cucumber, Luffa, Mae, Okra, Snake gourd, Pumpkin
Radish, Amaranthus, Winged bean, Spinach, Melon

Contract Seed Production Procedure

- ✓ Selection of growers & basic training (informal agreement)
- ✓ Issuing of Registered/Basic seed on payment
- ✓ Registration of seed crops for Certification by Seed Certification Service (SCS) regional officers
- ✓ Training (Jointly-SPMD, SCS & Extension staff)
- ✓ Preliminary & Final Field Inspections (SCS) – Accept/Reject
- ✓ Issuing of new bags by regional ADA (SPMD)
- ✓ Sampling of seed lots at grower's premises (A-sample)



Selection Criteria

- ✓ Reliability, knowledge, resourcefulness, willingness to cooperate
- ✓ Adequate land area (Seed Certification requirement)
 - paddy – 1 ac (0.4 ha) min
 - OFC – 0.5 ac
 - Veg – 0.25 ac
- ✓ Distance from the regional AD office (20 km radius)
- ✓ Accessibility
- ✓ Facilities available for processing, drying & storage etc.



Procedure cont..

- ✓ Transport of accepted seed lots (on A-Test Results) to DOA farm/processing unit
- ✓ Payments to seed growers (based on % inert indicated in A-Report)
- ✓ Machine processing of different lots & varieties separately & bagging (1 bu/2 bu)
- ✓ Sampling (B-Sample) of processed seed lots by SCS officers
- ✓ Labeling & sealing of accepted seed lots (B-Report) by SCS officers
- ✓ Lot release (Distribution/Sale/Storage)

Problems Associated with Contract Program

Difficulty in finding suitable/reliable growers

Unexpected rains during harvesting period

- difficulty in drying of seed lots (12%-Paddy)
- reluctance of growers to re-dry of rejected lots

Seed quality related problems

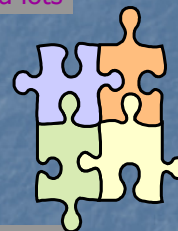
In-adequate funds (on time)

In-adequate staff

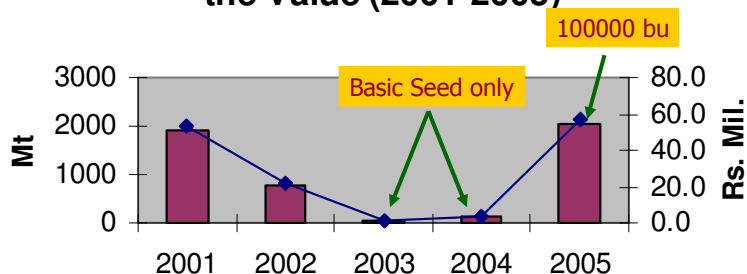
Infrastructure problems (transport/processing)

Un-attractive Seed purchasing price

Tendency of growers to keep some seed with them/piracy



Contract Seed Paddy Production & the Value (2001-2005)



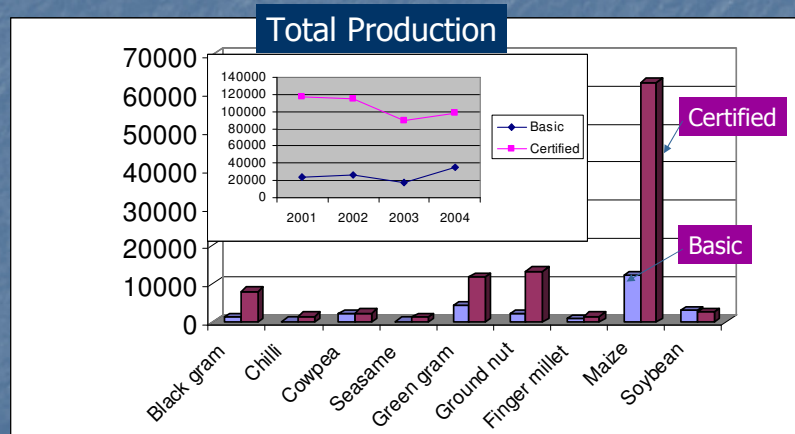
In 2002 Contract Certified program was stopped with a view to increase private sector participation (Policy)

With the new policy- (2005), DOA re commenced Contract Certified Seed Paddy Production

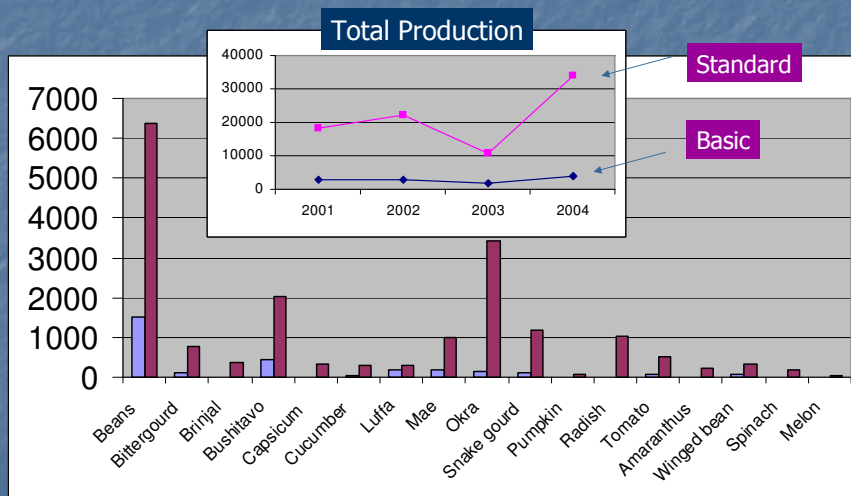
Production & Supply of Certified seed Paddy (bu)

Organization	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
DOA (10%)	93561	38537	0	0	100000
Provincial /Inter provincial (19%)	63756	141854	132537	154054	123050
Mahaweli (7%)	52244	31561	69756	40390	48488
Co-operatives (14%)	95122	99561	104488	76078	93812
Agrarian Services/Farmers/farmer Organizations (30%)	150439	245854	241561	257205	223765
Private companies (20%)	98829	79805	190390	159415	132110
Total	553951	637171	738732	687141	723229
% as a total requiment	12.6	14.5	16.8	15.6	16.4
1bu = 20.5 kg	Total seed requirement/annum - 4.4 m. bu.				

OFC - Basic & Certified Seed Average Annual Production (kg) 2001-2004



Basic & Standard Vegetable Seed Annual Average Production (kg) 2001-2004



Conclusions

- Sri Lanka has great potential for sustainable competitive contract farming
- Cultivators expect proper contract systems
- It needs consistent policies
- Finance facilities, infrastructure, market facilities must be improved
- Trade agreements, insurance schemas, government interventions may be crucial
- Knowledge and experienced of officers would also be essential