

704 - SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT OF AN OIL PALM FARM THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTEGRATED INDICATORS SYSTEM

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An integrated sustainability assessment of an oil palm farm has been carried out in the region of Belém (Pará State, Brazil) under the auspices of Embrapa's Network on Oleaginous Crops for Biofuels Project and the Program Parábiodiesel. The "System for Weighed Environmental Impact Assessment of New Rural Activities" (APOIA-NovoRural) applied in the study consists of 62 quantitative indicators integrated into five sustainability dimensions, as follows: (i) Landscape Ecology, (ii) Environmental Quality (atmosphere, water, and soil), (iii) Socio-cultural Values, (iv) Economic Values, and (v) Management and Administration. The methodological approach aimed at testing the applicability of the system as an environmental management procedure for oil palm production. Results of the assessment pointed out important contributions of oil palm plantation to the farm's sustainability, owing to several managerial, organizational and environmental management procedures observed. The approach here detailed can be a commending initiative for the oil palm production sector, aiming at promoting the environmental management and the sustainable insertion into agro-energy production chains.

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