



MOUNTAIN FARMING SYSTEMS

Discussion Paper Series

**THE ROLE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE**

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PREFACE

THE ROLE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAIN AGRICULTURE

ICIMOD's approach to problem-oriented research involves both knowledge reviews and field studies. The focused reviews and field studies conducted by the Mountain Farming Systems' Division cover various aspects of agricultural development. Since early 1988, a series of 'state of the art' reviews of agricultural policies and programmes were sponsored by ICIMOD in different countries of the HKH Region. The purpose of these studies and of the subsequent National Workshops in different countries was to understand some of the constraints and prospects of mountain area development. These exercises were also aimed at acquiring comparative perspectives of development approaches and strategies in different countries.

Yu Dafu

This paper was a part of this series of studies commissioned by ICIMOD, and was also presented at the Workshop on "Agricultural Experiences in West Sichuan and Xizang, China," organised by ICIMOD and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chengdu, from 6-10 October 1988. The paper examines the gradual development of *MFS Series No. 10* system, the earlier attempts to introduce it, and the evolution of the now widely practised 'Household Contract' by examining its impact on Miyi County. It discusses its strengths as well as its weaknesses and recommends the course it might take if it is to continue to establish successful methods of developing mountain agriculture.

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Abstract

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