

OWNERSHIP AND UTILIZATION PATTERN OF DRAFT AND MECHANICAL POWER IN A
SELECTED AREA OF BANGLADESH

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Reg. No.: 93-05-156

Year: 1995

Abstract:

Cattle and buffalo constitute the main source of power for tillage operation in Bangladesh. But there is an absolute shortage of animal power in the country. Since power tiller is increasingly being introduced in the country including the study area, the present study was undertaken to investigate the pattern of ownership and use of power tiller vis-a-vis draft animals. In this study 65 farmers were selected randomly. Among them 15 were draft power (DP) and mechanical power (MP) owner, 25 were draft power owner with mechanical power hire and the rest 25 respondents were non owner but users of draft and mechanical power. Mainly tabular and simple statistical techniques were used to derive and interpret the relationships between/ among the variables pertaining to the above categories farms. The general findings are that, most of the tiller owner farms were large farm and their educational level were higher than other two categories of farms. Their land preparation cost were almost equally distributed in draft power and mechanical power uses. The highest positive net return was earned by the farms of non owner but users of draft and mechanical power in case of full cost analysis. There were some problems encountered by the owners and users of the draft and mechanical power. To improve the ownership and utilization pattern of DP & MP owner or user, government and private interactions are needed.