

# COMPARATIVE ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF RABI CROPS CULTIVATION IN A SELECTED AREA OF BANGLADESH

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## Abstract

The study was undertaken to conduct a comparative economic analysis of rabi crops cultivation in a selected area of Bangladesh. For this purpose, data were collected from Kamarerchar union of Sherpur district sadar thana during the late part of Autumn 1994. The selected area is located near by the boundary of the district and it is located at the central part of Bangladesh. Fifty two sample farmers were selected randomly of which 36, 11, 27 and 21 were sweet potato, potato, mustard and groundnut growers, respectively. Data were collected following survey method through holding personal interviews using interview schedule. The collected data were processed and analyzed at the IPISA computer center to fulfill the objectives of the study. The study revealed that cropping patterns of the study area were mostly one or two crops based. In the study area, the crops were grown throughout the year in three distinct cropping Kasons including somewhat area of kharif based crops and intensity of cropping comparatively varied between 160.6 to 144.11 in two years (1993-94 - 1994-95). From input usage data, it was found that per ha cost was the highest for sweet potato and lowest for mustard on both full and cash cost basis. Potato and groundnut were second and third, respectively. In terms of gross returns and net returns, the study revealed that all selected rabi crops more or less profitable in the study area comparing among themselves. However, benefit cost ratio showed that potato was comparatively higher profitable crop on full cost basis. Rank of other crops e.g., sweet potato, groundnut and mustard were second, third and fourth on full cost basis, respectively. But cash cost basis, sweet potato was highest, groundnut, potato and mustard were second, third and fourth, respectively. Cobb-Douglas profit function analysis was also done to estimate the contributions of selected variables such as product price, wage rate, animal labour price, seed price, nitrogen price, phosphorus price and cultivated land to the profit of selected crops. With regard to constraints, the study indicated that some environmental conditions, production, marketing, social and institutional constraints were associated with higher production of these crops.