

PROFITABILITY AND EFFICIENCY OF CARP PRODUCTION IN LALMONIRHAT DISTRICT

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Abstract

The present study was conducted to find out the socio-economic characteristics of carp fish farmers, carp fish farming practices, cost and return analysis and efficiency of carp production in the study area. Lalmonirhat district was selected purposively for the present study. The farmers from Lalmonirhat Sadar, Aditmari and Kaliganj Upazila constituted the sample and carp fish farmers of those Upazilas were the population of the study. Sixty carp farmers were selected randomly from the population using simple random sampling. Among the sixty selected farmers 31 were small, 19 were medium and 10 were large. Primary data were collected by the author himself. A Cobb-Douglas production function model was also applied to estimate the contribution of key variables to production processes of carp production. Most of the farmers were in secondary level (38.3 percent) of education in the study area. 36.7% farmers of the study area were engaged in agriculture as their main occupation. Average annual income of the selected carp-producing household was Tk. 222568. The average per hectare total cost of carp production was Tk. 225836. Average per hectare cost for small, medium and large farmers were found to be Tk. 234851, Tk. 228555 and Tk. 214102 respectively. On the return side, per hectare net returns for small, medium and large farmers were calculated at Tk. 216745, Tk. 162564 and Tk. 148209 respectively. Overall net return per hectare was found to be Tk. 175839. Estimated benefit cost ratios indicated that return over per Tk. investment was higher for small farmers, which was Tk. 1.92 followed by medium (Tk. 1.71) and large farmers (Tk. 1.69). The results of frontier production function showed that among the selected variables: fertilizer cost, fingerling cost, farming experience and occupation related with cultivation were significant at 5% level in case of small farms. In case of medium farms fertilizer cost, fingerling cost and farming experience related with carp cultivation were significant at 5% level. Pond area was significant at 1% level. Fertilizer cost, fingerling cost, labor cost, experience and occupation related with carp production were significant at 5% level in case of large farms. Pond area was significant at 1% level. Lack of sufficient capital and credit was the main problem of carp production in the study area. Finally some suggestions and recommendation were given to overcome the problems and forgetting higher profit from carp production.