

ECONOMICS OF WINTER MAIZE IN A SELECTED AREA OF DHAKA DISTRICT

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Reg. No.: 93-05-169

Defense Term: Winter, 1995

ABSTRACT

Field visits suggest that there are high potential for adoption of winter maize at the farmers level in Savar thana from agro-economic point of view. Considering the scope and potentials of maize, the present study was undertaken to examine the economic performance of winter maize under rainfed conditions. This study was based on a sample survey of 47 maize growing farmers from three unions of Savar thana under Dhaka district. Tabular techniques, statistical test (T-test), as well as some functional input-output analyses were made in the thesis. The major findings of this study are that per hectare costs of production of winter maize were Tk 25,845 and Tk 17,973 on full cost and cash cost basis, respectively. Per hectare gross return was estimated to be Tk 34,506. Per hectare net returns of winter maize were Tk 8,662 and Tk 16,533, respectively, considering full cost and cash cost. The study showed that winter maize was more profitable as compared to wheat. Although potato appeared to be more profitable than winter maize, its cost of production per hectare was much higher than that of winter maize. The present study also identified some advantageous points in favour of maize production and problems faced by the farmers in producing winter maize. Low market demand, high price of fertilizer, higher requirement of labour for crop protection and low price of product were the major problems in producing maize. However, expansion of winter maize acreage requires timely availability of inputs, credit facilities, fair output price and effective extension services for which Government and Non-Government supports are needed.