

## WHEAT PRODUCTION AND MARKET PARTICIPATION OF THE WHEAT GROWERS IN JAMALPUR DISTRICT

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### ABSTRACT

The study was based on a sample survey of thirty wheat growers of Sadar thana under Jamalpur District of Bangladesh. Tabular analysis and statistical methods were used to analyze the data of the study. The findings of the study indicated that existence of marginal farmers was quite high in the study area. The average numbers of family members as well as literacy rate per farm were the highest in large farm. Moreover, the large farmers were more dependent on agriculture as compared to other groups of farms. Production (23.67 quintal/farm) as well as marketable surplus (21.33 quintal/farm) was the highest for large farm. Maximum sale (93.74%) occurred in the harvesting period. The highest percentage of growers (79.91%) sold the highest proportion of their marketable wheat (82.54%) to BADC. BADC paid more or less stable price to the wheat growers. The highest price of wheat (1100 Tk/quintal) was found in the month of July and September and the lowest was found in the month of March during the wheat marketing period. Among the different modes of transport, Rickshaw was the most common one used by the sampled farmers. Production cost of wheat per hectare was the highest (21695.39 Tk/ha) in the medium farm, but marketing cost per quintal of wheat at grower's level was the highest (40.35 Tk/quintal) for large farms. Gross cost per hectare of wheat production was also highest (22481.71Tk/ha) for medium farms. Gross returns per hectare of wheat production as well as the benefit cost ratio were the highest in the case of small farms indicating small farmers as the most efficient compared to other groups of farms. The major problem in wheat marketing was high price of inputs, followed by inadequacy of fund, poor irrigation, insufficient credit facilities and natural calamities. On the other hand, the major problem in wheat marketing was delayed payment by BADC followed by high grading cost, low price, lack of storage place, market tolls, defective weighing scale and inadequate transport facilities.