

ECONOMICS OF POND FISH PRODUCTION UNDER THE MYMENSINGH AQUACULTURE EXTENSION PROJECT

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken mainly to determine the costs and return of pond fish production and to estimate technical, allocative and economic efficiency of the credit farmers and the contact farmers under the Mymensingh Aquaculture Extension Project. For this purpose 30 credit farmers and 30 contact farmers were selected from Ishwarganj thana under Mymensingh district. Credit farmers were selected from the whole thana and contact farmers were selected from the five unions of Ishwarganj thana. Tabular, statistical and econometric methods were used for analysing the data. The findings came up from the study that the average annual per hectare fish production of the credit and the contact farmers were 4088.60 kg and 2945.64 kg respectively. Per hectare per year gross return of the credit farmers and the contact farmers were Tk. 132895.96 and Tk. 96774.24 respectively. Per hectare per year net returns on the basis of full and cash cost were estimated as Tk. 51473.17 and Tk. 91489.22 for credit farmers and Tk. 33873.19 and Tk. 68474.50 for contact farmers respectively. Net returns per Taka invested above full and cash cost basis were estimated to be Tk. 0.63 and 2.21 for credit farmers and Tk. 0.53 and Tk. 2.42 for contact farmers respectively. The average technical efficiency of the credit and the contact farmers were 0.9880 and 0.9874 and the average overall allocative efficiency of the credit farmers and the contact farmers were 0.9702 and 0.9648 respectively. The economic efficiency of the credit farmers was 0.9586 and that was 0.9526 for contact farmers. Finally, the present study identified the nature and magnitude of several problems associated with pond fish farming. High price of various inputs, lack of fishing equipments, absence of market in a short distance, non-availability of easy transportation, high market toll, non-availability of desired fingerlings at proper time, insufficient water in dry season, multiple ownership and theft of fish were the major problems faced by the farmers in pond fish farming.