

## An Overview of Zonal Rice Economy

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Substantial differences occurred with regard to rice farm gate prices. This is driven mainly by three factors. First, the price of rice is very much dependent on the variety that is grown. Second, the technical rice quality has a major impact on the price. Differences in the technical quality are caused by moisture content of rice at harvest, related infections with fungi time of harvest and harvest - and threshing techniques [1]. Finally, the location of the typical farm relative to markets has of course an impact on farm gate prices. Whether or not this advantage in cost of production implies a competitive edge on international rice markets or not mainly depends on the quality issues mentioned above. This is because this finding coincides with low farm gate prices for those farms which are low in cost of production [2]. To the degree the low farm gate prices reflect quality issues the low cost of production is not an immediate advantage. In the course of the research for this project anecdotal information was received that the quality issues can be that bad that the produce cannot be sold on international markets at all. Rice has fed a greater number of people from the very long period of time than any other crop since it was domesticated between 8,000 to 10,000 years ago. It is the most important food crop of the developing world and the staple food of more than half of the world's population. The cultivation of rice is said to have immense significance to food security of Asia, where more than 90% of global rice is produced and consumed [3]. By the year 2025, it is estimated that, the world's farmers should produce about 60% more rice than at present to meet the food demands of the expected growing world population at that time. It feeds 100 million Asian households that plant a total of 60 million ha land with rice. It accounts for more than 40 percent of caloric intake in tropical Asia, reaching more than 65 percent in many countries and for many poor people.

### Discussion

Agriculture is the backbone of Nepalese economy contributing

about 27.10% in national GDP (MOALD, 2017). Rice is the dominant crop of South Asia including Nepal, playing a significant role in economic and agricultural development, also in reducing poverty. Despite the cost of production of rice is high especially the labor cost, the farming is in solvent condition. If we are able to decrease the cost of production by optimum utilization of the resources, the profit can be increased [4]. Timely control of insect pests and diseases led to increase in the production of rice. Also, effective and optimum use of agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, manures help not only in reduction of cost but also increase in gross margin. Farm mechanization helps to decrease the labor cost of production which contributes the major portion of cost [5].

### Conclusion

There should be the provision of timely availability of seeds and especially fertilizers and scientific rice cultivation training program to the farmers, which can ensure the potential production of rice

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