

Factors affecting the adoption of carp polyculture in Bangladesh

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Abstract

A study was conducted to determine the factors affecting adoption of pond polyculture in six villages of three districts namely Mymensingh, Bogra and Narshingdi in Bangladesh. In Mymensingh, 75% pond owners adopted carp polyculture technology whereas in Bogra and Narshingdi only 16% and 25% pond owners, respectively adopted this technology for fish production. The production of fish per unit area was found to be 5 to 10 times higher in Mymensingh compared to that of Bogra and Narshingdi. Fish farmers identified three main problems affecting the adoption of pond polyculture viz. lack of input used in aquaculture, low fish yield and lack of credit facilities for pond polyculture. The technological awareness of the farmers directly contributed towards use of inputs in culture ponds. The positive impact of technological dissemination found on input use, fish yield and uplifted socioeconomic condition.

Key words: Carp polyculture, Impact assessment

Research findings

- Out of thirty farmers interviewed from each of the three districts, 25, 5 and 8 farmers used carp polyculture technology in Mymensingh, Bogra and Narshingdi, respectively.
- However, the farmers do not follow the guideline recommended by the Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI) and the Department of Fisheries (DoF) for input use.
- The production of fish per unit area was much higher in Mymensingh compared to that of Bogra and Narshingdi.
- The sampled farmers of Bogra and Narshingdi were less familiar with technical know-how of fish production in comparison to the fish farmers of Mymensingh.
- The fish farmers in Mymensingh use modern technology due to the technical support provided by the GOs and NGOs.

- Credit for fish production from commercial banks was not easily accessible to the rural pond owners.

Policy implications

- Modern technological support for pond fish culture should be extended to all level all over the country to increase fish production.
- Research extension linkage should be strengthened to ensure proper technology dissemination to the poor fish farmers.
- Proper, effective and timely training should be provided to fish farmers to improve their knowledge on modern fish culture.

Livelihood implications

The study revealed that the fish farmers who used modern technology in pond fish culture increased their household income as well as socioeconomic status. Most of the farmers, however, were found in the trade with minimal technological knowledge and as a result, are getting less return which negatively affecting their socioeconomic, nutritional and livelihood status.