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## **Impact of environmental cost on the production cost of crops: farmers' perspective**

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**Abstract:** The aim of this study was to determine the impact of environmental factors on the production cost of paddy, corn, and potato crops in Bangladesh based on the farmers' perspective. A total of 210 cultivators of the three crops were surveyed through face-to-face interviews using an unstructured questionnaire. Environmental costs were represented by air, water, deforestation, and sound pollution costs. Multiple regression models were used to analyse the impact of environmental costs on the production cost. The results showed that air and water pollution costs have a statistically significant positive impact on the production cost of all three crops. On the other hand, sound

pollution cost and deforestation cost had no significant impact on the production costs of all three crops, except for the case of deforestation cost on corn cultivation. The findings of this study can contribute to efforts to promote sustainable agriculture practices by considering intrinsic production costs that include environmental costs.

**Keywords:** environmental cost; production cost; pollution costs; agricultural crops; sustainable agriculture.

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## 1 Introduction

Bangladesh is one of the leading agricultural countries in the world, and the impact of environmental costs on the production cost of crops is an important issue to be studied. The contribution of agriculture to the GDP of Bangladesh is around 17%, and

employment is around 45%. In rural areas, around 84% of people depend on agriculture for their livelihood, either directly or indirectly. This industry employs approximately 64% of the workforce in the country. The food security of the country completely depends on this agriculture sector. It also contributes to the country's exports by providing raw materials to the industrial sector (Moyen Uddin, 2015). Despite the fact that the modern economy is heavily reliant on industrialisation, agriculture remains the lifeblood of the Bangladeshi economy. In recent times, the contribution of agriculture to the GDP has declined, but its contribution to non-agricultural growth has shown an upward trend. Hence, agriculture is considered to be a strong driving force for the economic development of Bangladesh (Rahman, 2017).

Generally, the atmosphere of Bangladesh is suitable for cultivating the main crops, viz., paddy, corn, and potato. South Asian farmers cultivate corn twice a year: during the rainy season and the dry season (Tiammee and Likasiri, 2020). Potatoes are a major staple food for human health. It is the fourth largest crop globally after rice, wheat, and corn (Lee et al., 2008). Usually, farmers do not have adequate knowledge about the environmental costs and misuses of factors such as pesticide cost, fertiliser cost (FC), and irrigation techniques that affect the environment. The wrong utilisation of these environmentally destructive forces is the reason for ecological imbalance. It magnifies environmental costs such as useful pest deaths, soil pollution, air pollution, water pollution, sound pollution, deforestation, and medical costs.

As a rising concern, global warming and environmental imbalance have drawn more attention to world economic performance. Various parties are taking preventive actions to maintain an eco-friendly environment to ensure a sustainable future. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopts the Paris Climate Agreement to avoid climate change in 2015 with 197 countries (Sun et al., 2020). As a part of ecology, businesses have to be concerned about whether they are affecting the environment negatively or doing supportive activities to maintain a sustainable environment. Concerns about the environment and social issues have emerged as a difficult phenomenon in the 21st century. That is why environmental performance is a source of consternation for agricultural firm top management when it comes to making strategic decisions about agricultural crop and product production cost estimation.

Geographically, Bangladesh is a country of natural disasters. The cumulative result from 2000 to 2019 of the climate risk index (CRI) indicates that Bangladesh placed 7 out of 180 countries with a score of 28.33 (Eckstein et al., 2021). Because global warming and environmental disruption are thought to be the primary causes of climate change, they are now a growing concern all over the world. As part of the sustainable development goals (SDG), Bangladesh is striving to achieve sustainable agricultural development. The sustainable development hypothesis states that it is not only economically viable but also environmentally friendly. So, to attain this sustainability, Bangladesh must create an environmentally friendly agricultural sector.

In practice, however, farmers are unaware of environmental factors when cultivating their crops. By using chemical fertilisers, pesticides, hormones, etc. farmers are polluting the water, air, soil, and the environment as a whole. Again, to expand the agricultural land, trees are being cut down and deforestation is increasing. It is obvious that more production is needed to ensure the food security of such a large population in Bangladesh. But there should be a trade-off between food production and environmental protection. Failing to maintain this trade-off can expose us to numerous natural disasters such as cyclones, sea-level rise, tidal floods, storm surges, bank erosion, etc. These

natural calamities may, directly and indirectly, make the lives of the people vulnerable and miserable, which can hinder the economic development of the country.

Environmental factors are now indispensable considerations in every sector of Bangladesh. But our farmers are not conscious enough about the environment. In cultivating crops, they are polluting the environment both purposefully and involuntarily. Hence, all such activities magnify the environmental costs. Typically, farmers do not have adequate knowledge about the environmental costs and the misuse of factors such as pesticide costs, FCs, and irrigation techniques that affect the environment. The wrong utilisation of these environmentally harmful forces is the reason for ecological imbalance. It increases the cost of useful pesticides, soil pollution, air pollution, water pollution, sound pollution, deforestation, and medicine. So, various environmental factors can affect the production cost of agricultural crops. But traditionally, the farmers do not consider the environmental cost in the calculation of the production cost of various crops. So, one question can be raised; what environmental factors are significant and has impact on the production cost of crops? Therefore, this research aims to uncover those environmental factors that are significant and equally important for sustainable agricultural development in the context of Bangladesh based on the farmers' perspective.

Additionally, this study has considered air pollution, water pollution, sound pollution, and deforestation as environmental factors and their respective costs as independent variables. If environmental damages are thereby mitigated or avoided then the costs of environmental damage become the benefits of environmental protection and restoration (Ekins and Zenghelis, 2021). Demand curve approaches, ranging from direct methods based on market pricing to indirect ones such as the substitute goods method and production function can be used to assess losses when sufficient data are available. But for insufficient data, losses are assessed using either cost-based methods or the benefit-transfer method. However, if relevant information is not available at all then certain benefits could not be estimated (Croitoru and Sarraf, 2010). As instance for Bangladesh, there are no sufficient data of environmental factors is available especially regarding their impact cost on different crops.

A study conducted by Christ and Burritt (2013) explored the accountants' perceptions of environmental management accounting (EMA) for environmental strategies. Likewise, this study has considered the farmers perception and apprehension about environmental factors to calculate the environmental costs of respective crops. This study has measured the environmental costs as an opportunity cost of not considering the damages of environment done by the farmers due to the pollution of the environmental factors. Consequently, to collect the data of environmental cost the farmers are asked about their perceptions that if they had to pay compensation for polluting the air, water, sound and deforestation how much financially they were worsening off. This cost can also be seen as the preventative cost. Therefore, the environmental cost measured in this study is relative and approximate.

Based on the research problem, the specific objectives of this research are as follows:

- 1 To explore the environmental factors for assessing the environmental cost of the crops.
- 2 To examine the impact of environmental costs on the production costs of the three crops, namely paddy, corn, and potato.

## 2 Literature review

In Bangladesh, agriculture has been functioning as a catalyst for the growth and sustainable development of the country since independence (Rahman, 2017). Bishwajit et al. (2013) review the major food security issues in Bangladesh based on the past trend in agricultural output. They revealed that food security directly relates to the people's nutrition and health, which subsequently impact a nation's socio-economic status. According to the agricultural specialist, even though production increases, Bangladesh still needs to diversify and increase agricultural output. More investments and sustainability are needed for this implementation. To address this challenge, there is a need for more investments and sustained efforts to increase and diversify agricultural output. This can be achieved through initiatives such as providing access to technology and modern practices, promoting sustainable farming methods, and increasing research and development in the sector. By addressing these challenges and ensuring a stable and diverse agricultural sector, Bangladesh can secure its food supply and contribute to the overall well-being of its population.

Wang et al. (2010) investigate the contribution of agriculture to economic growth and find that there is a positive association between economic growth and agriculture. They conclude that, while agriculture's contribution to GDP has declined significantly over time, it continues to be an exceptional driving force for economic growth by contributing significant market, foreign exchange, and output contributions to non-agricultural growth. Wilfrid and Edwige (2004) also analyse the impact of agriculture on the GDP of China and three sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries by using multiple regression models and reveal that agriculture remains the keystone of China and the SSA countries.

Subramaniam and Reed (2009) incorporate the linkage among the manufacturing, service, agriculture, and trade sectors using a vector error correction model (VECM) for Poland and Romania. Chang et al. (2006) show that industrialisation and long-run economic growth in Japan, Taiwan, and Korea increase with higher agricultural productivity. They also conclude from the results of their study that higher agricultural productivity increases employment in the industrial sectors and hence enhances economic growth. Skinner et al. (1997) examined a study on the environmental impact of agriculture in the UK and identified the soil erosion, pesticides, nitrogen compounds, and farm animal faeces are the principal environmental factors of agriculture. Their research also considered the effects of fauna and flora, water bodies, and humans, as well as the financial expenses (such as those related to lowering pollution levels in water bodies).

Islam et al. (2021) mention that rice farmers in Bangladesh face various risks regarding environmental, climatic, and market prices. Based on this issue, they conducted a study on 600 rice farmers from three major rice-growing districts in Bangladesh. The findings show that farmers' savings, agricultural credit, off-farm income, total family income, access to information, age, distance from the farm gate to the main market, and frequent contact with extension officers are significant determinants that affect farmers' risk attitudes and perceptions.

Nguyen et al. (2019) observe that climate change is a foremost challenge for farmers. Changing farming practices can reduce emissions and help in adapting to climate change. Also, agricultural sustainability, mitigation, and adaptation can effectively lessen the effects of climate change on agricultural systems. A study by Kassam and Brammer (2013) observed that practices of conservation agriculture and cultivating diverse plant species together can protect soils against erosion and desiccation. These also increase soil

organic matter contents, reduce farmers' costs of cultivation, reduce chemical pollution of rivers and groundwater, and increase carbon sequestration. The study by Skevas and Lansink (2014) assesses the productivity and environmental effects of pesticide use by applying a dynamic data employment analysis (DEA) model on Dutch Arable Farms panel data from 2003–2007.

Nsibande and Forbes (2016) conclude from their study that the use of chemical pesticides affects both targeted and non-targeted pests as well as the entire ecology, including the atmosphere, water (ground and surface), soil, leaching, and pulverisation procedures. Davari et al. (2020) investigate the impacts of deforestation on soil quality indicators. The data set is from the Savan watershed, Baneh, Kurdistan, west of Iran. In the study of Mohsen et al. (2021), they examine the energy flow and greenhouse gas emissions through irrigation techniques in southern Iran. Their study considers three irrigation systems, such as furrow irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, and drip irrigation. Elfikrie et al. (2020) examine the effect of pesticides in exterior water. They also observe the efficiency level of a conventional drinking water treatment plant (DWTP) to remove pesticides from mineral water and the possible health threat to consumers if pesticides exist in the water.

Xu et al. (2020) investigate the relationship between noise pollution and economic growth in 111 Chinese cities between 1991 and 2017. Lee et al. (2021) detect the connection between corporate cash holdings and air pollution. They analyse data from the China National Environmental Monitoring Centre and the stock prices of listed companies from two provinces in China between 2013 and 2017. Guoju et al. (2013) examine the impact of climate change on potato water use efficiency (WUE) using temperature rise and precipitation simulation testing. Their study collected data from the northwest semi-arid zone of China for 50 years. Carauta et al. (2021) develop a model that combines biophysical and bio-economic models to investigate how climate change affects the profitability of double-cropping practices in Brazil.

Hien and Chi (2023) conducted a study on the green innovation in agricultural development. They proposed relationships among environment awareness, technology spillover (TS), social networks, and green innovation. To analyse the data of valid observations obtained in the structured questionnaire survey in Vietnam, the research used correlation analysis and structural equation modelling (SEM). The findings suggest that environmental consciousness and TS have significant positive influences on green innovation. Social networks also act as a catalyst for innovation in environmentally friendly agricultural production.

Debow et al. (2023) predicted and forecasted water quality using deep learning. They defined water quality (WQ) by various factors like pH, turbidity, dissolved oxygen (DO), nitrate, temperature, total and faecal coliform. The study used four-stacked LSTM models to forecast and predict water quality index (WQI). K-NN and annual mean algorithms are applied for data analysis and features selection. They concluded that predict without total coliform as the best prediction model and filtering data with RMSE = 0.013 as the best forecasting method.

In order to make informed decisions on the efficient use of production resources, Prentzas et al. (2022) tried to assess the technical efficiency of cereal and legume farms. The study used data envelopment analysis on 100 agricultural estates in the Kilkis prefecture of central Macedonia-Greece. A questionnaire survey was used to gather primary data. Every farm's gross profit served as the output. Inputs included acreage,

labor, and variable expenditures for things like fertiliser, gasoline, and crop protection. The findings indicated that increasing farm efficiency requires a 48.3% reduction in inputs.

Muhamadi and Boz (2022) conducted a study to identify the variables affecting farmers' opinions of sustainable agriculture in Rwanda's Musanze district. A sample of 173 farmers who operate in this district were given a well-structured questionnaire, and this is how the data was gathered. Farmers were first split into two groups: those who felt strongly about sustainability and those who felt less strongly. To identify the variables affecting farmers' perceptions, a binary logistic regression model was used. The model's findings revealed that Umuganda, a Rwandan initiative, education level, radio listening, time spent in a nearby trading hub, farm size, and the total area of land used for agriculture were statistically significant variables that might have an impact on the region's ability to sustain agriculture.

However, from the above-cited literature reviews, it is observed that many studies have been conducted based on the relationship between agriculture and climate change. Again, some research has been performed on the effect of environmental pollution on crops and the economic development of the country. But no outright attempt has been found to examine the effect of environmental costs on the production costs of any crops. Despite the growing recognition of the impact of environmental factors on agricultural crop production, there is limited empirical evidence on the specific effect of these factors. This study addresses this gap by investigating the impact of air, water, deforestation, and sound pollution on the production costs of three major crops (paddy, corn, and potato).

### **3 Materials and methods**

#### *3.1 Data collection strategy*

This study is empirical as well as quantitative in nature and used a primary dataset based on the objectives. Data has been collected through an unstructured questionnaire with open ended questions from the Dinajpur and Thakurgaon district of Bangladesh. Data collection period was July 2022 to September 2022. The respondents were the farmers and selected at random. This study considered the farmers of three crops namely paddy, corn, and potato that constituted 240 sample sizes (80 samples for each crop). The face-to-face interview has been conducted to fill out the questionnaire for a better understanding of the farmers and to get the true responses. The questionnaire was contained information regarding environmental costs, crop production cost, and the personal attributes of the farmers. Bangladeshi currency (BDT Taka) was used to measure the costs. Incomplete, biased, and abnormally answered responses were discarded through scrutinising process and finally accepted 210 responses (70 samples for each crop) which were used in the analysis of this study. The variables have been finalised by pre-testing and reliability testing. The final data has been analysed by the statistical software SPSS.

#### *3.2 Econometric model*

The proper method for examining the link between independent variables and dependent variables is multiple regression analysis. Multiple regression analysis has been the



statistical technique that has been used the most frequently to examine the relationship between a soil property and other morphometric characteristics (Moore et al., 1993; Odeh et al., 1995; Gessler et al., 2000). Moreover, recently, several researches based on the impact of environmental factors have been conducted by using the multiple regression model (Shi et al., 2021; Hameed et al., 2022). Therefore, this study employed multiple regression models to identify the environmental factors that affect the production cost of the three crops namely paddy, corn, and potato. The models are as follows:

$$Cost_{paddy} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 APC_p + \beta_2 WPC_p + \beta_3 SPC_p + \beta_4 DFC_p + \varepsilon_i \quad (1)$$

$$Cost_{corn} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 APC_c + \beta_2 WPC_c + \beta_3 SPC_c + \beta_4 DFC_c + \varepsilon_i \quad (2)$$

$$Cost_{potato} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 APC_{po} + \beta_2 WPC_{po} + \beta_3 SPC_{po} + \beta_4 DFC_{po} + \varepsilon_i \quad (3)$$

where  $Cost_{paddy}$ ,  $Cost_{corn}$ , and  $Cost_{potato}$  is the total production cost (TPC) of paddy, corn, and potato and has been used as the dependent variables,  $\beta_0$  represents the intercept;  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$ ,  $\beta_3$ , and  $\beta_4$  represents the estimated coefficients for each of the predictors;  $APC$ ,  $WPC$ ,  $SPC$ , and  $DFC$  represents the air pollution cost, water pollution cost, sound pollution cost, and deforestation cost of the respective farmers and crops and has been used as independent variables to predict the dependent variables.  $\varepsilon_i$  is the stochastic disturbance term. The variables are quantitative and continuous in nature and have been measured in an appropriate scaling.

### 3.3 Measurement of the variables

- *Dependent variables:* this study will use the TPC per acre of the crop's paddy, corn, and potato as dependent variables. The study will consider the overhead cost (OC), seed cost (SC), FC, pesticides cost (PC), and irrigation cost (IC) to measure the TPC of the respective crops under consideration. Hence, the TPC has been calculated as follows:

$$TPC = OC + SC + FC + PC + IC$$

- *Independent variables:* this study has been considered air pollution, water pollution, sound pollution, and deforestation as environmental factors and their respective costs as independent variables. The costs have been calculated by asking the farmers that the absence of these factors how many monetary benefits they earned.

## 4 Results and discussion

### 4.1 Descriptive statistics

In Table 1 the descriptive statistics of separate variables have been displayed. The table shows minimum, maximum, mean and standard deviation of different cost regarding the three crops of paddy, corn and potato. All costs are shown in Bangladeshi currency (BDT Taka).

#### 4.2 Reliability and validity testing

The empirical study conducts several tests to ensure validity and reliability. The measure of the reliability of all variables indicates a satisfactory Cronbach's ' $\alpha$ ' alpha, well above the 0.70 cut-off. Table 2 shows the overall reliability statistics of the 15 items entirely and the result indicated that the data collection procedure is reliable with a highly recommended Cronbach's alpha score of 0.710 which is considered as a good range of reliability scale ( $\geq 0.70$ ) (O'Leary-Kelly and Vokurka, 1998).

Additionally, this study employs confirmatory factor analysis (Table 3) for an overall two factors model with all the variables of three crops paddy, corn, and potato. The results provide information that two of three crops fit index above 0.90 benchmark, Tucker-Lewis index for all three crops (paddy, corn and potato) are 0.984, 0.618, and 0.905 respectively; normed-fit index are 0.870, 0.718, and 0.888 respectively and the root mean square error of approximation are 0.028, 0.133, and 0.105 respectively. Therefore, the model fitted the data (Table 3). Likewise, Zhang et al. (2019) conduct a confirmatory factor analysis for an overall six-factor model of all variables, where their confirmatory factor analysis shows 0.92 which is above the 0.90 benchmarks.

**Table 1** Descriptive statistics of the selected variables

| <i>Variables</i>                                      | <i>N</i> | <i>Minimum</i> | <i>Maximum</i> | <i>Mean</i> | <i>Std. deviation</i> |
|---|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Total production cost for paddy (TPC <sub>p</sub> )   | 70       | 10,500         | 93,000         | 36,024.57   | 20,896.760            |
| Air pollution cost for paddy (APC <sub>p</sub> )      | 70       | 100            | 2,300          | 792.14      | 454.258               |
| Water pollution cost for paddy (WPC <sub>p</sub> )    | 70       | 300            | 3,800          | 1,373.57    | 785.499               |
| Deforestation cost for paddy (DPC <sub>p</sub> )      | 70       | 200            | 1,500          | 772.14      | 261.772               |
| Sound pollution cost for paddy (SPC <sub>p</sub> )    | 70       | 200            | 1,000          | 538.57      | 247.329               |
| Total production cost for corn (TPC <sub>c</sub> )    | 70       | 10,500         | 118,000        | 34,686.86   | 20,228.006            |
| Air pollution cost for corn (APC <sub>c</sub> )       | 70       | 100            | 1,500          | 510.71      | 347.339               |
| Water pollution cost for corn (WPC <sub>c</sub> )     | 70       | 100            | 3,000          | 1,101.43    | 631.479               |
| Deforestation cost for corn (DPC <sub>c</sub> )       | 70       | 300            | 2,000          | 914.29      | 446.495               |
| Sound pollution cost for corn (SPC <sub>c</sub> )     | 70       | 0              | 1,000          | 509.29      | 246.320               |
| Total production cost for potato (TPC <sub>po</sub> ) | 70       | 10,000         | 141,000        | 56,508.00   | 33,291.904            |
| Air pollution cost for potato (APC <sub>po</sub> )    | 70       | 200            | 1,500          | 755.00      | 365.560               |
| Water pollution cost for potato (WPC <sub>po</sub> )  | 70       | 200            | 3,000          | 1,085.71    | 643.819               |
| Deforestation cost for potato (DPC <sub>po</sub> )    | 70       | 300            | 2,000          | 957.86      | 447.994               |
| Sound pollution cost for potato (SPC <sub>s</sub> )   | 70       | 100            | 2,000          | 815.00      | 483.072               |

**Table 2** Reliability statistics (overall)

| <i>Cronbach's alpha</i> | <i>N of items</i> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 0.710                   | 15                |

### 4.3 Impact of environment cost on the production cost of paddy

Table 4 indicates the model-1 summary along with the value of R square is 0.328. And it represents that the 32.8% variation of the dependent variable is explained by the independent variable and the rest are described by other factors that are not considered in this model. The p-value is 0.032 which is less than 0.05 indicating that the regression model is statistically significant and considered as a fit model. It is recommended that the value of the Durbin-Watson test of less than one or greater than three is not acceptable as a rule of thumb and is a sign of autocorrelation problem. Since Durbin-Watson statistic value is 1.416, this model has no autocorrelation problem.

**Table 3** Result of confirmatory factor analyses

| <i>Model</i>                         | $X^2$  | <i>df</i> | $X^2/df$ | <i>CFI</i> | <i>TLI</i> | <i>NFI</i> | <i>RMSEA</i> |
|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Two factors                          |        |           |          |            |            |            |              |
| Null model <sub>p</sub>              | 20.011 | 19        | 4.279    | 0.991      | 0.984      | 0.870      | 0.028        |
| Null model <sub>c</sub>              | 41.267 | 19        | 4.066    | 0.798      | 0.618      | 0.718      | 0.133        |
| Null model <sub>po</sub>             | 32.896 | 19        | 8.182    | 0.946      | 0.905      | 0.888      | 0.105        |
| One factor                           |        |           |          |            |            |            |              |
| All variables combined <sub>p</sub>  | 48.197 | 27        | 1.785    | 0.179      | 0.761      | 0.687      | 0.109        |
| All variables combined <sub>c</sub>  | 68.485 | 27        | 2.536    | 0.624      | 0.376      | 0.532      | 0.153        |
| All variables combined <sub>po</sub> | 90.889 | 27        | 3.366    | 0.753      | 0.657      | 0.680      | 0.189        |

Note: CFI: Confirmatory factor analysis; TLI: Tucker-Lewis index;  
NFI: Normed-fit index; RMSEA: Root-mean-square error of approximation.

**Table 4** Model-1 summary

| <i>Model summary<sup>b</sup></i> |                 |                          |                                   |          |                    |                      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>R</i>                         | <i>R square</i> | <i>Adjusted R square</i> | <i>Std. error of the estimate</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Sig.</i>        | <i>Durbin-Watson</i> |
| 0.497 <sup>a</sup>               | 0.328           | 0.297                    | 2,055.159                         | 2.571    | 0.032 <sup>a</sup> | 1.416                |

Notes: <sup>a</sup>Predictors: (Constant), sound pollution cost for paddy, water pollution cost for paddy, deforestation cost for paddy, air pollution cost for paddy.

<sup>b</sup>Dependent variable: TPC for paddy.

**Table 5** Regression coefficients (model-1)

| <i>Model</i>                                       | <i>Unstandardised coefficients</i> |                   | <i>t</i> | <i>Sig.</i> |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
|  | <i>B</i>                           | <i>Std. error</i> |          |             |
| 1 (Constant)                                       | 3,183.416                          | 9,785.954         | 3.253    | 0.002       |
| Air pollution cost for paddy (APC <sub>p</sub> )   | 2.891                              | 5.876             | -0.492   | 0.031       |
| Water pollution cost for paddy (WPC <sub>p</sub> ) | 4.029                              | 3.171             | 1.271    | 0.028       |
| Deforestation cost for paddy (DPC <sub>p</sub> )   | 8.364                              | 9.866             | -1.152   | 0.084       |
| Sound pollution cost for paddy (SPC <sub>p</sub> ) | -11.052                            | 10.489            | 1.721    | 0.090       |

Note: Dependent variable: total production cost for paddy (TPC<sub>p</sub>).

Table 5 shows the results of regression coefficients for the model-1 regarding the impact of environment cost on the production cost of paddy. It is seen from Table 5 that the

studied variables of  $APC_p$  and  $WPC_p$  are statistically significant at 5% level of significance as the p-value of both the variables is less than 0.05 as well as has a positive relationship with the dependent variable  $TPC_p$ . Again the variable  $DPC_p$  have a positive coefficient and  $SPC_p$  have negative coefficient but both are not statistically significant as the p-value exceeds from the cut-off value of 0.05.

#### 4.4 *Impact of environment cost on the production cost of corn*

Table 6 shows the model-2 summary along with the value of R square is 0.257 which indicates that the 25.7% variation of the dependent variable is explained by the independent variable and the other 74.3% are described by other factors that are not studied in this model. The p-value is 0.033 indicating that the regression model is statistically significant and considered as a fit model as the value less than 0.05. The Durbin-Watson statistic value of 1.703 confirms that the model has no autocorrelation problem.

**Table 6** Model-2 summary

| <i>Model summary<sup>b</sup></i> |                 |                          |                                   |          |                    |                      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>R</i>                         | <i>R square</i> | <i>Adjusted R square</i> | <i>Std. error of the estimate</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Sig.</i>        | <i>Durbin-Watson</i> |
| 0.483 <sup>a</sup>               | 0.347           | 0.257                    | 1,925.797                         | 2.792    | 0.033 <sup>a</sup> | 1.703                |

Notes: <sup>a</sup>Predictors: (constant), sound pollution cost for corn, air pollution cost for corn, deforestation cost for corn, water pollution cost for corn.

<sup>b</sup>Dependent variable: TPC for corn.

Table 7 shows the regression coefficients results for the model-2 regarding the impact of environment cost on the production cost of corn. It is seen from Table 5 that the studied variables of  $APC_c$ ,  $WPC_c$  and  $DPC_c$  are statistically significant at 5% level of significance as the p-value of all these variables are less than 0.05 as well as has a positive relationship with the dependent variable  $TPC_c$ . Again, the variable  $SPC_c$  have a negative coefficient but is not statistically significant as the p-value is far from the value of 0.05.

**Table 7** Regression coefficients (model-2)

| <i>Model</i>                              | <i>Unstandardised coefficients</i> |                   | <i>t</i> | <i>Sig.</i> |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
|   | <i>B</i>                           | <i>Std. error</i> |          |             |
| 2 (Constant)                              | 36,457.710                         | 9,125.327         | 3.995    | 0.000       |
| Air pollution cost for corn ( $APC_c$ )   | 5.454                              | 6.680             | -1.266   | 0.035       |
| Water pollution cost for corn ( $WPC_c$ ) | 5.613                              | 3.827             | 2.251    | 0.008       |
| Deforestation cost for corn ( $DPC_c$ )   | 0.259                              | 5.342             | -0.048   | 0.041       |
| Sound pollution cost for corn ( $SPC_c$ ) | -13.162                            | 10.057            | -1.309   | 0.155       |

Note: Dependent variable: total production cost for corn ( $TPC_c$ ).

#### 4.5 *Impact of environment cost on the production cost of paddy*

Table 8 represents the model-3 summary and shows the value of R square is 0.454 which indicates that the independent variables alone can explain 45.4% of variation of the

dependent variable and the remaining 54.6% are explained by other factors that are not considered in this model. The p-value of 0.017 which is less than 0.05 is an indicative of that the regression model is statistically significant and considered as a fit model. The Durbin-Watson statistic value of 1.688 confirms that the model has no autocorrelation problem.

**Table 8** Model-3 summary

| <i>Model summary<sup>b</sup></i> |                 |                          |                                   |          |                    |                      |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>R</i>                         | <i>R square</i> | <i>Adjusted R square</i> | <i>Std. error of the estimate</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>Sig.</i>        | <i>Durbin-Watson</i> |
| 0.683 <sup>a</sup>               | 0.537           | 0.454                    | 3,418.160                         | 1.691    | 0.017 <sup>a</sup> | 1.688                |

Notes: <sup>a</sup>Predictors: (constant), sound pollution cost for potato, deforestation cost for potato, air pollution cost for potato, water pollution cost for potato.

<sup>b</sup>Dependent variable: TPC for potato.

Table 9 shows the results of regression coefficients for the model-3 regarding the impact of environment cost on the production cost of potato. It is seen from Table 9 that the studied variables of  $APC_{po}$  and  $WPC_{po}$  are both statistically significant at 5% level of significance as the p-value of both the variables is less than 0.05 as well as has a positive relationship with the dependent variable  $TPC_{po}$ . Again, the variables  $DPC_{po}$  and  $SPC_{po}$  have a positive coefficient but both are statistically insignificant as the p-value exceeds from the cut-off value of 0.05.

**Table 9** Regression coefficients (model-3)

| <i>Model</i>                                   | <i>Unstandardised coefficients</i> |                   | <i>t</i> | <i>Sig.</i> |
|--|------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|
|  | <i>B</i>                           | <i>Std. error</i> |          |             |
| 3 (Constant)                                   | 47,659.381                         | 15,074.147        | 3.162    | 0.002       |
| Air pollution cost for potato ( $APC_{po}$ )   | 1.173                              | 11.409            | 0.103    | 0.048       |
| Water pollution cost for potato ( $WPC_{po}$ ) | 2.242                              | 6.670             | 0.336    | 0.018       |
| Deforestation cost for potato ( $DPC_{po}$ )   | 3.391                              | 9.564             | 0.355    | 0.524       |
| Sound pollution cost for potato ( $SPC_{po}$ ) | 2.798                              | 8.635             | 0.324    | 0.747       |

Note: Dependent variable: total production cost for potato ( $TPC_{po}$ ).

#### 4.6 Discussion on major findings

This study found that cost of paddy cultivation is influenced mainly by the two environmental factors namely air pollution and water pollution cost. There is a statistically positive correlation among the cost of production, water and air pollution cost of paddy. So, increases in these environmental costs will increase the production cost of the paddy. Again, the study also found that the other two environmental factors namely deforestation and sound pollution cost has statistically no relation with the production cost of paddy.

The study also found that the air, water and deforestation cost have a positive correlation with the production cost of corn cultivation. That is, if the costs of these environmental factors increase, the cost of corn cultivation will also increase. But only the sound pollution cost found no relation with the production cost of corn in this study.

The study also discovered that the air and water pollution cost can increase the cost of potato cultivation since there is a statistically positive relation among these factors. But the study also discovered that the deforestation and sound pollution cost has no impact on the production cost of potato.

Carauta et al. (2021) found that Brazil's agriculture sector is negatively impacted by water stress and global warming. In a study of Guoju et al. (2013) concluded that the efficiency of water consumption of potato in China over the next 50 years may be favourably impacted by global climate change. Again, in another study of Skinner et al. (1997) determined that the agricultural activities, especially those connected to air and water pollutants, can have a substantial impact to miles away from their point of origin. Yet again, results of the study of Xu et al. (2020) showed that an inverse correlation exists between China's economic growth and noise pollution at the national scale which is N-shaped.

Therefore, this study revealed that the sound pollution cost has no impact on the production cost of all the three crops namely paddy, corn and potato under consideration. Again, the study also revealed that the deforestation cost has also no impact on the production cost of all three crops under consideration except the corn cultivation.

## 5 Conclusions

The population growth of Bangladesh calls for the high demand for crops. Especially rice, corn, and potato are the staple foods that cover a significant portion of the country's food security. Precise cultivation can only be ensured by considering environmental issues. However, the cultivation of these crops intensifies the health costs and environmental costs when it does not feel the fair market value of the environmental concern and as such damages to the environment should consider financially while investing in any agricultural project. Therefore, based on the farmers' perspective, this research focused on the environmental issues regarding measuring the production cost of the crops in reaching farmers' actual returns in Bangladesh. This study has found significant relationship between the environmental cost and production cost of crops. The findings of this study found that air and water pollution cost have the most impact on the production cost of paddy, corn and potato.

### 5.1 Policy implications

Several policy implications can be drawn from our research. *Firstly*, the study highlights the need for stricter regulation on air and water pollution to reduce its impact on the production cost of crops. *Secondly*, the government should consider providing financial support to farmers to adopt environmentally friendly practices in crop cultivation. *Thirdly*, the authorities should focus on promoting the use of cleaner energy sources to reduce air pollution. *Fourthly*, the government should invest in water management and treatment infrastructure to reduce water pollution. *Fifthly*, the study highlights the importance of incorporating environmental costs into the calculation of the intrinsic cost of crop production. *Sixthly*, the authorities should encourage farmers to adopt environmentally friendly practices through education and awareness programs. *Seventhly*, the government should provide incentives for farmers to adopt sustainable agriculture practices. *Eighthly*, the study emphasises the need for effective waste management to

reduce the impact of environmental costs on crop production. *Ninthly*, the government should enforce regulations to prevent deforestation, especially in areas that are crucial for agricultural production. *Lastly*, the study highlights the importance of monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of environmental policies to ensure that they are having the desired impact on crop production and the environment.

Moreover, the results of this study will assist the government in understanding the real situation concerning the environmental and climatic risk sources for agriculture and farmers and will also help the government in shaping policies to attain the SDG. Also, this study can help the government in preparing and estimating the climate fund and budget.

## *5.2 Academic implications*

The findings of this study can contribute to create and extend the knowledge in the domain of EMA, climate finance and agricultural research. Similarly, the study can contribute to the development of theories related to sustainable agriculture practices. The findings can inform the development of new theories that account for the impact of environmental costs on production costs and promote sustainable agricultural practices. Additionally, academicians and future researchers can extend their researches from the limitations and future research directions of this study. Additionally, the findings of this study can help to develop the theories regarding sustainable agriculture. Moreover, our study can be used as a teaching resource in agricultural education to raise awareness among students about the importance of environmental protection in crop production. The study can also inspire further research on the impact of environmental costs on the production costs of other crops in different regions.

## *5.3 Practical applications*

In Bangladesh, all development sectors are integrated with the agriculture sector either directly or indirectly. On the other hand, environmental problems are the most commonly discussed issue in the present time. The environment is polluting in numerous ways by the various acts of the farmers during cultivation. Farmers of our country do not bother with the effects of any environmental factors when calculating the TPC of crops. But this is very important for the sustainable agricultural development and food safety of Bangladesh. Hence, the findings of this study can be used to improve the efficiency of agricultural policies by policymakers relating to the agriculture sector in several ways.

*Firstly*, based on the farmers' perspective, the study can be used by farmers to understand the impact of environmental factors on the cost of crop production and how to reduce it. *Secondly*, the findings can inform farm owners and other stakeholders about the impact of environmental costs on the production cost of crops and how to reduce it. *Thirdly*, the results of the study can be used by the government to design policies and programs aimed at reducing the impact of environmental costs on crop production. *Fourthly*, the study provides a basis for the calculation of the intrinsic cost of crop production by incorporating environmental costs. *Fifthly*, the findings can be used to design and implement environmentally friendly agricultural practices, reducing the impact of environmental costs on crops. *Sixthly*, the study provides valuable information for the government to allocate resources for improving water and air management

infrastructure, reducing the impact of pollution on crop production. *Seventhly*, the results of the study can be used by farmers to make informed decisions about the crops they cultivate, considering the environmental impact. *Eighthly*, the study provides valuable information for policymakers to design and implement waste management policies to reduce environmental costs on crop production. *Ninthly*, the results of the study can be used to create awareness about the impact of environmental factors on crop production and encourage environmentally friendly practices. *Finally*, the study can inform the government about the importance of monitoring and evaluating the impact of environmental policies on crop production and the environment.

Moreover, the findings of this research can guide the agricultural authorities, farm owners, and other stakeholders to calculate the intrinsic cost of production by considering the environmental cost which in turn can motivate the farmers to perform environment-friendly activities during cultivating crops namely, paddy, corn, and potato.

#### 5.4 *Limitations and future research directions*

The study has several limitations that should be acknowledged. *Firstly*, the sample size of 210 cultivators may not be representative of the entire population of crop cultivators in Bangladesh, potentially leading to limited generalisability of the results. *Secondly*, the study relies on self-reported data from cultivators, which may introduce bias and inaccuracies into the results. *Thirdly*, the study only uses four environmental factors (air, water, deforestation, and sound pollution) as proxies for environmental costs, ignoring other potential environmental factors that could impact crop production. *Fourthly*, the study only focuses on the impact of environmental factors on the production cost of three crops (paddy, corn, and potato), ignoring other crops grown in Bangladesh. *Additionally*, the study only focuses on the impact of environmental factors on crop production costs and does not consider other important outcomes, such as crop yields, quality, and profitability. *Finally*, the study uses multiple regression models to determine the impact of environmental costs on production costs, ignoring other methods that may provide more accurate results. To address these limitations, future research should consider expanding the sample size, using more reliable and objective data sources, considering a wider range of environmental factors, studying the impact on other crops and outcomes, and exploring alternative methods for measuring the impact of environmental factors on crop production costs. Furthermore, future research should also focus on the long-term impact of environmental factors on crop production and the environment.

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## Appendix 1

Table A1 Calculation of TPC

| Interviewer | PADDY  |        |        |        |        |        | CORN   |        |        |        |       |        | POTATO |        |        |        |        |         |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
|             | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC    | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC    | TPC    | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC     |
|             | 1      | 15,000 | 3,000  | 15,000 | 8,000  | 1,500  | 42,500 | 13,000 | 10,000 | 16,000 | 5,000 | 5,000  | 49,000 | 11,000 | 7,000  | 12,000 | 10,000 | 5,000   |
| 2           | 15,000 | 2,500  | 10,000 | 4,000  | 11,000 | 42,500 | 10,000 | 7,000  | 11,000 | 4,000  | 4,000 | 36,000 | 7,000  | 20,000 | 15,000 | 8,000  | 3,500  | 53,500  |
| 3           | 12,000 | 3,500  | 17,000 | 7,000  | 16,000 | 55,500 | 9,000  | 7,000  | 11,000 | 4,000  | 4,000 | 35,000 | 11,000 | 25,000 | 18,000 | 10,000 | 5,000  | 69,000  |
| 4           | 8,000  | 1,500  | 8,000  | 3,000  | 8,000  | 28,500 | 3,500  | 4,000  | 4,000  | 1,000  | 1,000 | 13,500 | 4,000  | 10,000 | 7,000  | 4,000  | 1,500  | 26,500  |
| 5           | 6,500  | 1,200  | 5,000  | 2,500  | 6,500  | 21,700 | 7,000  | 8,000  | 15,000 | 1,000  | 600   | 31,600 | 1,600  | 2,200  | 2,300  | 3,000  | 200    | 9,300   |
| 6           | 6,700  | 7,000  | 9,000  | 10,000 | 3,000  | 35,700 | 2,000  | 2,500  | 4,000  | 1,000  | 1,200 | 10,700 | 8,000  | 8,000  | 15,000 | 2,000  | 2,500  | 35,500  |
| 7           | 4,000  | 800    | 3,000  | 2,000  | 2,000  | 11,800 | 7,000  | 2,000  | 15,000 | 3,000  | 4,000 | 31,000 | 11,000 | 18,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 5,000  | 59,000  |
| 8           | 2,000  | 6,400  | 2,000  | 500    | 600    | 11,500 | 4,000  | 4,500  | 5,000  | 3,000  | 3,000 | 19,500 | 8,000  | 15,000 | 7,000  | 4,000  | 500    | 34,500  |
| 9           | 1,200  | 500    | 2,300  | 300    | 1,000  | 5,300  | 15,000 | 10,000 | 15,000 | 4,500  | 5,000 | 49,500 | 2,000  | 500    | 1,000  | 1,000  | 1,500  | 6,000   |
| 10          | 15,000 | 2,000  | 10,000 | 12,000 | 5,000  | 44,000 | 5,000  | 3,000  | 6,000  | 2,000  | 2,000 | 18,000 | 1,500  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 1,500  | 500    | 8,500   |
| 11          | 15,000 | 4,000  | 15,000 | 6,000  | 15,000 | 55,000 | 2,500  | 10,000 | 15,000 | 2,000  | 1,000 | 30,500 | 5,000  | 10,000 | 5,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 26,000  |
| 12          | 3,000  | 1,200  | 2,000  | 1,500  | 4,000  | 11,700 | 16,000 | 11,000 | 16,000 | 5,000  | 5,000 | 53,000 | 25,000 | 40,000 | 20,000 | 10,000 | 5,000  | 100,000 |
| 13          | 25,000 | 4,000  | 20,000 | 10,000 | 20,000 | 79,000 | 6,000  | 2,500  | 5,000  | 1,000  | 2,000 | 16,500 | 20,000 | 60,000 | 40,000 | 6,000  | 2,000  | 128,000 |
| 14          | 5,000  | 2,000  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 19,000 | 5,000  | 5,400  | 5,000  | 600    | 5,000 | 21,000 | 9,000  | 14,000 | 12,000 | 8,000  | 700    | 43,700  |
| 15          | 7,500  | 1,000  | 12,000 | 400    | 4,000  | 24,900 | 8,000  | 6,000  | 9,000  | 2,000  | 3,000 | 28,000 | 17,000 | 35,000 | 30,000 | 10,000 | 7,000  | 99,000  |
| 16          | 6,000  | 1,200  | 5,000  | 2,500  | 0      | 14,700 | 5,000  | 7,000  | 6,000  | 1,500  | 2,500 | 22,000 | 6,000  | 12,000 | 11,000 | 4,000  | 2,500  | 35,500  |
| 17          | 6,000  | 1,000  | 5,000  | 2,000  | 6,500  | 20,500 | 7,000  | 5,000  | 7,000  | 1,500  | 3,000 | 23,500 | 3,000  | 4,000  | 4,500  | 1,000  | 1,000  | 9,450   |
| 18          | 6,000  | 1,500  | 5,000  | 3,000  | 6,000  | 21,500 | 7,000  | 3,000  | 5,000  | 2,000  | 3,000 | 20,000 | 15,000 | 40,000 | 20,000 | 12,000 | 7,000  | 94,000  |
| 19          | 13,000 | 4,000  | 14,000 | 7,000  | 15,000 | 53,000 | 4,000  | 2,500  | 4,000  | 1,000  | 1,000 | 12,500 | 10,000 | 20,000 | 4,000  | 500    | 4,000  | 38,500  |
| 20          | 7,000  | 2,000  | 4,500  | 2,500  | 5,000  | 21,000 | 13,500 | 8,000  | 10,000 | 4,000  | 4,500 | 40,000 | 1,900  | 7,200  | 3,000  | 300    | 1,000  | 13,400  |
| 21          | 4,000  | 500    | 3,000  | 1,000  | 3,000  | 11,500 | 6,000  | 2,500  | 5,000  | 1,000  | 1,000 | 16,500 | 8,000  | 20,000 | 15,000 | 8,000  | 4,000  | 55,000  |
| 22          | 12,000 | 2,000  | 7,000  | 6,000  | 8,000  | 35,000 | 3,000  | 2,000  | 1,000  | 1,000  | 800   | 7,800  | 7,000  | 20,000 | 13,000 | 7,000  | 3,000  | 50,000  |
| 23          | 5,000  | 2,000  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 19,000 | 7,000  | 8,000  | 10,000 | 4,000  | 6,000 | 35,000 | 9,000  | 15,000 | 12,000 | 7,000  | 4,000  | 47,000  |
| 24          | 2,500  | 750    | 2,000  | 1,700  | 1,600  | 8,550  | 4,000  | 2,000  | 4,000  | 600    | 600   | 11,200 | 15,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 15,000 | 7,000  | 97,000  |

Notes: All costs are in BDT Taka. OC = overhead cost, SC = seed cost, FC = fertiliser cost, PC = pesticides cost, IC = irrigation cost and TPC = total production cost.

**Table A1** Calculation of TPC (continued)

| Interviewer | PADDY  |       |        |        |        |        | CORN   |        |        |        |       |        | POTATO |        |        |        |        |         |
|-------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
|             | OC     | SC    | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC    | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC    | TPC    | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC     |
|             | 25     | 6,000 | 2,000  | 8,000  | 750    | 2,100  | 18,850 | 14,500 | 3,080  | 21,000 | 5,000 | 5,000  | 48,580 | 16,000 | 25,000 | 20,000 | 8,000  | 12,000  |
| 26          | 6,000  | 3,000 | 3,000  | 1,500  | 2,250  | 15,750 | 30,000 | 16,000 | 20,000 | 5,000  | 8,000 | 79,000 | 10,000 | 15,000 | 14,000 | 6,000  | 3,000  | 48,000  |
| 27          | 30,000 | 5,000 | 21,200 | 5,000  | 2,500  | 63,700 | 2,500  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 1,000  | 1,000 | 9,500  | 4,000  | 10,000 | 8,000  | 3,500  | 1,500  | 27,000  |
| 28          | 25,000 | 5,000 | 25,000 | 10,000 | 12,000 | 77,000 | 12,000 | 10,000 | 18,000 | 5,000  | 7,000 | 52,000 | 3,500  | 10,000 | 8,000  | 3,500  | 1,500  | 26,500  |
| 29          | 25,000 | 5,000 | 30,000 | 4,000  | 10,000 | 74,000 | 20,000 | 12,000 | 17,500 | 8,000  | 6,000 | 63,500 | 4,000  | 13,500 | 6,000  | 1,500  | 600    | 25,600  |
| 30          | 3,000  | 500   | 2,500  | 1,000  | 2,000  | 9,000  | 8,000  | 6,000  | 9,000  | 2,000  | 3,000 | 28,000 | 8,000  | 25,000 | 15,000 | 1,200  | 1,000  | 50,200  |
| 31          | 14,000 | 4,000 | 10,000 | 4,500  | 6,000  | 38,500 | 7,000  | 2,000  | 15,000 | 3,000  | 4,000 | 31,000 | 11,000 | 5,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 1,000  | 23,000  |
| 32          | 12,000 | 4,000 | 11,000 | 8,000  | 2,000  | 37,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 3,000  | 4,000 | 37,000 | 4,000  | 25,000 | 5,500  | 4,000  | 2,500  | 41,000  |
| 33          | 16,000 | 5,000 | 13,000 | 8,000  | 15,000 | 57,000 | 12,000 | 9,000  | 15,000 | 3,000  | 5,000 | 44,000 | 30,000 | 70,000 | 60,000 | 25,000 | 12,000 | 197,000 |
| 34          | 14,000 | 4,000 | 13,000 | 8,000  | 16,000 | 55,000 | 8,000  | 7,000  | 9,000  | 2,000  | 3,500 | 29,500 | 15,000 | 40,000 | 30,000 | 15,000 | 7,000  | 107,000 |
| 35          | 24,000 | 6,000 | 18,000 | 10,000 | 6,000  | 64,000 | 2,500  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 1,000  | 2,000 | 10,500 | 3,000  | 8,000  | 6,000  | 1,000  | 1,000  | 19,000  |
| 36          | 7,000  | 1,000 | 5,500  | 5,000  | 6,000  | 24,500 | 17,000 | 13,000 | 16,000 | 4,000  | 7,000 | 57,000 | 3,000  | 6,500  | 5,000  | 6,000  | 1,500  | 22,000  |
| 37          | 2,500  | 750   | 3,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 12,250 | 6,000  | 5,000  | 8,000  | 1,500  | 2,500 | 23,000 | 8,000  | 18,000 | 13,000 | 10,000 | 4,000  | 53,000  |
| 38          | 6,000  | 1,200 | 5,000  | 2,500  | 7,000  | 21,700 | 8,000  | 7,000  | 8,000  | 2,500  | 3,500 | 29,000 | 20,000 | 40,000 | 30,000 | 20,000 | 8,000  | 118,000 |
| 39          | 25,000 | 4,000 | 20,000 | 15,000 | 20,000 | 84,000 | 3,000  | 1,500  | 1,500  | 2,000  | 800   | 8,800  | 10,000 | 20,000 | 15,000 | 10,000 | 3,500  | 58,500  |
| 40          | 15,000 | 2,000 | 10,000 | 12,000 | 5,000  | 44,000 | 8,500  | 6,000  | 8,000  | 2,500  | 2,000 | 27,000 | 20,000 | 42,000 | 30,000 | 14,000 | 9,000  | 115,000 |
| 41          | 13,000 | 4,000 | 12,000 | 8,900  | 10,000 | 47,900 | 9,000  | 4,000  | 6,000  | 4,000  | 3,000 | 26,000 | 14,000 | 36,000 | 28,000 | 12,000 | 24,000 | 114,000 |
| 42          | 8,000  | 1,300 | 8,000  | 3,000  | 10,000 | 30,300 | 15,000 | 4,500  | 20,000 | 15,000 | 6,000 | 60,500 | 5,000  | 7,500  | 7,000  | 2,500  | 1,500  | 23,500  |
| 43          | 10,000 | 3,000 | 9,000  | 5,000  | 10,000 | 37,000 | 12,000 | 7,000  | 7,300  | 17,500 | 2,800 | 46,600 | 4,000  | 8,000  | 5,000  | 4,500  | 1,500  | 23,000  |
| 44          | 10,000 | 2,000 | 7,000  | 4,000  | 9,000  | 32,000 | 4,000  | 11,000 | 35,000 | 15,000 | 4,000 | 69,000 | 8,000  | 20,000 | 15,000 | 8,000  | 4,000  | 55,000  |
| 45          | 3,000  | 500   | 25,000 | 1,000  | 2,000  | 31,500 | 4,000  | 4,500  | 4,000  | 1,500  | 1,500 | 15,500 | 15,000 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 12,000 | 7,000  | 94,000  |
| 46          | 10,000 | 3,000 | 11,000 | 6,000  | 14,000 | 44,000 | 9,000  | 5,000  | 8,000  | 1,500  | 2,000 | 25,500 | 20,000 | 60,000 | 40,000 | 15,000 | 6,000  | 141,000 |
| 47          | 6,000  | 1,500 | 7,000  | 2,000  | 6,000  | 22,500 | 8,000  | 7,000  | 9,000  | 1,500  | 3,000 | 28,500 | 8,000  | 16,000 | 12,000 | 7,000  | 3,000  | 46,000  |

Notes: All costs are in BDT Taka. OC = overhead cost, SC = seed cost, FC = fertiliser cost, PC = pesticides cost, IC = irrigation cost and TPC = total production cost.

Table A1 Calculation of TPC (continued)

| Interviewer | PADDY  |        |        |        |        |        | CORN   |        |        |        |        |         | POTATO |        |         |        |        |         |
|-------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|--------|---------|
|             | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC    | OC     | SC     | FC     | PC     | IC     | TPC     | OC     | SC     | FC      | PC     | IC     | TPC     |
|             | 48     | 16,000 | 3,500  | 13,000 | 6,000  | 12,000 | 50,500 | 5,500  | 8,000  | 2,000  | 2,500  | 900     | 18,900 | 10,000 | 25,000  | 18,000 | 10,000 | 5,000   |
| 49          | 10,000 | 2,500  | 8,000  | 2,500  | 8,000  | 31,000 | 6,500  | 5,500  | 8,000  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 25,000  | 12,000 | 30,000 | 22,000  | 15,000 | 5,000  | 84,000  |
| 50          | 3,000  | 850    | 3,000  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 12,850 | 4,000  | 10,000 | 8,000  | 4,000  | 2,000  | 28,000  | 9,000  | 25,000 | 20,000  | 10,000 | 4,000  | 68,000  |
| 51          | 7,500  | 1,500  | 7,000  | 2,500  | 6,000  | 24,500 | 7,000  | 5,000  | 7,000  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 24,000  | 3,000  | 8,000  | 6,000   | 2,000  | 1,000  | 20,000  |
| 52          | 4,700  | 500    | 2,000  | 8,000  | 1,240  | 16,440 | 16,000 | 11,000 | 15,000 | 4,000  | 4,000  | 50,000  | 15,000 | 50,000 | 40,000  | 18,000 | 8,000  | 131,000 |
| 53          | 6,400  | 1,400  | 1,590  | 8,000  | 7,600  | 24,990 | 20,000 | 16,000 | 20,000 | 5,000  | 9,000  | 70,000  | 7,000  | 7,000  | 12,000  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 35,000  |
| 54          | 4,500  | 5,000  | 2,500  | 500    | 2,500  | 15,000 | 15,000 | 12,000 | 16,000 | 3,000  | 5,000  | 51,000  | 13,000 | 25,000 | 25,000  | 10,000 | 5,000  | 78,000  |
| 55          | 40,000 | 4,000  | 3,200  | 3,600  | 20,000 | 70,800 | 40,000 | 25,000 | 32,000 | 8,000  | 13,000 | 118,000 | 8,000  | 20,000 | 13,000  | 5,000  | 2,500  | 48,500  |
| 56          | 1,500  | 1,000  | 7,000  | 4,000  | 1,000  | 14,500 | 21,000 | 12,000 | 24,000 | 6,000  | 1,100  | 64,100  | 3,500  | 8,000  | 6,000   | 4,000  | 1,200  | 22,700  |
| 57          | 12,000 | 1,500  | 10,000 | 4,000  | 11,000 | 38,500 | 5,000  | 4,600  | 7,000  | 4,500  | 9,000  | 30,100  | 8,000  | 20,000 | 15,000  | 8,000  | 3,000  | 54,000  |
| 58          | 14,000 | 2,500  | 11,000 | 6,000  | 1,200  | 34,700 | 3,500  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 1,500  | 1,500  | 12,500  | 3,000  | 3,000  | 2,000   | 1,000  | 1,000  | 10,000  |
| 59          | 6,000  | 1,300  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 5,500  | 21,800 | 20,000 | 15,000 | 20,000 | 6,000  | 7,000  | 68,000  | 3,200  | 10,000 | 3,730   | 5,000  | 600    | 22,530  |
| 60          | 20,000 | 4,400  | 6,400  | 30,000 | 23,000 | 83,800 | 9,000  | 6,000  | 1,000  | 2,000  | 3,000  | 21,000  | 15,000 | 14,000 | 8,000   | 2,000  | 2,000  | 41,000  |
| 61          | 6,000  | 1,500  | 5,000  | 2,500  | 6,000  | 21,000 | 6,000  | 6,000  | 7,000  | 2,000  | 3,500  | 24,500  | 10,000 | 31,680 | 11,500  | 7,500  | 10,000 | 70,680  |
| 62          | 6,000  | 1,000  | 5,000  | 2,000  | 6,000  | 20,000 | 6,000  | 3,000  | 2,000  | 2,500  | 1,500  | 15,000  | 6,000  | 18,000 | 8,000   | 5,000  | 1,000  | 38,000  |
| 63          | 5,000  | 2,000  | 5,000  | 3,000  | 6,000  | 21,000 | 6,000  | 6,000  | 2,000  | 800    | 1,200  | 16,000  | 8,000  | 17,000 | 13,000  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 47,000  |
| 64          | 10,000 | 3,000  | 8,000  | 5,000  | 9,000  | 35,000 | 8,000  | 7,000  | 9,000  | 2,000  | 3,500  | 29,500  | 8,000  | 18,000 | 15,000  | 7,000  | 3,500  | 51,500  |
| 65          | 16,000 | 5,000  | 14,000 | 9,000  | 16,000 | 60,000 | 2,500  | 2000   | 3,000  | 1,000  | 2,000  | 10,500  | 20,000 | 13,000 | 7,000   | 3,000  | 1,000  | 44,000  |
| 66          | 2,000  | 3,500  | 18,000 | 7,000  | 16,000 | 46,500 | 17,000 | 13,000 | 18,000 | 4,000  | 7,000  | 59,000  | 7,000  | 17,000 | 12,000  | 8,000  | 4,000  | 48,000  |
| 67          | 25,000 | 6,000  | 20,000 | 15,000 | 27,000 | 93,000 | 20,000 | 16,000 | 20,000 | 5,000  | 9,000  | 70,000  | 8,000  | 14,000 | 12,000  | 7,000  | 4,000  | 45,000  |
| 68          | 5,000  | 1,400  | 5,640  | 4,500  | 9,000  | 25,540 | 15,000 | 12,000 | 9,000  | 3,000  | 5,000  | 44,000  | 26,000 | 6,000  | 30,000  | 10,000 | 12,000 | 84,000  |
| 69          | 3,000  | 500    | 2,500  | 1,500  | 3,000  | 10,500 | 5,000  | 4,600  | 6,000  | 3,000  | 9,000  | 27,600  | 12,000 | 25,000 | 20,000  | 12,000 | 5,000  | 74,000  |
| 70          | 20,000 | 5,000  | 20,000 | 5,000  | 15,000 | 65,000 | 10,000 | 8,000  | 7,300  | 12,600 | 3,200  | 41,100  | 20,000 | 35,000 | 126,000 | 14,000 | 14,000 | 209,000 |

Notes: All costs are in BDT Taka. OC = overhead cost, SC = seed cost, FC = fertilizer cost, PC = pesticides cost, IC = irrigation cost and TPC = total production cost.

Appendix 2

Table A2 Environmental costs of the crops of paddy, corn and potato

| Interviewer | PADDY |       |       |       | CORN  |       |       |       | POTATO |        |        |        |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | APC_P | WPC_P | DFC_P | SPC_P | APC_C | WPC_C | DFC_C | SPC_C | APC_Po | WPC_Po | DFC_Po | SPC_Po |
| 1           | 500   | 1,200 | 800   | 400   | 500   | 1,100 | 500   | 300   | 500    | 1,200  | 800    | 300    |
| 2           | 800   | 2,000 | 500   | 500   | 500   | 2,000 | 500   | 500   | 700    | 2,000  | 500    | 500    |
| 3           | 500   | 1,500 | 300   | 500   | 300   | 1,500 | 700   | 300   | 500    | 1,500  | 700    | 1,000  |
| 4           | 400   | 1,500 | 600   | 400   | 600   | 300   | 400   | 500   | 300    | 1,500  | 1,000  | 300    |
| 5           | 800   | 400   | 900   | 600   | 600   | 300   | 900   | 600   | 1,000  | 1,000  | 500    | 300    |
| 6           | 1,000 | 3,000 | 700   | 500   | 300   | 650   | 1,200 | 200   | 1,200  | 1,500  | 300    | 600    |
| 7           | 300   | 1,200 | 1,000 | 200   | 400   | 1,800 | 1,000 | 300   | 800    | 800    | 550    | 800    |
| 8           | 600   | 500   | 900   | 300   | 100   | 1,500 | 600   | 900   | 1,000  | 2,000  | 1,200  | 1,000  |
| 9           | 900   | 1,300 | 1,500 | 400   | 100   | 750   | 700   | 300   | 300    | 600    | 900    | 200    |
| 10          | 800   | 3,800 | 700   | 400   | 100   | 100   | 800   | 1,000 | 600    | 300    | 1,500  | 300    |
| 11          | 300   | 1,400 | 700   | 700   | 400   | 2,000 | 1,500 | 600   | 800    | 1,200  | 550    | 900    |
| 12          | 100   | 600   | 800   | 200   | 250   | 1,500 | 900   | 1,000 | 350    | 1,500  | 1,200  | 200    |
| 13          | 400   | 2,500 | 650   | 200   | 300   | 2,500 | 450   | 250   | 800    | 1,500  | 2,000  | 800    |
| 14          | 700   | 2,500 | 500   | 250   | 150   | 900   | 400   | 1,000 | 400    | 2,400  | 500    | 300    |
| 15          | 200   | 1,200 | 800   | 200   | 400   | 300   | 1,500 | 900   | 750    | 500    | 900    | 250    |
| 16          | 400   | 700   | 700   | 300   | 300   | 1,500 | 1,000 | 300   | 500    | 250    | 700    | 400    |
| 17          | 400   | 800   | 900   | 400   | 600   | 1,000 | 550   | 300   | 650    | 450    | 1,000  | 100    |
| 18          | 800   | 900   | 1,200 | 400   | 200   | 900   | 800   | 300   | 1,000  | 800    | 1,200  | 400    |
| 19          | 1,000 | 800   | 400   | 500   | 800   | 300   | 900   | 500   | 350    | 2,000  | 1,500  | 1,000  |
| 20          | 300   | 1,200 | 550   | 400   | 900   | 500   | 500   | 400   | 900    | 900    | 2,000  | 1,500  |
| 21          | 450   | 400   | 700   | 700   | 500   | 2,000 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 650    | 900    | 500    | 700    |
| 22          | 800   | 800   | 1,000 | 400   | 100   | 500   | 1,000 | 900   | 700    | 600    | 450    | 900    |
| 23          | 700   | 2,500 | 900   | 250   | 400   | 200   | 300   | 600   | 300    | 900    | 750    | 300    |
| 24          | 1,000 | 500   | 500   | 400   | 500   | 500   | 600   | 500   | 600    | 1,200  | 850    | 300    |

Notes: All cost in BDT. Taka per Bigha. APC, WPC, SPC, and DFC represents the air pollution cost, water pollution cost, sound pollution cost, and deforestation cost.

**Table A2** Environmental costs of the crops of paddy, corn and potato (continued)

| Interviewer | PADDY |       |       |       | CORN  |       |       |       | POTATO |        |        |        |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | APC_P | WPC_P | DFC_P | SFC_P | APC_C | WPC_C | DFC_C | SFC_C | APC_Po | WPC_Po | DFC_Po | SFC_Po |
| 25          | 900   | 1,500 | 700   | 300   | 1,000 | 1,500 | 900   | 400   | 500    | 1,000  | 1,000  | 1,200  |
| 26          | 300   | 500   | 600   | 200   | 200   | 1,000 | 800   | 600   | 800    | 700    | 1,500  | 1,500  |
| 27          | 700   | 550   | 400   | 400   | 250   | 1,200 | 1,200 | 500   | 200    | 800    | 900    | 300    |
| 28          | 800   | 3,000 | 900   | 1,000 | 500   | 1,000 | 2,000 | 500   | 700    | 300    | 2,000  | 1,000  |
| 29          | 500   | 1,500 | 1,300 | 1,000 | 500   | 1,000 | 700   | 500   | 900    | 200    | 500    | 600    |
| 30          | 1,000 | 500   | 600   | 900   | 350   | 400   | 900   | 0     | 400    | 500    | 700    | 1,200  |
| 31          | 300   | 700   | 900   | 800   | 1,500 | 1,000 | 450   | 400   | 450    | 1,300  | 500    | 1,500  |
| 32          | 1,000 | 2,500 | 1,000 | 900   | 200   | 1,000 | 1,200 | 500   | 500    | 500    | 800    | 2,000  |
| 33          | 1,000 | 800   | 700   | 500   | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,500 | 500   | 500    | 500    | 1,000  | 900    |
| 34          | 900   | 2,000 | 500   | 1,000 | 500   | 2,000 | 1,000 | 500   | 700    | 2,000  | 900    | 500    |
| 35          | 500   | 2,000 | 800   | 500   | 1,200 | 500   | 2,000 | 1,000 | 450    | 500    | 1,200  | 500    |
| 36          | 600   | 2,500 | 700   | 500   | 300   | 1,500 | 900   | 300   | 650    | 500    | 600    | 1,500  |
| 37          | 700   | 2,000 | 900   | 500   | 1,100 | 600   | 500   | 700   | 200    | 2,000  | 1,500  | 2,000  |
| 38          | 900   | 1,000 | 1,100 | 500   | 1,500 | 1,200 | 700   | 300   | 500    | 1,500  | 1,000  | 1,500  |
| 39          | 800   | 800   | 600   | 1,000 | 200   | 500   | 2,000 | 900   | 1,000  | 2,000  | 1,500  | 1,000  |
| 40          | 1,500 | 2,000 | 900   | 800   | 900   | 1,300 | 1,200 | 500   | 900    | 1,000  | 500    | 1,000  |
| 41          | 800   | 1,100 | 550   | 400   | 800   | 600   | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000  | 2,000  | 1,200  | 500    |
| 42          | 1,000 | 2,000 | 800   | 500   | 700   | 2,200 | 900   | 400   | 600    | 1,500  | 700    | 2,000  |
| 43          | 500   | 2,000 | 450   | 1,000 | 200   | 700   | 2,000 | 500   | 1,000  | 1,000  | 800    | 500    |
| 44          | 1,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 300   | 500   | 700   | 900   | 500    | 1,000  | 900    | 900    |
| 45          | 1,000 | 3,000 | 900   | 1,000 | 1,500 | 600   | 500   | 800   | 700    | 400    | 1,500  | 1,500  |
| 46          | 1,500 | 500   | 700   | 900   | 1,200 | 1,000 | 750   | 500   | 500    | 1,000  | 1,000  | 800    |
| 47          | 400   | 1,500 | 400   | 400   | 900   | 1,000 | 900   | 500   | 400    | 600    | 550    | 1,000  |

Notes: All cost in BDT Taka per Bigha. APC, WPC, SFC, and DFC represents the air pollution cost, water pollution cost, sound pollution cost, and deforestation cost.



**Table A2** Environmental costs of the crops of paddy, corn and potato (continued)

| Interviewer | PADDY |       |       | CORN  |       |       | POTATO |        |        |        |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|             | APC_P | WPC_P | DFC_P | APC_C | WPC_C | DFC_C | APC_Po | WPC_Po | DFC_Po | SPC_Po |
| 48          | 600   | 800   | 500   | 800   | 800   | 1,000 | 500    | 1,000  | 1,200  | 800    |
| 49          | 200   | 2,000 | 600   | 700   | 1,500 | 1,200 | 1,000  | 2,000  | 2,000  | 1,000  |
| 50          | 1,200 | 1,500 | 800   | 200   | 500   | 1,500 | 1,000  | 2,000  | 900    | 1,000  |
| 51          | 600   | 1,500 | 900   | 400   | 500   | 500   | 1,500  | 3,000  | 2,000  | 500    |
| 52          | 1,400 | 1,600 | 1,200 | 300   | 900   | 700   | 1,200  | 500    | 550    | 450    |
| 53          | 1,000 | 300   | 600   | 200   | 2,000 | 300   | 300    | 1,500  | 750    | 300    |
| 54          | 500   | 1,000 | 800   | 300   | 900   | 500   | 1,500  | 600    | 950    | 900    |
| 55          | 300   | 1,000 | 500   | 600   | 1,800 | 1,000 | 1,500  | 1,300  | 400    | 300    |
| 56          | 2,000 | 1,500 | 900   | 700   | 3,000 | 1,200 | 900    | 500    | 1,000  | 1,000  |
| 57          | 1,500 | 700   | 1,500 | 500   | 1,500 | 1,500 | 300    | 2000   | 600    | 700    |
| 58          | 1,000 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 300   | 700   | 900   | 1,500  | 1800   | 900    | 500    |
| 59          | 1,200 | 1,000 | 800   | 250   | 1,000 | 500   | 1,200  | 500    | 600    | 1,500  |
| 60          | 1,300 | 900   | 900   | 500   | 1,500 | 1,000 | 1,000  | 400    | 1,000  | 900    |
| 61          | 300   | 2,500 | 500   | 400   | 1,100 | 300   | 300    | 200    | 500    | 2,000  |
| 62          | 2,300 | 500   | 550   | 300   | 2,000 | 500   | 300    | 500    | 1,200  | 500    |
| 63          | 300   | 1,000 | 1,100 | 200   | 300   | 400   | 550    | 700    | 400    | 600    |
| 64          | 1,500 | 400   | 1,200 | 500   | 2,000 | 1,000 | 1,500  | 1,000  | 1,500  | 500    |
| 65          | 600   | 1,100 | 500   | 900   | 500   | 700   | 1,200  | 800    | 700    | 500    |
| 66          | 500   | 900   | 600   | 300   | 1,500 | 600   | 1,000  | 2,000  | 2,000  | 500    |
| 67          | 500   | 1,500 | 900   | 200   | 2,000 | 800   | 1,500  | 500    | 700    | 700    |
| 68          | 400   | 300   | 200   | 200   | 200   | 1,000 | 900    | 400    | 500    | 650    |
| 69          | 2,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 600   | 1,500 | 500   | 1,500  | 2,000  | 900    | 1,000  |
| 70          | 1,500 | 2,500 | 900   | 300   | 1,500 | 2,000 | 1,000  | 500    | 1,000  | 1,500  |

Notes: All cost in BDT Taka per Bigha. APC, WPC, SPC, and DFC represents the air pollution cost, water pollution cost, sound pollution cost, and deforestation cost.

### Appendix 3

#### *Questionnaire*

#### *Impact of environmental cost on production cost of crops*

Name:

Age:

Marital status:

Educational qualification:

Status of the cultivated land: Own or contractual.

#### *Key questions to take the interviews of the farmers of the respective crops:*

- A Questions relating to the production cost of the three crops namely paddy, corn and potato:
- 1 Do you cultivate the crops of paddy, corn or potato?
  - 2 How much you cultivate per Bigha in a year?
  - 3 What type of cost you incurred for the cultivation?
  - 4 How much will be your initial/ OC for the respective crop?
  - 5 How much cost will occur for fertilisers?
  - 6 How much cost will occur for seeds?
  - 7 How much cost will occur for pesticides?
  - 8 How much cost will occur for irrigation?
  - 9 Please mention if any other cost that you incur for the cultivation.
- B Questions relating to the farmers perception regarding environmental cost of the three crops namely paddy, corn and potato:
- 1 Do you use any chemical fertilisers and pesticides?
  - 2 Will the air be affected by using chemical fertilisers and pesticides?  
# If yes, then how much cost will occur to recover the health/breathing problem due to air pollution?
  - 3 Will the water be affected by using chemical fertilisers and pesticides?  
# If yes, then how much cost will occur to recover the health problem due to water pollution?
  - 4 Are there any trees located at your cultivated land?  
# If yes, whether you destroy or cut down trees?  
# If yes, then for this whether any human being or animal adversely affected?  
# If yes, then how much cost will occur to recover this?

- 5 Do you use shallow or motor pump for irrigation?  
# For using shallow is there any person who will be affected by hearing problem?  
# If yes, then how much cost will occur to recover this hearing problem?
- 6 If you want to comment and recommend anything else.

*Thank you for spending your precious time to answer those questions.*