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Data Article

Q1 Wetland agribusiness aspects and potential
Q2 in Bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted to document farmers' livelihood aspects and agribusiness potentials in wetland areas of Bangladesh. A total of 120 farmers and 24 service providers were interviewed for data collection. Most of the farmers were small farmers having less than 1.0 ha of cultivable land. The differences in productivity of crop farming and poultry rearing between wetland area and main land were statistically significant. Favorable farm environment and proper utilization of agricultural resources were major strength and opportunity. The data may be helpful for formation of agribusiness clusters involving input suppliers, credit/financial organizations and different support service providers for more income, better nutrition and improved livelihood of the wetland people.

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Specifications Table

Subject area	<i>Agriculture, Economics, Social science</i>
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55	Type of data	<i>Table, text file, figure</i>
56	How data was	<i>Field survey</i>
57	acquired	
58	Data format	<i>Analyzed</i>
59	Experimental	<i>Not applicable</i>
60	factors	
61	Experimental	<i>Not applicable</i>
62	features	
63	Data source	<i>Mohongonj upazila of Netrakona district and Mithamoin upazila of Kishoregonj</i>
64	location	<i>district, Bangladesh</i>
65	Data accessibility	<i>Data is confidential</i>
66	Related research	<i>Not applicable</i>
67	article	

Value of the data

- A number of studies have been conducted on economic, environmental and livelihood prospect of wetland areas in Bangladesh but there is no specific study on existing farming practices, profitability and business prospects in these areas.
 - The study will be very helpful to minimize the research gap and add valuable information on the existing notions.
 - The findings of the study will be used to design intervention strategies aimed at reducing the constraints to farming in the wetland region.
 - The range of activities may include advocacy and awareness creation at the local and national level, promote policy changes to alleviate the business constraints.
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1. Data

Data were collected from the sample farmers through direct interview method using a structured questionnaire. Secondary data sources were also considered. Primary data were collected from Mohongonj upazila of Netrakona district and Mithamoin upazila of Kishoregonj district. A total of 120 farmers were interviewed following stratified random sampling based on farm size. Also, a total of 24 service providers were interviewed for data collection.

2. Experimental design, materials, and methods

Bangladesh has witnessed respectable improvements in its economic, social and health conditions with annual GDP growth of 6.6% [1]. While the overall conditions of the country are promising, those residing in the wetland areas (locally called as 'haor') have not enjoyed the same level of relative or absolute progress [2]. The wetland areas of north-eastern region in Bangladesh cover about 2.0 million ha of area and accommodate about 19.4 million people [3]. Farming is the major economic activity of this region. The wetland region has long been lagging behind mainstream national development although the economic development of Bangladesh is moving steadily at a moderate pace. It is difficult to foresee the country's overall progress without the development of the wetland region as it covers a major part of the country and population which deserves special development initiatives. It is beyond doubt that suitable agribusiness environment will autonomously push the wetland areas to the light of development [4,5].

SWOT analysis for business prospects and challenges of farmers is represented in Table 1. In terms of strengths, 76.7% respondents stated about favorable farm environment and 71.7% stated about enterprise interdependence; and in terms of weakness, 75.8% respondents stated about weak

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