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**Sudan University of Science and  
Technology**

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**Collage of Graduate Studies**

**Economic Efficiency Analysis. A Case  
Study of Crops Production in the  
Rahad Agricultural Corporation**

**تحليل الكفاءة الإقتصادية. دراسة حالة:  
إنتاج المحاصيل فى مؤسسة الرهد  
الزراعية**

**By: KHALID YAHIA ELHAG IBRAHIM  
DAFALLAH**

**A Thesis Submitted to Sudan University of  
Science and Technology for Fulfillment of**

**Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of  
Philosophy in Agricultural Economics**

**Supervisor: Dr. HAG HAMAD ABDEL-AZIZ**

**2010**

*To my Lovely Mother and my  
Father*

*To my wife*

*To my brothers and sisters*

*To my relatives*

*To my friends*  
*With best love*

**Khalid**

## ***Acknowledgements***

Firstly I am thank full to the Almighty Allah for the good health and live he gave me throughout the study and research towards accomplishing this thesis.

I am greatly indebted to my supervisor Dr. Hag Hamad Abdelaziz, the main supervisor of this thesis for his valuable guidance, wise counsel, encouragement, and advice throughout this study.

Great gratitude to the co-supervisor of this research, Dr. Aabda Imam for her advice and orientation.

I am deeply indebted and most grateful to University of Sinnar for their financing and releasing me to conduct this study.

I am thankful to the staff of the Rahad Agricultural Corporation,-Department of planning and research for their valuable assistance during stages of data collection.

My thanks are also extended to all farmers in Rahad Agricultural Corporation.

My sincere thanks are extended to my colleagues Abdraouf Idris, Kamal Abd El Galil, Hamza Mohamed and Abubaker Ibrahim for their valuable discussion and comments. My thanks are also extended to all colleagues and friends.

My gratitude is extended to my family for their support and encouragement throughout this study. Last not least, my deepest appreciation to my brother El-Motaz.

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

AE : Allocative Efficiency

AOAD: Arab Organization for Agricultural Development

CE: Cost Efficiency

CD: Cobb-Douglas

CM: Cubic Meter

EE: Economic Efficiency

.FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization

(Fed.: Feddan( 0.42 ha

FL :Family Labour

GDP: Gross Domestic Product

GN: Groundnuts

HL :Hired Labour

IAS: Individual Account System

IFAD: International Fund for Agricultural Development

Kg :Kilogram

LP: Linear Programming

MOAF: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Md:Mandays

MFNE: Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

MVP: Marginal Value of product

OLS: Ordinary Least Squares.

PPF: Production Possibilities Frontier

RAC: Rahad agricultural cooperation

RARC: Rahad Agricultural Research Corporation.

RHS: Right Hand Side

SDG :Sudanese pound

SFA: Stochastic Frontier Analysis

SPF: Stochastic Production Function

SFPF: Stochastic Frontier Production Function

TE: Technical Efficiency

TL :Total Labour

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY ANALYSIS (CASE STUDY: CROPS PRODUCTION IN THE RAHAD AGRICULTURAL CORPORATION)**

This study was carried out in The Rahad Agricultural Scheme. The main objectives of the study are to measure technical efficiency of produced crops, to determine the main factors that caused technical inefficiency, to assess the maximum farm's income level under optimum cropping patterns and to identify the socio-economic factors that affected the level of efficiency of farmers. The study shed light on the factors that constraint agricultural production as well as yield efficiency in Rahad agricultural scheme. Production and yield have deteriorated and the income of tenants has consequently declined. Moreover the scheme was suffered from its own deficiency of adopting a proper cropping patterns. As a consequence, average yield of the main crops in the scheme since 1997-1978 were decrescent. The study mainly depended on Primary data which were collected from a survey conducted in season 2006/2007, through a multi-stage stratified random sampling technique using structural questionnaire after pre-testing. The study also used secondary data collected from the relevant institutional sources. Descriptive statistics, stochastic production frontier model of the Cobb-Douglas form, gross margins and linear programming were employed to analyze the collected data. The results of descriptive statistics showed that: 32 % of the tenants interviewed were in the active age group ( 20-50). Most of tenants were

married, had formal education. The average of tenant's family size was 9 persons. 36% of the

sample tenants were engaged in such off-farm activities.. The majority of the farmers depend on traditional implements.

Groundnuts, dura and cotton crop each of them had two peaks period of Labour requirements. Cotton had high cost followed by groundnuts. Sunflower had a higher gross margin followed by groundnuts.

Most of the estimated  $\beta$  co-efficient of the SPF model for crops production had the expected signs, and significant. The mean technical efficiency was 70%, 79%, 76% and 71% for groundnuts, dura, cotton and sunflower, respectively. Accordingly there was a scope for increasing crops production in that order, by 30%, 21%, 24% and 29%. The variance ratio parameters  $\gamma$  was large and significant and has a value of 0.99, 0.99, 0.97 and 0.99 for groundnuts, dura, cotton, and sunflower. Tenancy location, off-farm income, farm income, sowing date, labour number, irrigation number and weeding number, were significant variable for improving technical efficiency. age group, sex, education level, family size and extension contact were significant in explaining technical inefficiency in RAC.

The LP results cleared that the real cropping plan was different from the basic model cropping pattern, most of the land was allocated to groundnuts ( 9.66 feddans), followed by sunflower(9.61 feddans), while dura and cotton were entered in the optimal plan with small areas 1.22 , and 1.5 feddans respectively. In the real situation, the crops occupied 5.5 feddan for each . The optimal net farms was (SDG 5799.01) exceeded the actual net farms (SDG 4544.16) by 27.61% .

Many scenarios were tried by developing the parameters of the free LP model to reflect a range of production options. The scenarios reflected the effects of productivities, Restricting production area, prices, cost of inputs, more participation of family labour in cotton picking, using machines and improving technology.

The study recommended to improve technical efficiency for crops production in the RAC, The main recommendations was concentrated and oriented to sowing date, peak demands for labour, more participation of the family labour, problem of irrigation, extension education, and expanding in promising crops .

## خلاصة الأطروحة

### تحليل الكفاءة الإقتصادية. دراسة حالة: إنتاج المحاصيل فى مؤسسة الرهد الزراعية

أجريت هذه الدراسة فى مؤسسة الرهد الزراعية. وكان الهدف الأساسى من هذه الدراسة قياس كفاءة الإنتاجية للمحاصيل ، تحديد العوامل التى تسبب عدم الكفاءة التقنية، تحديد أعلى مستوى دخل مزرعى فى ظل توليفة محصولية مثلى ومعرفة العوامل الاقتصادية والاجتماعية التى تؤثر على مستوى الكفاءة الفنية الانتاجيه للمزارعين .الدراسة ألفت الضوء على أهم معوقات الإنتاج و الإنتاجية فى مشروع الرهد الزراعى. لقد تدهورت كفاءة الإنتاج و الإنتاجية فى المشروع و تناقص تبعاً لذلك دخل المزارعين. فضلاً عن ذلك فإن المشروع يعانى من قصوره فى تبنى تركيبة محصولية مثلى. تبعاً لذلك كانت انتاجية المحاصيل متناقصة من موسم 1977/1978. اعتمدت الدراسة بصورة أساسية على البيانات الأولية و التى جمعت من

المسح الميدانى فى مشروع الرهد الزراعى للموسم 2006/2007 عن طريق عينة عشوائية طبقية متعددة المراحل بواسطة إستبيان مصمم للدراسة و ذلك بعد تجريبه ، كما استخدمت الدراسة المعلومات الثانوية والتي جمعت من المصادر ذات الصلة .

التحليل الإحصائى الوصفى، دالة الإنتاج المجالى العشوائى (بشكل دالة إنتاج كوب - دوغلاس)، تحليل هامش الربح و تحليل البرمجة الخطية، أستخدمت هذه الطرق المختلفة لتحليل بيانات الدراسة .

أظهرت نتائج التحليل الإحصائى الوصفى أن 32 % من عينة المزارعين تقع فى المدى العمرى النشط 20- 50. معظم المزارعين متزوجين و تلقو تعليم رسمى منتظم و تتراوح خبرتهم فى الزراعة ما بين أكثر من 20 و أقل من 30 سنة. متوسط حجم الأسرة 9 أفراد. 36 % من العينة ينخرطون فى نشاطات غير مزرعية بعد الموسم، غالبية المزارعين يعتمدون على أدوات بدائية فى الزراعة.

يصل الطلب على العمالة الى الذروة مرتين فى الموسم لكل من محصول الفول السودانى، الذرة و القطن.

كشف تحليل هامش الربح أن محصول القطن كان الأعلى تكلفة يليه محصول الفول السودانى، و أن محصول زهرة الشمس أحرز أعلى ربحية يليه محصول الفول السودانى.

أوضح تحليل دالة الإنتاج المجالى العشوائى أن معظم عوامل الإنتاج التي تؤثر علي الكفاءة الفنية ذات تأثير معنوي . و تؤثر ايجابياً علي إنتاج الفول السودانى، الذرة، القطن و زهرة الشمس . وان متوسط الكفاءة الفنية الذى حصل عليه المزارعون 70% - 79 %، 76 % و 71 % لكل من محصول الفول السودانى، الذرة ، القطن و زهرة الشمس على التوالى. وفقاً لذلك هنالك مجال لزيادة إنتاج المحاصيل بنسبة 30%، 21 %،

24 % و 29 % للمحاصيل بذلك الترتيب. قيمة المعامل لندا كبيرة و معنوية و وصلت الى 0.99، 0.99، 0.99، -، 0.97 و 0.99 لكل من محصول الفول السوداني، الذرة، القطن و زهرة الشمس على التوالي.

موقع الحواشة من قناة الري، الدخل المزرعى، الدخل غير المزرعى، تاريخ الزراعة، عدد العمال، عدد الريات، و عدد الحشات تمثل العوامل المعنوية بمستويات مختلفة لتحسين الكفاءة الإنتاجية الفنية.

الخصائص الاجتماعية للمزارعين ممثلة في ( الفئات العمرية، الجنس، المستوى التعليمي، حجم الأسرة) و الخدمات الإرشادية كانت عوامل ذات اثر معنوي في تفسير عدم الكفاءة الفنية فى المشروع بمستويات مختلفة.

أظهرت نتائج البرمجة الخطية أن التركيبة المحصولية تختلف فى الخطة الفعلية عن تلك المتحصل عليها فى النموذج الحر أو الأساسى و هي أن معظم الأرض مخصصة للفول السودانى 9.66 فدان و زهرة الشمس 9.61 فدان، بينما الذرة والقطن فدخلتا فى النموذج بمساحة 1.22 فدان و 1.5 فدان بذلك الترتيب. صافى دخل المزرعة الأمثل ( 5799.01 ) يفوق صافى دخل المزرعة فى الواقع ( 4544.16 ) بنسبة 27.61 %.

أجريت عدد من السيناريوهات بتغيير معاملات النموذج الحر للبرمجة الخطية لعكس مدي خيارات الإنتاج . السيناريوهات عكست تأثيرات الإنتاجية، وتقييد المساحة المزروعة بما يكفى الإستهلاك فى الذرة، الأسعار، وتكاليف المدخلات، و مزيد من مشاركة العمالة الأسرية فى لقيط القطن و استخدام الآليات و التقانات المحسنة .

أخيرا أوصت الدراسة بتحسين الكفاءة الفنية الإنتاجية بمنطقة الدراسة. التوصيات الأساسية و جهت نحو تاريخ الزراعة و ذروة الطلب على العمالة والمزيد من مشاركة العمالة الأسرية و مشاكل الري و الاهتمام بالتعليم. الإرشادى و التوسع فى زراعة الحاصل الواعدة.







