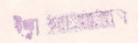
PROFILE AND LOAN REPAYMENT BEHAVIOUR OF BORO RICE FARMERS IN MIRZAPUR UNION OF GAZIPUR SADAR THANA



(2007.70)

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION EDUCATION
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
BANGLADESH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY
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IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE
(Agricultural Extension Education)



SAIFUL HUDA

EXAMINATION ROLL NO. 25 SESSION 1987-88

APRIL 1995

The thesis attached hereto: entitled

PROFILE AND LOAN REPAYMENT BEHAVIOUR OF BORO RICE FARMERS IN MIRZAPUR UNION OF GAZIPUR SADAR THANA

Prepared and Submitted by

SAIFUL HUDA Examination Roll No. 25 (Session: 1987-88)

in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science (Agricultural Extension Education) is hereby accepted

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The author deems it a proud privilege to express his sincere appreciation and gratitude to Dr. A.M. Anwarul Karim, former extension expert, FAO/UNDP project for his valuable advice, untiring guidance and encouragement for execution and completion of this piece of research.

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The Author

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted in Mirzapur Union of Gazipur Sadar Thana. The purpose of this study was to have an understanding about the profile and loan repayment behaviour of some selected boro rice farmers. Data were collected personally through interview schedule from 82 systematic randomly selected farmers during December 01 to 31, 1993. Loan repayment behaviour of the farmers was the dependent variable, whereas seven selected characteristics constituted the independent variables.

Findings reveal that more than one-half of the farmers (51.22%) did not repay loan during specified period, whereas 14.63 percent partially repaid and 34.15 percent fully repaid. But a great majority of borrowers were in favour of repaying loan on time. Correlation of coefficient statistical analysis showed that age, family size and length of farming experience had no significant relationship with loan repayment performance of the respondents. But other four factors, such as; education, farm size, annual gross income and attitude towards loan had positive and significant relationship with loan repayment behaviour.

The main reason for non-repayment of loan was low market price of the product as mentioned by 33.33 percent of the total defaulters. About 44 percent of the reported borrowers faced complex loan distribution system as their problem.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh is a developing country comprising of total land area of 1,43,998 sq.km. with a total population of 111.4 million i.e. 774 persons/sq.km. making it the most densely populated country in the world (Anonymous, 1993). Agriculture holds an important position in the national economy of the country by contributing 36.1 percent of the Gross Domestic Product(GDP) and employing about 61.3 percent of the labour force (Anonymous, 1993). Obviously the economic development of the country depends to a great extent on the prior development of agricultural sector. But in Bangladesh still agricultural practices to a large portion done by traditional way and on individual basis. As a result productivity is low in comparison to other developing countries of the world.

to increase production by extensive cultivation. Consequently intensive cultivation by using improved agricultural practices and inputs is the only way to increase food production. These inputs usually are High Yielding Variety (HYV) seeds, fertilizer, pesticides, credit, irrigation improved implements and machines, wkilled labour etc. Most of the farmers (specially the small and middle farm owners) in Bangladesh are poor and disorganized who don't have adequate funds for meeting timely expenses of those costly essential inputs. Undoubtedly, they need additional fund,

major portion of which comes from external sources. Agricultural credit is one of the major key elements to purchase the inputs required for smooth farm operation. And thereby to produce high yields in crops, vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products.

Boro rice becoming an increasing cultivable practices in Bangladesh for it's high yielding quality (2.53 t/ha) compared to other HYV rice (such as Aman & Aus). At present 25.33 percent of the total rice production is covered by Boro rice (Anonymous, 1994). In Boro rice cultivation credit is one of the essential input which helps to fulfill the requirements of other essential inputs.)

emphasis on agricultural loan program by providing institutional credit to the farmer. Various loan giving institutions such as Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB), Nationalized Commercial Banks (NCBs), Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL), Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB), Grameen Bank are engaged in this regard. Bangladesh Krishi Band is the key institution for providing increased amount of agricultural loan to the farmers. In addition to this, govt. has also introduced various loan distribution programs such as Asian Survey on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ASARRD) in 1976, 100-crore taka Special Agricultural Credit Programme (SACP) in 1977, Rural Finance Experimental Project (RFEP) in 1978 and Rural Poor Program (RPP) under Bangladesh Rural

Development Board (BRDB) in 1983.

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In Bangladesh, out of 6.8 million farms, 4.08 million farms need credit (Rahman, 1972). In 1970, institutional credit sources met only 13 to 15 percent of the total credit requirements of the farmers and the rest was met by the non-institutional sources (Rahman, 1978), though the flow of institutional credit in agriculture has been increased, nevertheless it could not possibly meet more than 25 percent of the total credit requirements of the farmers (Rahman, 1983). As a matter of fact, there is no reliable estimate of the total agricultural credit need for the country as a whole.

Inspite of all govt. efforts to increase amount of credit, the rate of recovery is not satisfactory. But timely recovery of loan is a pre requisite for continuous operation of any credit program.

Table-1 shows the agricultural loan disbursement and recovery by institutions from 1979-89.

Table 1. Agricultural Credit Disbursement and Recovery from 1979-80 to 1988-89

(Taka in Crores)

Year	Disb	ursement	Recovery	Outstanding
	Target	Actual		
1989-80	406.67	268.39	142.20	406.68
1980-81	548.31	352.28	207.36	601.83
1981-82	653.78	423.84	314.34	810.97
1982-83	817.20	670.76	338.13	1358.45
1983-84	1150.20	1007.12	517.57	2077.35
1984-85	1150.20	1149.84	583.90	3034.28
1985-86	.1275.20	631.72	607.15	3514.25
1986-87	1075.20	667.28	1106.81	3294.84
1987-88	1050.20	656.31	595.78	3363.49
1988-89	1250.20	807.62	577.96	4711.66

Source: Annual Reports- Bangladesh Bank

Note: The cumulative outstanding figure is equal to actual disbursement minus(-) actual recovery amount in a particular year plus(+) the balance outstanding figure of

previous years.

Statement of the Problem

Regular loan repayment by the borrowers is an integral part of the agricultural development programme. Without adequate improvement in the borrowers repayment flow, no agricultural credit program can expand its activities. It is therefore, an urgent need to tackle the alarming problem of increasing overdues and widening credit gap. Undoubtedly, it is necessary to know the answers of the following relevant questions.

- 1. What are some of the socio-economic factors/variables that affected borrower's repayment behaviour?
- What is the relationship of each of the identified factors to the farmers repayment performance?
- 3 What are the reasons behind non-payment of loan?
- 4. Which are the problems that faced by the borrowers in receiving loan ?

To find out some solution in minimizing the above mentioned problems it seems imperative to conduct a study on loan repayment behaviour of farmers. At the same time it is also needed to

identify the factors affecting repayment of agricultural production loan by the borrowers.

In view of above consideration, the present study entitled "Profile' and Loan Repayment Behaviour of Boro Rice Farmers in Mirzapur Union of Gazipur Sadar Thana" was undertaken. The findings of the study were expected to help the concerned authority (dealing with institutional credit) to know the repayment behaviour of borrowers in the study area. And to adopt measures for a regular loan repayment flow by the farmers in rural Bangladesh.

Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the study were as follows:

- To describe the profile/general characteristics of Boro rice farmers.
- To determine the relationship of selected independent factors with the loan repayment behaviour of Boro rice farmers.
- 3. To identify the reasons for non repayment of loan.
- 4. To find out the problems faced by the Boro rice farmers in receiving loan from the bank.

Scope and Limitations of the Study

The study was aimed at a selected sample of Boro rice farmers keeping in view their status as borrowers of agricultural credit from Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB), Mirzapur Union branch of Gazipur sadar thana. The findings might have general application to other areas of Bangladesh, where the identical physical, socio-economic and cultural conditions are prevailing.



Assumptions

The following assumptions were in the mind of the researcher while undertaking the study:

The respondents involved in the sample were capable of furnishing proper responses to the questions contained in the interview schedule.

... The data collected by the researcher from the respondents were considered reliable and dependable.

3. Information furnished by the farmers were the representative ones of the whole population of the study area.

- 4. / The selected union was considered as a typical one representing other areas producing Boro rice in Bangladesh.
- 5. The findings of the study were expected to be useful for planning and execution of various programs in connection with the agricultural loan operation in the country.

Hypothesis

There was no significant relationship between the borrower's repayment behaviours and any of the following independent variables:

- a) Age
- b) Education
- c) Family size
- d) Farm size
- e) Annual gross income
- f) Length of farming experience
- g) Attitude towards loan repayment

Definition of Terms

- Loan repayment behaviour of a farmer was measured under three categories:
- a) Fully paid borrower:

Who repaid his loan with or without interest on or before the due date.

b) Partially paid borrower:

Who paid partially his loan with or without interest on or before the due date.

c) Non-paid borrowers:

Who failed completely to repay his loan on expiry of the due date.

(2) Age:

1

It refers to the period of time in years from his birth to the time of interview.

(3). Education:

It refers to the number of years a farmer attended school/college.

Annual gross income:

It refers to the total earning of a Boro rice farmer and his earning members of the family during the study year (1991-92).

- 5. Length of farming experience:
 It refers to the period of time in years when an individual start farming independently.
- 6. Attitude towards loan:

Refers to the borrowers predisposition for or against the repayment of his loan.

CHAPTER-II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Quite a large number of studies so far have been made on agricultural credit in Bangladesh, most of which were confined to the nature, availability, volume, utilization and repayment of credit. Besides, a good number of studies were concerned with the evaluation of credit program at both macro and micro levels. But a few investigations were conducted to find out the effects of significant determinants on borrowers repayment behaviour. The factors that affecting repayment of loan have not been studied in length. However, in this chapter, the studies so far been made regarding loan repayment behaviour of the farmers in different developing countries including Bangladesh are attempted to review.

Age

Hoque (1987) observed no significant relationship between age of the borrowers and repayment of their loan.

Mahfuz (1990) stated that the relationship between age of the farmers and their loan repayment performance was positive.

Roy (1993) found a negative and non-significant relationship between age and loan repayment performance.

Education

3

Karim (1976) observed a relationship between education and repayment behaviour of small farmer members of Samahang Nayan in Laguna Province, Philippines, and suggested that the borrower's education was directly related to the loan repayment function.

Saha (1986) found that loanees of poor educational background were the good repayers of institutional loan. He suggested that education didn't significantly influence loan repayment.

Hossain (1986) observed a negative relationship between level of education and repayment of loan.

Islam (1987) in his study mentioned that education was significantly and negatively related to the borrower's attitude towards loan repayment.

Hoque (1987) found a positive and significant relationship between education and repayment of loan.

Roy (1993) also observed a significant and positive relationship between education of the farmers and their agricultural loan repayment performance.

Family size

Hossain (1986) observed that institutional loan repayment level increased with the increase of family size.

Saha (1986) indicated negative relationship between size of family and repayment of loan.

Farm size

Rahman (1974) in his study observed that farmers with bigger size of cultivated holding repaid much of their total loan borrowed from KSS (Krishak Samabaya Samity) than those farmers having smaller size of cultivated holding.

Bashar et al.(1981) observed an association between farm size and percentage of loan repayment. They found that small farms (up to 1.00 acres) repaid 42 percent of their total loan, while the large farms (5.00 acres and above) repaid only 21 percent of their total loans. They also observed negative relationships between farm size and repayment of loan.

Hossain (1986) revealed a positive relationship between the loan repayment of size of farm.

Saha (1986) noticed that as the farm size increasing, the repayment percentage decreasing i.e. a negative relationship exists between average size of loan repayment and farm size.

Hoque (1987) found that farm size have positively significant relationship with the repayment of loan.

Mahfuz (1990) observed that the relationship between farm size and loan repayment was highly significant and positive.

Roy (1993) also observed that farmers with larger farm size had greater tendency toward more agricultural repayment performance i.e. a positive relationship between farm size and loan repayment performance.

Annual Gross income:

Karim (1976) found that there was a strong positive relationship between borrowers cash receipts and loan repayment behaviour.

Hossain (1986) observed a positive relationship between annual income and repayment of loan.

Saha (1986) reported that a negative relationship was found between the repayment and the income of the loanees. This implies that repayment declines as income increases. The loanees of the lower income group were observed therefore as the good repayer.

Islam (1987) observed that cash surplus receipt was directly and significantly related to the borrowers' repayment behaviour.

Hoque (1987) also found a highly positive significant relationship between income of the farmers and repayment of loan.

Roy (1993) showed a positive relationship between the income of the farmers and their agricultural loan repayment performance. This means that the farmers with more income were likely to have more loan repayment performance.

Borrowers' attitude towards loan repayment:

Karim (1976) found a strong relationship between the borrowers' attitude towards loan and loan repayment performance.

Islam (1987) in his study found that attitude towards loan repayment was directly and significantly related to the borrowers' repayment behaviour.

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Reasons for non-repayment of loan:

Rahman (1983) in his study farmers mentioned that the non-farm expenses of the farmers was the main reason for non-repayment. Low market price, lack of ready cash and natural calamities were the other reasons for non-repayment of loan.

Bashar et. al. (1981) reported that reasons of non-repayment were misuse of loan, untimely disburse of loan and natural disaster of various kind.

Hossain (1986) observed that natural calamities, non-farm expenses and lack of ready cash at hand were the most important reasons for non-repayment of loan. Priority given in repaying informal loans were other reasons for non-repayment of institutional loan.

Islam (1987) in his study observed that most of the farmers could not repay for lack of cash at hand.

Hoque (1987) observed that purchasing of food and natural disaster of various kinds were the main reasons for non-repayment of loan.

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

Methodology deserves a very careful consideration in scientific research. Methodology should be such as would enable the researcher to collect valid and reliable information and to analyze those information to arrive at correct decisions. Keeping this in mind the researcher took utmost care for using proper methods in all aspects of this investigation. Methods and procedures followed in conducting this study has been described in this chapter.

Study Area

'Mirzapur'union under Gazipur sadar Thana was selected as the study area. It is situated nearly 9.0 km. away on the west of IPSA (Institute of Postgraduate Studies in Agriculture) from where the researcher conducted this study. The area under study was selected considering proper utilization of time and resources.

Source of Data

The target farmers were those who had taken loan from Bangaldesh Krishi Bank (BKB), Mirzapur union branch for the cultivation of Boro rice during the year 1991-92.

From the official records, the total number of borrowers were 164. At first borrowers were arranged based on the amount of loan.

After that 82(50%) borrowers were selected by systematic random sampling.

Collection of Data

For collection of data, a draft interview schedule was first prepared according to the objectives of the study. After pretesting, necessary additions, alternations and adjustments were made in the schedule. The schedule was then finally cyclostyled for collection of data. Interviews were held individually and data were collected personally by the researcher himself.

All possible efforts were made to explain the purpose of the study to the respondents and their answers were carefully recorded by the researcher. Whenever any respondent faced difficulty in understanding any question, care was taken to clarify the same. Collection of data took 31 days from 1st December to 31st December, 1993.

Data obtained from the respondents were compiled, tabulated and analyzed in accordance with the objectives of the study. Qualitative data were converted to quantitative data by means of suitable scoring whenever necessary.

Variables of the Study

In a social research, selection and measurement of variables constitute an important task. For this some related literature were consulted to understand the nature and scope of the variables involved in the study. Best and kahn (1986) defined a variable as the condition or characteristics that the experimenter manipulates,

controls or observes. According to hypothesis of a research, there are two kinds of variables, namely; independent variable and dependent variable. An independent variable is the conditions or characteristics that the experimenter manipulates, or controls in his or her attempt to ascertain their relationship to observed phenomena. A dependent variable is the condition or characteristics that appear, disappear or change as the experimenter introduces, removes or changes independent variables.

Dependent Variable

Loan repayment behaviour was the dependent variable of this study.

Independent Variables

As loan repayment behaviours was the only focus to the study, there might be so many factors to influence this phenomena. But in a single study, it is hardly possible to deal with all the factors. Therefore, considering the limitations of time, money and other resources available to the researcher, seven characteristics were selected as the independent variables for this study. These were: i) Age, ii) Education, iii) Family size, iv) Farm size, v) Annual gross income, vi) Length of farming experience and vii) Attitude towards loan repayment.

Measurement of Dependent Variable

Borrower's repayment behaviour was measured under three categories, "Fully Paid", "Partially Paid" and "Not Paid". Scores of three, two and one were assigned to "Fully Paid", "Partially Paid" and "Not Paid" respectively.

Measurement of Independent Variabilities

Independent variables were measured by using the following procedure:

Age:

Age of a respondent was measured by counting the period of time from his birth to the time of interview and it was expressed in terms of years.

Education:

Education (year of schooling) was ascertained by considering the total number of years of schooling completed by a respondent. A score of one was given for a full year of schooling. If a respondent passed the final examination of class V, then his score stood at 5. A score of zero was assigned for no schooling.

Family size:

Family size of a farmer was determined by the total number of members in his family. Family may be defined as a group of persons living together and taking meal from a single kitchen.

Farm size:

Farm size was measured in terms of hectares by using the following formula slightly different from that of as devised by Karim and Mahboob (1974).

Farm size = $A_1 + A_2 + 1/2(A_3 + A_4)$ where,

A. = Self cultivated area

A. = Cultivated area taken as lease

A; = Area cultivated by a farmer from others on half- share basis

 A_l = Area given to others on half share basis cultivation

Annual gross income

Annual gross income of a respondent was measured in terms of taka on the basis of his total earning from agriculture and other sources. Firstly, the yield of all the agricultural products during the particular year were noted. Then, all the yields were converted into cash income according to the prevailing market price. Earning of each respondent and by other members of his family from other sources (service, business etc.) were also included in calculating the income. Yearly earning from farming and other sources were added together to obtain the total income of a respondent during the particular year.

Length of farming experience

It was ascertained by considering the total years of active farming experience. Farming experience started from when a farmer started farming independently. A score of one was given for each year of farming experience.

Attitude towards loan repayment

A score of one was given to each positive attitude towards loan repayment and a score of zero to a negative answer. The total scores of each respondent were then summed up to form the index.

Statistical Analysis

Data collected for this study were compiled, tabulated and analyzed in accordance with the objectives of the study. Descriptive statistical measures such as, number and percentage distribution, range and standard deviation were used for describing the findings.

Inferential statistical treatment such as correlation of efficient was used the relationship between dependent and independent variables. Five percent(.05) level of probability was used as the basis of rejection of any null hypothesis.

CHAPTER IV

Results and Discussions

This chapter of the study are divided into four sections. The first section deals with the profile of the boro rice farmers. Second section presents the relationship of selected factors with loan repayment behaviour. Reasons for non-repayment of loan have been shown in section three. And section four has explored the problems faced by the borrowers' in obtaining credit.

A. Profile of Boro Rice Farmers

There are many interrelated and constituent attributes that characterize an individual and form an integral part in the development of his behaviour and personality. Decision making behaviour of an individual is determined to a large extend by his characteristics. In this section, some of these characteristics have been discussed below:

Age:

Age of the respondents ranged from 21 to 60 years, the average age was nearly 39 years with a standard deviation of 8.45. On the basis of their age level, the respondents were classified into three categories. They are: Young (21-35 yrs.), Middle (36-50 yrs.) and Old (above 50 yrs.).

Number and percentage distribution of farmers according to their age has been presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Classification of Farmers According to Their Age

Category	Distribution of farmers			
	Number	Percent	Mean	Standard deviation
Young(21-35 yrs.)	30	36.58		
Middle-aged (36-50 yrs.)	45	54.88	38.90	8.45
Old (above 50 yrs.)	7	8.54		
Total	82	100		

Analysis of data contained in the Table 2 reveal that the highest proportion (54.88%) of farmers were in the middle aged category. A little over one third (36.58%) belonged to young aged group and the rest 8.54 percent constituted the old group. The findings indicate that farm activities decision making in the study area mostly dependent on the farmers of middle and young aged groups.

Marital Status

Out of 82 seventy five (91.46%) borrowers were married. Four (4.87%) were unmarried and rest (3.67%) were widowed.

Education:

The education level of the farmers ranged from 0 (zero) to 12 years of schooling, with an average of 5.21 and standard deviation 4.04. On the basis of their education scores the farmers were classified into four categories namely, Illiterate (no schooling), Primary level (1-5), Secondary level (6-10) and above Secondary level.

Table 3. Classification of the Farmers According to Their Education

Category	Distribution of farmers				
	Number	Percent	Mean	Standard deviation	
Illiterate (no schooling)	24	29.27			
Primary level (1-5)	16	19.51	5.21	4.04	
Secondary level (6-10)	36	43.90			
Above secondary level (above 10)	6	7.32			
Total	82	100			

Data furnished in Table 3 indicate that highest proportion (43.90%) of the farmers had secondary level education, while 29.27 percent were illiterate and 19.51 percent had primary level education as compared to only 7.32 percent having above secondary level education. Analysis indicates that little over 70 percent of the farmers of the study area were educated.

Family Size

Family size of the respondents ranged from 2 to 12 with an average of 6.27 and the standard deviation being 2.45. The family size of the respondents were classified into three categories. They are: Small (2-4 members), Medium (5-8 members) and big (above 8 members).

Table 4. Classification of Farmers According to Their Family Size

Category	Distribution of farmers					
	Number	Percent	Mean	Standard deviation		
Small family (2-4 members)	21	25.60				
Medium family (5-8 members)	41	50.00	6.27	2.45		
Big family (above 8 members)	20	24.40				
Total	82	100				

Data presented in Table 4 indicate that one half of the farmers (50%) had medium family size compared to 25.60 percent having small and 24.40 percent big family size respectively.

Tenure Status

Analysis of tenure status reveals the following: 64 (78.05%) owner cum share croppers; 10 (12.19%) owner cultivators; 5 (6.09%) share croppers; and 3 (3.67%) owner cum lessees/mortgagees. It further indicated that almost four fifth of the farmers of the study area were owner cum share cropper (Table 5).

· Table 5. Tenure Status of Boro Rice Farmers

Tenure status	Number	Percent
Owner cultivator	10	12.19
Share cropper	5	6.09
Owner cum share cropper	64	78.05
Owner cum lessee/ mortgagee	3	3.67
Total	82	100

Farm Size

Among the farmers, the smallest farm size was found to be 0.33 hectare and the largest was 6.84 hectares. Average farm size was 1.33 hectares with standard deviation being 1.05. Based on the farm size, the farmers were classified into three categories such as Small (up to 1.0 ha), Medium (1.01-2.0 ha) and Large (above 2.0 ha).

Table 6 indicates that the highest proportion (48.78%) of the farmers had medium farm size while 41.46 percent had small farm and 9.76 percent had big farm respectively.

Table 6. Classification of the Farmers According to Their Farm Size

Category		Distribution of farmers					
	Number	Percent	Mean	Standard deviation			
Small (up to 1.0 ha)	34	41.46					
Medium (1.01- 2.0 ha)	4()	48.78	1.33	1.05			
Big (above 2.0 ha)	8	9.76					
Total	82	100					

Findings indicate that the highest proportion of the farmers (90.24%) had farm size of 2 or less than 2 hectares. Thus the land holding of the farmers of the study area seems to be higher than the average situation of Bangladesh.

Occupation

Occupation of a farmer can not be defined easily. Because there are primary or secondary, major or minor farm or non-farm occupations which are always overlapping to each other. However, the occupation from which most of the income derived irrespective of the time and labour devoted it was termed as main occupation. The different occupations were classified in such a way so that the importance of farming can easily be identified. The classifications were; i) Only farming, ii) Farming cum other minor occupation, iii) Minor farming cum major occupation.

Table 7. Classification of the Farmer According to Occupation

Category	Only farming(No.)	Farming cum other minor occupation (No.)	Minor farming cum other major occupation (No.)	Total Number
Small farmer	11 (32.35%)	17 (50.0%)	6 (17.65%)	34 (100.0%)
Medium farmer	13 (32.5%)	19 (47.5%)	8 (20.0%)	40 (100.0%)
Big farmer	(62.5%)	2 (25.0%)	1 (12.5%)	8 (100.0%)
Total	29	38	15	82

From table 7 it was observed that, little over two-third of the small and medium farmers had minor occupation for additional income along with their farm income. But 62.5 percent of large farmers had farming as their only occupation.

Annual Gross Income

Annual gross income of the farmers was found to range from Tk. 15,020 to Tk. 1,00,333 with an average of Tk. 37,041.57. The farmers were classified into four categories on the basis of their level of income. They are (up to Tk.20,000), Medium (Tk.20,001-50,000), Upper Medium (Tk.50,001-80,000) and High (above Tk.80,000).

Table 8. Classification of the farmers according to their annual gross income

Category	Distribution of farmers					
	Number	Percent	Mean			
Low (upto Tk.20,000)	6	7.32 -				
Medium(Tk.20,001 -50,000)						
Upper medium (Tk.50,001- 80,000)	11	13.41	37041.57			
High(above Tk.80,000)	5	6.10				
Total	82	100				

Data presented in the Table 8 reveal that the highest proportion (73.17%) of the farmers constitutes the medium income category as compared to 6.10 percent of them belongs to high income category followed by 13.41 percent to upper medium income category and 7.32 percent to low income category. Since the income investigated in this study was annual gross income of the farmer's family, the distribution of income presents a gloomy situation.

Length of Farming Experience

Farming experience of the respondents ranged from 3 to 38 years with an average of 15.87 and the standard deviation being 7.66. Data presented in the Table 9 indicated that a majority of them (51.22%) had farming experience from 6 to 15 years, while more than 30 percent had 16 to 25 years of farming experience. On the other hand, 4.88 percent had farming experience of 5 years or less as compared to 13.41 percent had more than 25 years of farming

experience.

Table 9. Distribution of Farmers According to Length of Farming Experience

Length of farming experience	1	Distribution of farmers					
	Number	Percent	Mean	Standard deviation			
5 or less	4	4.88					
6-10	21	25.61					
11-15	21	25.61					
16-20	19	23.17	15.87	7.66			
21-25	6	7.32					
More than 25	11	13.41					
Total	82	100					

Farmers Attitude Towards Loan Repayment

Majority of the respondents reacted favourably to attitude oriented statements on loan repayment. But a considerable percent of them (18.3%) did not respond favourably to the following statement: "Bank should stop the granting of fresh loan to those who failed to repay their previous loan" (Table 10). To get a chance to clear his/her non repaid loan might be the cause behind that statement. It was also found that 20.73% did not respond favourably to the following statement: "You usually fail to repay loan on time when you think it is not important".

Table 10. Loan Repayment Attitude of Boro Rice Farmers

Attitude-oriented statement	Agree		Disagree		
	Number (N=82)	Percent	Number (N=82)	Percent	
It is always safe to repay loan on time to the bank	80	97.56	2	2.44	
You usually fail to repay loan when you think it is not important	17	20.73	65	79.27	
BKB is big credit lending institution, it can be afford to even if borrowers do not repay loan	4	4.88	78	95.12	
BKB should stop the granting of fresh loan to those who failed to repay their previous loan	67	81.70	15	18.30	

Loan Repayment Performance

Loan repayment performance of the farmers have been measured under 3 categories, namely, fully paid, partially paid and not paid. Table 11 showed that little over 51 percent of loanees did not repay their loans at all. Slightly over one third (34.15%) of the total respondents repaid their loan fully, while 14.63 percent repaid partially.

Table 11. Borrowers' Repayment Performance

Repayment performance	Distribution of farmers			
	Number	Percent		
Fully paid	28	34.15		
Partially paid	12	14.63		
Not paid	42	51.22		
Total	82	100		

B.Relationship of Selected Factors to Borrowers' Repayment Behaviour

The purpose of this section is to examine the relationship of seven selected characteristics of the farmers with loan repayment behaviour. The characteristics included are: age, education, family size, farm size, annual gross income, length of farming experience and attitude towards loan. This factors considered as independent variable while loan repayment behaviour of the farmers was dependent variable in this study. Relationship of selected factors with loan repayment behaviour has been presented and discussed in Table 12.

Table 12. Coefficient of Correlation of Seven Selected Variables
With Loan Repayment Behaviour

Sl.No.	Variables	Coefficient of correlation(r)
1	Age	0.0725 NS
2	Education	0.6173 ^{t*t}
3	Family size	0.13 NS
4	Farm size	0.2773**
5	Annual gross income	0.6607*''
6	Length of farming experience	0.0721 NS
7	Attitude towards loan repayment	0.3857***

NS = Not Significant

** = Significant at 0.01 level of probability
*** = Significant at 0.001 level of probability

Age

It appears from Table 12 that the low coefficient of correlation (r=0.0725) was not enough to reject the null hypothesis. This indicates that age had no direct and significant relation on borrowers repayment performance. Hoque (1987) and Roy (1993) also found no relationship between age and bor ower's repayment performance.

Education

The value of r (0.6173) was sufficient enough to reject the null hypothesis at 0.001 percent level, suggesting that borrowers education was directly related to repayment function (Table 12).

Karim (1976), Hoque (1987) and Roy (1993) observed same kind of relationship between education and loan repayment performance.

Family Size

The observed r value (0.13) for family size was not found significantly related to their loan repayment function. Similar observation was also made by Saha (1986).

Farm Size

The coefficient of correlation (r = 0.2773) value was sufficient enough to reject null hypothesis at 0.01 percent level and showed a positive relationship with loan repayment performance of the farmers. This means that the farmers with the larger farm size had greater tendency toward more loan repayment performance. Rahman (1974), Hossain (1986), Hoque (1987), Mahfuz (1990) and Roy (1993) found same kind of relationship between the farm size of the farmers and their loan repayment behaviour.

Annual Gross Income

Findings in Table 12 shows a very strong relationship (r=0.6607) between the borrower's income and loan repayment performance (significant at 0.001 percent level). This means that annual income of the farmers have strong relationship with their repayment performance. Karim (1976), Hossain (1986), Islam (1987), Hoque (1987) and Roy (1993) also reported that there was a relationship between income and repayment of loan.

Length of Farming Experience

Correlation analysis as indicated in Table 12 reveals that the observed r value (0.0721) was insignificant, which means that the length of farming experience of the respondent was not related to their loan repayment performance.

Attitude Towards Loan Repayment

It appears from Table 12 that the observed r value (0.3857) shows a significant and positive relationship between the borrowers attitude and loan repayment performance. This implies that loan repayment function tended to increase significantly as the borrowers positive attitude towards loan repayment increased.

Karim (1976), Halim (1979) and Islam (1987) also found similar relationship between attitude and repayment performance.

C. Reasons for Non-payment of Loan

Reasons for default of loan mainly categorized into four general groups (Table 14), namely, i) natural disaster of various kinds; ii) low market price of the product; iii) non-farm expenditure and iv) Priority given to private sector loan. Other reasons which were not fitted to the above mentioned categories, put into a category named 'Others'.

Out of 82 borrowers 54 (65.85%) failed to repay loan either in full or in partial on the schedule date of maturity. Maximum number of loan defaulters (33.33%) reported that they could not repay their loan due to law market price of the product (Table 13).

Table 13. Reasons for Non payment of Loan by 54 Borrowers

Reason	Number of responding borrowers	Percent
Natural disaster of various kinds	15	27.78
Low market price of the product	18	33.33
Non-farm expenditure	9	16.67
priority given to private sector loan	7	12.96
Others	5	9.26
Total	54	100

This was followed in order by the natural disaster of various kinds (27.78%), non-farm expenditure (16.67) and priority given to private sector loan (12.96%). A little over 9 percent of the defaulters could not repay the loan due to other reasons such as negligence to repay loan, hope for political assurance to exemption of loan etc.

D. Problems Faced by the Borrowers in Receiving Loan

Some times farmers face a number of problems in obtaining loan from institutional sources which discourage them to got institutional loan. As a result they rush to non-institutional sources with a high interest rate. For a meaningful agricultural growth of the country this is not at all desirable. It is therefore necessary to find out the problems faced by the borrowers in obtaining loan and to take measures to overcome those problems by concerned agencies or persons.

Problems faced in obtaining loan reported by the borrowers are grouped into four major categories (Table 15). These were: i) Complex loan distribution system, ii) Lack of sufficient security, iii) Illiteracy or lack of information regarding loan and iv) Previous loan.

Table 14. Problems Faced by 60 Borrowers in Receiving Loan

Problems	Number of reporting borrowers	Percent
Complex loan distribution system	26	43.33
Lack of sufficient security	17	28.33
Illiteracy or lack of information regarding loan	10	16.67
Previous loan	7	11.67
Total	60	100

Sixty borrowers (73,17%) expressed their problems in receiving loan. A little over 43 percent borrowers complained about the complex formalities in loan distribution system. Nearly 29 percent borrowers reported about the security for institutional loan as their problems. Third important problem was lack of information regarding loan (16.67%) followed by previous loan contracted by the farmers (11.67%).

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

It is obvious that the act of regular loan repayment by the borrowers is an integral part of the total institutional loan transaction. Efforts have been taken in this study to simply detect the significant and non-significant factors in relation to the borrowers repayment performance.

Object ives

The specific objectives of this study were: i) To describe the profile of the Boro rice farmers; ii) To determine the relationship between the selected factors and the loan repayment behaviour of the borrowers; iii) To determine the reasons for non-payment of loan and iv) To find out the problems faced by the borrowers in receiving loan.

Hypothesis

The following null hypothesis was formulated:

There was no significant relationship between borrowers repayment behaviour and any of the following factors:

- i) Age
- ii) Education
- iii) Family Size
- iv) Farm Size
 - v) Annual Gross Income
- vi) Length of Farming Experience
- vii) Attitude Towards Loan Repayment

Methodology

The farmers who took loan for Boro rice cultivation during 1991-92 from Bangladesh Krishi Bank (BKB), Mirzapur union branch of Gazipur Sadar Thana was the population of this study. Eighty two (50%) farmers out of 164 were selected by systematic random sampling. An interview schedule was designed on the basis of objectives and used for collecting data.

The profile of Boro rice farmers was reported by percentage, mean, range and standard deviation. Correlation was employed in determining the relationship of the selected factors to repayment function. Five percent level of probability was used as the basis for rejection of any null hypothesis.

Summary of major findings

A. Profile of Boro rice farmers

Age: Age of the farmers ranged from 21 to 60 years with an average of 38.90 years. Highest proportion (54.88%) of the farmers were middle aged (36-50 yrs.).

Marital Status: Nearly 92 percent i.e. 75 out of 82 borrowers were married. The rest were either single or widowed.

Education: Farmers education ranged from no-schooling to 12 years of schooling, the average being 5.21 years. A little over two fifth (43.90%) of the farmers had secondary level education, while 29.27 percent had no schooling.

Family Size: Fifty percent family had 5 to 8 members while the average family size was 6.27. Family size ranged from 2 to 12 persons.

Tenure Status: Nearly four-fifth (78.05%) of the respondent were owner cum cultivator. And nearly only 4 percent farmers were owner cum leasee/mortgagee.

Farm Size: The farm size of the farmers ranged from 0.33 to 6.84 hectares, the average being 1.33 hectares. Slightly over 90 percent of the farmers had land area of 2 or less than 2 hectares.

Occupation: Nearly 63 percent of the big farmers had only farming as their occupation. Slightly over two third of the small and medium farmers had minor occupation for additional income along with their farm income.

Annual Gross Income: The annual gross income ranged from Tk.15020.00 to 1,00,333.00, the average being 37,041.57. The highest proportion (nearly 74 percent) of the farmers constituted the medium income category whereas only over 6 percent farmers were in high income category.

Length of Farming Experience: A little over 51 percent of the farmers had farming experience of 6 to 15 years, while about 31 percent had 16 to 25 years of farming experience. The average length of farming was 15.87 years.

Attitude Towards Loan: A great portion of borrowers was in favour of repaying loan on time. But interestingly, a great portion of them did not repay loan.

Loan Repayment Performance: Out of 82 borrowers 28 (34.15%) repaid loan fully, while 14.63 percent repaid partially and little over 51 percent of the borrowers did not repay their loan at all.

B. Relationship of Selected Factors to Borrowers Loan Repayment Behaviour

Seven factors namely, age, education, family size, farm size, annual gross income, length of farming experience and attitude towards loan were considered in this study. Of these factors, betrowers' education, farm size, annual gross income and attitude towards loan were directly and significantly 1 ated to the borrowers' repayment behaviour. Other three factors such as, age, family size and length of farming experience had no significant relationship with loan repayment performance.

C. Reason For Non-payment of Loan

Out of the total borrowers 54 (65.85%) were the defaulters. The majority (33.33%) of them could not repay due to low market price of the product. About 28 percent of them blamed natural disaster of various kinds for their non-payment of loan.

D. Problems Faced by the Borrowers in receiving Loan

Of the entire study group, 60 borrowers (73.17%) faced various kinds of problems in receiving loan. A little over 43 percent complained about complex loan distribution system. Lack of security which is a prerequisite for bank loan was stated as problem in receiving loan by 28.33 percent borrowers. About 17 percent reported lack of information regarding loan as their problem. Nearly 12 percent of the borrowers reported previous loan as their problem in receiving loan from bank.

CONCLUSIONS

Following conclusions may be drawn on the basis of the findings.

- 1. Though the farmers had positive attitude towards repayment of loan on time, more than 65 percent of farmers were defaulters. One may, therefore, conclude that without development in loan repayment performance further allocation of loan to the wide range of farmers appears to be a difficult one.
- 2. Farmers' loan repayment was a function of farmers annual gross income, farm size, education and attitude towards loan.
- 3. About 30 percent of the farmers were illiterate. Whereas in correlation coefficient statistical treatment, education found as a positive and significant factor. So it may be concluded here that without taking steps to increase literacy percentage of farmers, loan repayment performance will not be improved.
- 4. Two third of the small and medium farmers had other minor occupation rather than only farming. As indicated by correlation of coefficient analysis, annual gross income had a significant and positive relation to loan repayment performance of the farmers. It indicates that non-farming opportunist should be made available to small and medium farmers in order to improve their loan repayment performance.

- 5. The main reason for non-payment of loan was low market price of the product. These facts lead to conclude that guaranteed market price of the crops should be ensured for better loan repayment functions of the borrowers.
- 6. Complex loan distribution system was one of the main problems faced by majority of the borrowers in getting loan timely.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On the basis of the findings of the study, following two groups of recommendations (one for policy implication and one for further research) have been made.

- A. Recommendations for policy implication
- 1. Because of positive relationship of education of farmers to their loan repayment performance, preference should be given to the educated incumbent.
- Awareness among the farmers should be created about the loan distribution system and their responsibility in repaying their loan timely.
- 3. Satisfactory past record of the borrowers loan repayment behaviour should be considered as plus point while giving loan.
- 4. Loan giving institutions should consider bonafide farmers having a positive attitude towards loan repayment.
- 5. Guaranteed/protected market price of the crops should be ensured by the government.
- 6. Easy loan distribution system should be formulated and necessary steps should be taken by the loan disbursing authority for timely distribution of loan to genuine persons under simple terms and conditions.

B. Recommendations for Further Research

- It is strongly suggested that study of this nature should be replicated in other parts of the country. Because, Mirzapur Union is not typical of the situation of the entire country.
- 2. A research is recommended on the probability of giving fresh loan to the borrowers who failed to repay the previous loans owing to crop damage by natural calamities.
- 3. A further study may be suggested on the relationship between loan utilization and loan repayment behaviour of the farmers.
- 4. A further study also may be suggested by taking supervision, cosmopoliteness and organizational participation as independent factors.
- 5. Lastly, there appears to be a real need for investigating the effect of village marketing system on loan repayment performance of small farmers.

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APPENDIX A

ENGLISH VERSION OF THE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Serial No. Department of Agricultural Extension, Institute of Post Graduate Studies in Agriculture (IPSA), Salna, Gazipur 1703.

Pr ile and Loan Repayment Behaviour of Boro Rice Farmers in Mirzapur Union of Gazipur Sadar Thana

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

Please	answer	the	following	questions	(Put	tick	marks	whenever
necessary)			15						

Respondent's Name

Father's / Husband's Name :

Village :

- 1. What is your present age? ---- years
- 2. Marital status : Single/Married/Widowed/Separated
- 3. Educational Attainment :
 - a) Can't read and write -----
 - b) Can write name only -----
 - c) Level of my education is equivalent to class -----
 - d) Passed class -----
- 4. What is the total number of your family members? -----
- 5. Tenure Status :
 - a) Owner cultivator -----
 - b) Share cropper -----
 - c) Owner cum share cropper -----
 - d) Leasee/ Mortgagee -----
 - e) Owner cum Leasee/ Mortgagee -----

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a) Self cultivated land

- b) Cultivated area taken as borga ----- acre
- c) Cultivated area taken as lease ----- acre
- d) Cultivated area given as borga ----- acre
- e) Fallow land (if any) ---- acre
- f) Total farm size (a+b/2 + c+d/2) ----acre
- g) Area under homestead ---- acre

7. Occupation :

Major	М	inor	
	# 100 M 7 - # # # 100 H		
1			

Annual Gross income during 1991-92

A. Please mention your annual gross income from agriculture:

Name of the product	Area of land	Production (md/Acre)	Price /md of	Total, price "(in Taka)
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a) local 🚃	f			
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6. Sugarcane			,	
7. Tobacco		7 4		1 4
S. Mustard	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
9. Wheat	1			-1-,
h				is in
10. Pulses a) Lentil	į			
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13. Onion			,	
1s. Vegetables				
15. Sweet potato		<u> </u>	·	
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10, truits	<u></u>		4	
17. Bamboo	4	2		
18. Poultry Birds	ţ			
In Take	1 47	* 7		
20. Fish				
21. Milk			3 7	1
21. Cow. goder-etc.	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *			i
23. Others	3	3 (3		K.

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		The state of the s
St	ource of income	Annual income (in Taka)
a,) Service .	
b_) Business	1 - -
) Day labour	J
<u>f_d</u>) Help from relatives/friends	
3) Others	

For how many years you are in farming $\frac{a}{b}$ = ---- years

10. Amount of loan received and repayment performance:

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Amount repaid	Outstanding loan
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treceived	!	
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11. Please give your opinion about the following statements:

Agree	Disagree
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	*

dord ledw.	lem(s) did you fa	ce in getting loan from the bank
loan:	,	on(s) for timely distribution of
. .		
		f lann
5. State yo	r suggestion(s)	for timely repayment of loan:
s, State you -	r suggestion(s)	for timely repayment of toan.