

**PRODUCTIVITY AND PROFITABILITY OF GREENHOUSE
FARMING IN SELECTED AREAS OF CAVITE**

THESIS

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ABSTRACT

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The study was conducted from February to March 2019 in the selected areas in Cavite, to assess the productivity and profitability of greenhouse farming in selected areas in Cavite. This study specifically aimed to (1) determine the demographic profile of the farm owner; (2) determine the profile of the farm; (3) determine the characteristics of vegetable crops in terms of number of days harvesting, and cropping system; (4) determine the productivity of greenhouse farm; and (5) determine the profitability of greenhouse farms in terms of gross profit margin, return on sales, and return on investment.

A purposive sampling was used in selecting the municipalities of the study. Data were gathered through questionnaires and interviews with 22 greenhouse farm owners/managers. Most of them were male and their age ranged from 26 to 76 years. Most were married and majority of them completed bachelor's degree. Most of the participants have 2 to 23 years of farming experience and were not new in the business.

The greenhouses were operated as sole proprietorship, partnership and corporation. The sizes of the farms varied from 2,000 square meters to 16 hectares with 180 square meters to 6 hectares devoted to greenhouse. The owners/farm managers had been in the industry of farming from 1 to 32 years and invested a capital that ranges from 70,000 to 40 million.

The greenhouse farmers were able to produce lettuce, pechay, kale, spinach, celery, parsley, bell pepper, tomato, eggplant, cucumber, and french beans. Results revealed that majority of the greenhouse farms were producing lettuce crops.

Cultivating these vegetables takes about two to three months to grow from seedling in which enable farmers to grow more plants all year round. The farms were utilizing anchor, tunnel and bamboo greenhouse type and they were using mono and multiple as their system of cropping. The above mentioned crops were classified as high-value crops and have its competitiveness in terms of price.

Among the participants only greenhouse farms producing; tomato, bell pepper, celery and pechay were the only vegetables that maximized and utilized the spaces productively. On the other hand, greenhouse farm producing lettuce, kale, eggplant, spinach, French beans, parsley and cucumber were found to be unproductive in utilizing their spaces.

Furthermore, the study showed that greenhouse farm in selected areas of Cavite is highly profitable and is better run in the form of partnership and corporation. Evidence showed that among the greenhouse farms solely owned by an individual met the industry standard in terms of gross profit margin. On the other hand, greenhouse farms formed as partnership met the industry standard in terms of gross profit margin, return on sales and return on investment. Lastly, gross profit margin, return on sales and return on investment were the profitability ratios in which greenhouse farms organized as corporation met the industry standard.

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INTRODUCTION

Philippines is traditionally known as an agricultural country, and agriculture is one of the drivers of the Philippine economy. In fact, it is making up 7.4 percent of the country's gross domestic product together with hunting, forestry and fishing as of the second quarter of the year 2018 (PSA, 2018). However, the country's competitiveness in this term is undeniably low due to limited access on technology. East-West Seeds Philippines general manager Henk Hermans pointed during Innovation Olympics 2018, that farming practices in the Philippines are outdated because majority of the farmers are reluctant and refusing to use modern technology (De Guzman, 2018). Regardless of the efforts made by the Department of Agriculture in deployment of these farm technologies, the target users still have not been aware on these technologies because it is costly. Dar (2016) stated in his article "the need to mechanize farms", that most of the farms in the Philippines are respectively small and an ordinary farmer cannot just simply afford due to lack of capital to invest in such technologies.

The ascending demand for the country's development and adaptation for advance technology to grow plants anytime of the year gain entrance popularity for