

Research Article

# Impact of Improved Rice Variety Adoption on Smallholder Farmers Rice Productivity and Gross Farm Income Enhancement in North Western Ethiopia

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## Abstract

The research was assessed status of adopting improved rice technology as well as evaluate its impact on rice productivity and gross farm income in Ethiopia. The research showed the importance of adopting improved rice technologies using impact evaluating techniques such as propensity scoring matching (PSM). The research was used descriptive and econometric methods of data analysis to elaborate the respondents' characteristics, farming practices, adoption status and to estimate its impact. The research used multistage sampling methods to select 180 smallholder rice producers. Amhara and Benshangul Gumuz region are the potential rice producers which targeted for this study. Zones, districts and kebles of these regions were selected random that can be represent the region as well as the rice producers in Ethiopia. The research revealed that 44.44% of the respondents were adopted improved rice technology and pawe\_1 is the most frequently used by respondents. The econometric result revealed that treated groups were gained high rice output 3,019.70 quintal per hectare over the controlled groups 1,971.40 quintal per hectare as well as in terms of gross income treated groups were earned higher income which is 46,159.78 ETHB than the controlled groups which were earned 29,797.14 ETHB on average. This indicated that adopting improved rice technology was brought 34.72% and 35.45% of increment in rice productivity and gross income on smallholders' rice producers respectively. Adopting of agricultural technologies are a means of improving the smallholder farmers crop production, productivities and income generated from that farm activities. Therefore, any governmental and non-governmental institution should be focused on the outreach of these agricultural technologies to end user over all part of the country.

## Keywords

Adoption, Impact, Improve Variety, Groundnut Productivity, Income and PSM

## 1. Introduction

Agriculture is the engine of Ethiopia Economy which play a massive role on export share (90%), job opportunity and

share 32% of the country gross domestic product(GDP). Agriculture sector is the main source income and food for

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smallholder farmers as well as used as raw material supply for the industrial sectors. The Ethiopia Economy particularly, Agriculture was grown by 5.3% during the last twenty years [1]. This indicated that Agriculture sector has a vital role in the Ethiopia economy that contributed 57.60% to the whole economy growth of the country. Keeping and sustainable the current economic growth of the country helps to increase production and productivity of the agricultural sector, income of smallholder farmers who engaged in cultivation of crops and rearing of animals as well as to ensure their food security. Hence, focusing on cultivating of high yielding crop types might facilitated and enhanced the productivity, income, food security of smallholder farmers in Ethiopia. Among cereals crops maize, wheat, sorghum, finger millet, barely and rice are the high yielding crop types and they are used as staple food and source of income to smallholder farmers in Ethiopia.

Rice is a million crop that gave high emphasis to ensure food security and reduce poverty of smallholder farmers in Ethiopia [2].

Rice was introduced to Ethiopia in 1970s to tackle food insecurity problems in the resettlement area of Ethiopia particularly Benshangul Gumuz, Amhara and Gambella region during the derg regim [3]. After introduction of rice to the country, its expansion was tremendous and covers almost in all part of the country since 1990s that reached more than half part of the country namely, Amhara, Benshangul Gumuz, Oromia, Tigray and southern and Gambella regions. The production of rice was showed an incremental trend which covers a total area of 10,000 ha to 85,288.85 ha from 2005 to 2020 in Ethiopia [2, 4]. Rice is ranked the second among cereal crops in terms of productivity after maize and its productivity was showed an incremental trend from 18 quintals per hectare to 31.44 quintal per hectare in the years of 2005 to 2020 [4]. This is due to high emphasis was given by government to boost rice productivity by releasing new variety, popularizing, scale out, multiplication and dissemination of a new rice varieties to smallholder farmers particularly in Benshangul Gumuz and Amhara regional state regions.

To pace the rice sector, the government of Ethiopia(GE) launched a rice research centers during the late of 1990s at Abobo and Pawe Agriculture research centers. In addition to these research centers, it expands to Amhara region (fogera National Rice and Training centers), Beneshangul Gumuz (Assosa), Afar (Werer), Southern Region (Hawassa), and Tigray region (Shire May-Tsebri rice research centers) [3]. Hence to improve and enhance the rice production and productivity, these research centers released about 43 new improved rice varieties and disseminated to end users to enhance smallholder farmers rice production, productivity and incomes at household levels.

Awı and Metekel zones are among the conducive rice producing areas in Amahara and Benshangul Gumuz region-

al states which focused this research to investigated the importance of adopting improved rice varieties on smallholders' rice productivity and income improvement. Cultivation of rice in Awı and Metekel Zone is the main agricultural activities for smallholder farmers especially who have swampy farm lands. They use as source of staple food and incomes which consumed in different forms like Ingera, Kita and Gonfo. Moreover, it uses for making of local bira like Tila. Besides, its straw used as animal feed and for making of houses by mixing with mud.

Eventhough, a lot of of rice varieties have been innovated, released and disseminated to smallholder farmers in Metekel and Awı Zones, a little empirical evidence has been investigated about the importance of improved rice variety adoption on smallholder farmers rice productivity and income improvement. Up to date some literatures has been focused on soybean, groundnut, coffee varieties [5-7]. Hence to fill the knowledge gap on the importance of adopting improved rice variety on smallholder rice productivity and income enhancement, this research was intended to conduct and investigated the impact of improved rice variety adoption on smallholder farmers rice producing areas in Awı and Metekel Zones, Amhara and Beneshangul Gumuz regional states respectively.

## 2. Methodology of Research

### 2.1. Description of the Study Area

Pawe is one of the seven districts in Metekel Zone Benshangul Gumuz Regional state. The district has 20 potential rice producing kebles which found at 21 kilo meter from the capital city of metekel zone, Gelgel Beles town, 335 kilo meter from the region capital city, Assosa and 568 kilo meter from Addis Ababa, the capital city of the country to north west direction. Its geographical location is 36°28'22" 86'' longitude and latitude of 11°19'03.90'. The district is practicing both cultivations of crops and livestock rearing with dominant of cereals oil crops. Among cereal crops, Rice is ranked second in terms of productivity [4, 15].

Jawı is one of the six districts in Awı Zone Amhara Regional state. The district has 25 potential rice producing kebles which found at 156 kilo meter from the capital city of Awı zone, Injibara town, 272 kilo meter from the region capital city, Bahrdar and 608 kilo meter from Addis Ababa, the capital city of the country to north west direction. Its geographical location is 36°27'21" 94'' longitude and latitude of 11°16'49.42''. The district is practicing both cultivations of crops and livestock rearing with dominant of cereals oil crops. Among cereal crops, Rice is ranked second in terms of productivity [4, 16].

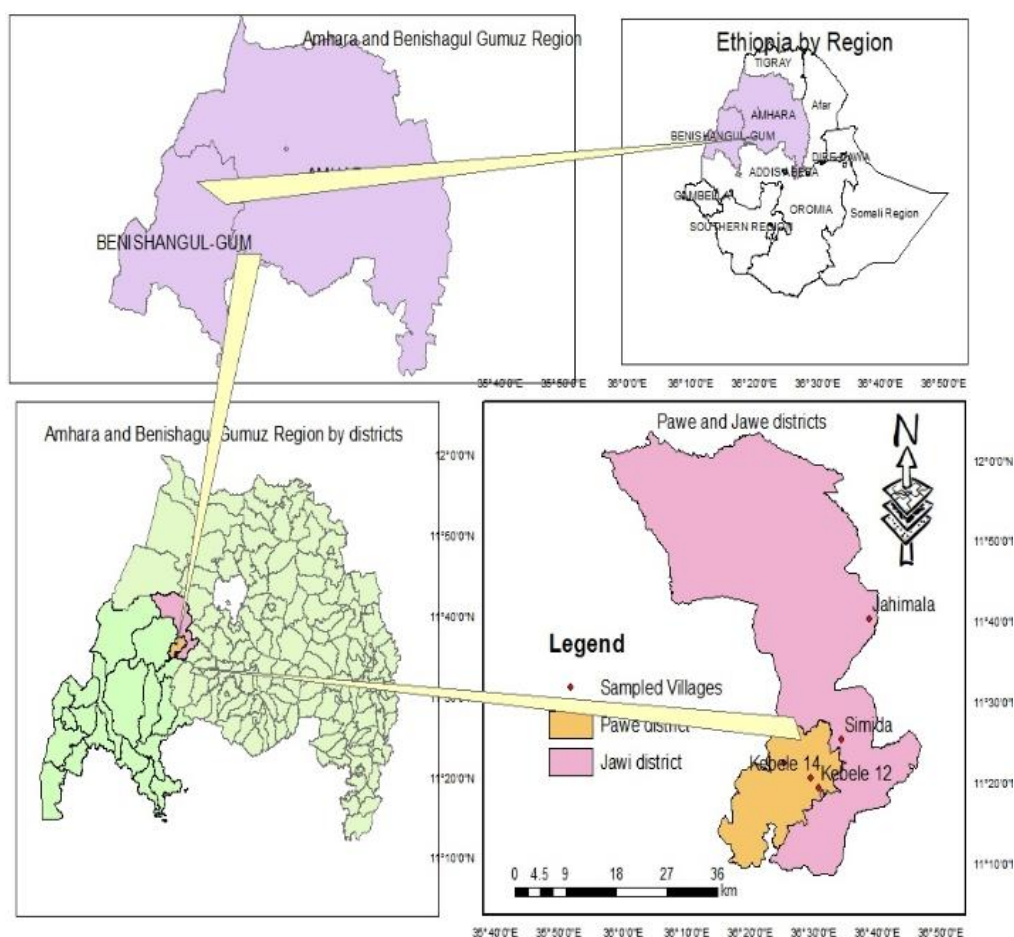


Figure 1. Map of the Study Area.

## 2.2. Sampling Procedure and Sample Size Determination

The research was employed multi stage sampling procedures. At the first stage the potential rice producing regions and zones were selected randomly. At the second stage also districts and kebles were selected randomly from each zone. At the third stage, smallholder rice producers were selected using systematic random sampling method and proportion to population size. Accordingly, Pawe from Metekel zone and Jawi from Awi zones were selected. 180 of smallholder rice producers were also sampled and conducted this research based on the response of these smallholders' rice producers.

The research adopted the Cochran formula to determine the sample size [8].

$$m = Y^2 (FG)/e^2 \quad (1)$$

Where m – sample size, Y - Is 95% confidence, F – Number of success and G is number of failure, e - margin of error. According this formula, 180 sample households of rice producers were taken from two districts. The sample distribution is illustrated as follow.

Table 1. Respondents of Rice Producers by District.

District	# of sample unit selected	Share of sample in %
Pawi	95	52.78
Jawe	85	47.14
	180	100

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

## 2.3. Source and Techniques of Data Collection

This research was used survey method of data collection techniques from smallholder rice producers to collect the primary data whereas the secondary data was collected using unpublished document review from zone and district governmental offices. The primary data was collected by trained enumerators by interviewing and filling their response on well-developed and structured questionnaires.

## 2.4. Econometric Analysis

### 2.4.1. Propensity Score Matching (PSM)

There are numerous impact studying techniques. Endogens switching regression, difference in difference and Propensity Score Matching techniques (PSM) are among the impact evaluation techniques. PSM is the appropriate impact evaluation in case of the dependent variable has dummy characteristics and data type is cross sectional [9]. Hence, this research employed PSM impact evaluation since the data on hand is a cross sectional data and the dependent variable has a dummy characteristic. PSM estimating has five steps [10], these are estimate propensity score, identify common support, choosing best matching algorithm, testing matching quality and sensitivity analysis.

### 2.4.2. Estimating Propensity Score Techniques

Propensity score is estimated using logit or probit regression techniques on beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries by choosing covariant variables [11]

According to [12] in estimating the logit model, the dependent variable is adopter and non-adopter which takes a value of 1 if they produce improved rice and it takes 0 if they were produced local rice.

The propability of adopting improve rice variety is estimating using this equation

$$Q_i = \frac{e^{Z_i}}{1+e^{Z_i}} \quad (2)$$

Where: -  $Q_i$  = is the probability of producing improved rice variety of  $i^{\text{th}}$  household. cultivating improved rice variety takes 1 whereas local rice cultivators takes 0.

$$Y_i = \alpha + \beta X_i + U_i \quad (3)$$

Where  $i = 1, 2, 3 \dots N$ ,  $\alpha$  = Intercept,  $\beta$  = regression coefficient to be estimated,  $X_i$  = Explanatory variables,  $U_i$  = a disturbance term

Adopting improved technology on crop productivity and associated income of impact is evaluated by the equation

$$Z_i = X_i (D = 1) - Y_i (D = 0) \quad (4)$$

Where  $Z_i$  = is the impact of improved rice variety adoption,  $X_i$  = is the rice productivity and gross farm income enhancement on the  $i^{\text{th}}$  household,  $D_i$  = is whether the  $i^{\text{th}}$  household has been adopted improved rice variety or not. Estimating non-biased average treatment effect (ATT) is obtained by conducted survey randomly that avoided self-selection biasness [17].

## 3. Results and Discussion

### 3.1. Demographic and Socioeconomic Characteristics of Respondents

Majority of respondents (87.22%) are men headed households and the rest 12.78% are women headed households. This is good representative of the Ethiopian rural households which is about 10% is female headed households in rural Ethiopia. 38.88% and 5.56% of the total respondents were men and women household headed that adopted improved rice variety respectively. However, there is no statically significance on adopting the rice technology [6]. More than half of the respondents (52.78%) are getting extension service in the study area. Among these, 25.56% and 27.22% are treated and controlled groups respectively. Since, the service is given to all smallholder farmers who participate in any cultivate of crop in the rural Ethiopia. Hence, the extension contact of household has no influence on adopting of improved rice variety. According the respondents response 46.11% said that their rice farm land is fertile that can grow rice gives good yield and among these 25% and 21.11% are treated and controlled groups respectively. Thus, soil fertility of respondents has positive effect and statically significance at 5% on adopting of improved rice variety. According the respondents response 34.44% said that they were got train on rice production during 2018/19 crop production season and among these 19.44% and 15% are treated and controlled groups respectively. Thus, train on rice production has positive effect and statically significance at 5% on adopting of improved rice variety. less than half of the respondents (47.22%) are member of cooperatives in the study area. Among these, 26.67% and 20.56% are treated and controlled groups respectively. Thus, the result of chi2 statistics revealed that being a member of cooperative has positive effect and statically significance at 1% on adopting of improved rice variety.

**Table 2.** Respondents Socio-Cultural Interaction.

Dummy variables	Adopter	Non-Adopter	Total	X <sup>2</sup>
Sex(adopter)	80	100	180	0.01
Male	70	87	157	
Extension Contact	80	100	180	1.28

Dummy variables	Adopter	Non-Adopter	Total	X <sup>2</sup>
Yes	46	49	95	
Soil Fertility	80	100	180	5.95**
Yes	45	38	83	
Trained on Rice Production	80	100	180	5.52**
Yes	35	27	62	
Member of Cooperative	80	100	180	9.43***
Yes	48	37	85	

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.2. Respondents Socio-Economic Characteristics

According the respondents, the rice producers Age, rice farm experience, total owned land, cultivated land for rice production, owned animal in TLU, distance to FTC, distance to district market and distance to milling paddy rice in Kilo meter was not showed statistically significance. Thus, T-test

value does not show statistically significance. The educational background is almost complete of grade two which is greater by one class than the non-adopters and it is statistically significance at 5% and positive effect on the adoption of improved rice variety. Adopters of improved rice variety is nearest to district market than the non-adopters of improved rice varieties by six minutes. it is statistically significance at 1% and positive effect on the adoption of improved rice variety.

**Table 3.** Respondents Asset ownership.

Continous variables	Adopter	Non-Adopter	Whole sample	T-Value
Age	41.60	43.02	42.38	1.22
Education	1.54	.98	1.23	2.64**
Farm exp	5.48	5	5.21	1.22
farm land	2.92	2.98	2.95	0.65
Rice land	0.589	0.59	0.59	0.12
Own TLU	4.5	4.39	4.44	0.40
Dist/FTC	1.75	1.95	1.86	1.64
Dist/market	22.94	28.53	26.04	8.33***
Dist/coop	1.34	1.52	1.44	1.26
Dist/mill	1.57	1.50	1.53	0.47

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.3. Improved Rice Variety Preference and Its Adoption in North Western Ethiopia

In This study, the research tried to identify the distribution of improved rice varieties by Pawe, Fogera and other rice research centers and its adoption rate in North western Ethiopia by smallholder farmers. According the response of

smallholder farmers Pawe\_ rice variety is the most preferred and adopted in North Western Ethiopia. Among the improved rice variety 27.78%, 11.11% and 5.55% of Pawe\_1, NERICA\_4 and X-Jegina varieties were adopted by respondents in study area. The respondents have showed significance difference to adopt the improved rice technology.



**Table 4.** Respondents Rice variety preference.

Rice Variety	District		Total	Adoption rate
	Pawe	Jawi		
Pawe_1	31	19	50	27.78
NERICA_4	11	9	20	11.11
X-Jegina	3	7	10	5.55
NERICA_1	0	0	0	0
SUPERICA_1	0	0	0	0
Old Rice Variety	50	50	100	55.56

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.4. Adoption of Improved Rice Technology by District

In North western Ethiopia 44.44% of the total respondents of rice producers are adopter of improved rice variety whereas the remain 55.56% are non-adopters. When we see it at district level, it is more adopted in Pawi district (47.36%) than Jawe district (41.18%). Even though, there is slightly difference on the used improved rice variety between the two district, it does not statistically significance (Table 5).

**Table 5.** Adoption rate of improved rice variety.

District	Treated	Controlled	% of Treated	% of Controlled
Pawi	45	50	47.36	52.64
Jawe	35	50	41.18	58.82
Whole	80	100	44.44	55.56

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.5. Determining Exogenous Variables Causing Over Estimate of Outcome Variable

Significant variables should be excluded from further impact estimation to excluded the over estimation of impact due to intervention. Eleven covariant variables were used the model to determine the variables that causing to outcome variable. Among these variables four of them affected the impact of improved rice variety adoption on rice productivity and income of smallholder farmers in North Western Ethiopia. Smallholder farmers who is more educated, own fertile land, and trained on rice production showed statistically signifi-

cance at 5% and positive effect and smallholder farmers who are a member of cooperatives are highly statically significance at 1% and positive effect on impact estimation. In addition to this, smallholder farmers who are more farm experience in rice production also have statistically significance at 10% and positive effect on impact estimation. Base on this theory, four significance variables are excluded from further impact evaluation.

**Table 6.** Determining Cofactors Causing to overestimate Outcome Variable (Logit regression).

Cofactors	Coefficients	Std.err	Z Value
Sex	0.09	0.30	0.31
Education	0.14	0.07	1.93
Age	-0.03	0.02	-1.51
Rice farm experience	0.09	0.05	1.18
Allocated land for rice production	0.22	0.36	0.6
Access to credit	0.13	0.22	0.58
Labor force	0.09	0.14	0.67
Extension contact	0.17	0.20	0.85
Soil fertility	0.46	0.20	2.27
Trained on rice production	0.49	0.21	2.30
Member of Cooperatives	0.57	0.20	2.84
Constant	-0.92	0.70	-1.31

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.6. Estimate Propensity Score Matching and Identifying the Common Support Region

The mini and maxi, trimming or combine approaches are best way of estimating propensity score result and determining the common support region [10]. Determining the common support is essential for furtherly evaluating the impact driven by the adoption of technology. The above theory mentioned this research revealed that common support region is laid between 0.0532 and 0.7820 of the propensity score. Besides propensity score of treated was distributed between 0.0532 and 0.9056 with a mean of 0.5575 whereas the Controlled groups of the propensity score were distributed between 0.0455 and 0.7820 with a mean of 0.3590 (Table 7).

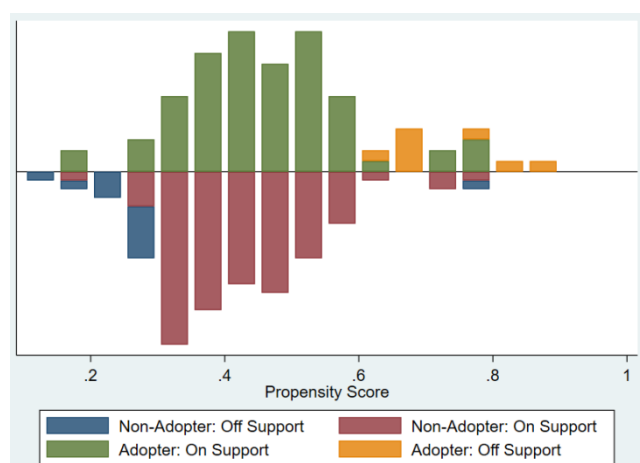
**Table 7.** Propensity Scores and Common Supports.

Groups	Ob	Mean	Std. de	Min	Max
Treated	80	0.5575	0.2149	0.0532	0.9056
Controlled	100	0.3590	0.1818	0.0455	0.7820
Common Support	On Support		Off Support		Whole
Treated	74		6		80
Controlled	96		4		100
Whole	170		10		180

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.7. Treated and Controlled Groups of Propensity Score Sketching

The propensity score of Treated and Controlled groups are estimated by taking sensitivity analysis and discarding the off support to estimate good impact value on average of average. Figure 2 shows the propensity score distribution of Treated and Controlled groups and their common support area. About 94.44% of the respondents were fall in the common support area indicated that there is a good overlap of treated and controlled groups distribution the finding is in line with [13].

**Figure 2.** Map of Common Support Area.

### 3.8. Selection of Best Matching Method

The evaluation of impact on treated and controlled groups is conducted after selecting of The best matching methods. The matching methods is conducting after selecting a matching methods using the three criteria such as large insignificant covariates, lesser  $R^2$  value and large matched sample size. Nevertheless, the matching methods may give the same result and if such condition happened, the matching

method is chosen by randomly. In this research, this is happening except the kernel bandwidth of (0.01). Therefore, radius bandwidth (0.5) has been selected randomly that satisfies lower pseudo  $R^2$  value (0.1305), large insignificant covariate (6) and large matched sample size (170) that excluded 10 off support respondents' (Table 8).

**Table 8.** Selection Criteria of Matching Methods.

Matching Estimators with different band width	Selection Criteria		
	Balancing Test	Pseudo $R^2$	Matched Sample Size
Kernel			
0.01	6	0.1305	147
0.1	6	0.1305	170
0.25	6	0.1305	170
0.5	6	0.1305	170
Radius			
0.01	6	0.1305	170
0.1	6	0.1305	170
0.25	6	0.1305	170
0.5	6	0.1305	170
Neighbor			
Neighbor 1	6	0.1305	170
Neighbor 2	6	0.1305	170
Neighbor 3	6	0.1305	170
Neighbor 4	6	0.1305	170

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.9. Impact of Improved Rice Variety Adoption on Rice Productivity in NW Ethiopia

One of the corner stones of this research is evaluating the impact of adoption of improved crop varieties on crop productivity at smallholder farmers level. For the purpose of this research, respondents are categorized as treated and controlled groups for those cultivating improved rice variety and local rice varieties respectively. In this case, raised a question does adoption of improved rice varieties contributed to rice productivity at smallholder farmers? If yes in what amount? According to the survey data, the answer is yes. The propensity score matching of impact evaluating methods revealed that on average treated groups were produced 3,019.70 quintal of rice output per hectare whereas the controlled groups were produced 1,971.40 quintal of rice output per hectare which is greater than the controlled groups by 1,048.30 quintal of rice

output per hectare. This result is statically significance at 1% and has positive effect of rice productivity at smallholder farmers. In general, adoption of improved rice variety brought 34.72% of increment on rice productivity at smallholder

farmers. Based on this result, adoption of improved rice varieties has positive effect on increasing rice productivity of smallholder farmers from similar cultivated farm land in the study area. the same result is find by [6, 7, 13].

**Table 9.** Impact of improved rice variety adoption on rice productivity in North Western Ethiopia.

Outcome variable	Sample	Adopters	Non-Adopters	diff	SE	T-Stat
Rice Yield	Unmatched	3,015.70	1971.20	1,044.5	124.00	4.95
	ATT	3,019.70	1971.40	1,048.4	143.44	4.42
	ATU	1,971.40	3,019.70	1,048.4		
	ATE			1,048.4		
Log of Rice Yield	Unmatched	12.39	11.66	0.73	0.09	4.51
	ATT	12.40	11.66	0.74	0.11	4.07
	ATU	11.66	12.40	0.74		
	ATE			0.74		

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.10. Impact of Improved Rice Variety Adoption on Gross Farm Income in NW Ethiopia

Another corner stones of this research is evaluating the impact of adoption of improved crop varieties on improvement of gross farm income at smallholder farmers level. For the purpose of this research, respondents are categorized as adopter and non-adopter for those cultivating improved rice variety and local rice varieties respectively. In this case, raised a question does adoption of improved rice varieties contributed to improvement of gross farm income at smallholder farmers? If yes in what amount? According to the survey data, the answer is yes. The propensity score matching of impact

evaluating methods revealed that on average adopters were earned 46,159.78 ETHB of revenue per hectare whereas the non-adopters were earned 29,797.14 ETHB of revenue per hectare which is greater than the non-adopters by 16,362.64 ETHB of revenue per hectare. This result is statically significance at 1% and has positive effect of gross farm income improvement at smallholder farmers. In general, adoption of improved rice variety brought 35.45% of increment on gross farm income at smallholder farmers. Based on this result, adoption of improved rice varieties has positive effect on gross farm income generated from rice cultivation at smallholder farmers level from similar cultivated farm land in the study area. the same result is find by [5].

**Table 10.** Impact of improved rice variety adoption on Income of Rice producers in NEW.

Outcome variable	Sample	Adopters	Non-Adopters	diff	SE	T-Stat
Gross Farm income	Unmatched	45,687.93	29,863.48	15,824.45	124.0	4.95
	ATT	46,159.78	29,797.14	16,362.64	143.4	4.42
	ATU	29,797.14	46,159.78	16,362.64		
	ATE			16,362.64		
Log of gross Farm income	Unmatched	17.01	16.27	0.74	0.09	4.51
	ATT	17.03	16.27	0.76	0.11	4.07
	ATU	16.27	17.03	0.76		



Outcome variable	Sample	Adopters	Non-Adopters	diff	SE	T-Stat
	ATE			0.76		

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

### 3.11. Analysis of Sensitivity on Rice Productivity and Gross Farm Income

The last steps in impact evaluating using PSM techniques is cross checking whether the exogenous variables have effect on or not the outcome variables in this case rice productivity and gross farm income at smallholder farmers level [14]. Besides, sensitivity analysis is conducted to detect the conditional independence assumption (CIA) and was satisfactory or not. This revealed that the impact driven by the adoption of improved rice variety on rice productivity and gross farm income is not affected out of the variables include in the model. Furtherly, this implies that the rice productivity and gross farm income gained and earned by adopters is obtained due to improved rice adoption. Hence, this research was checked the effect of exogenous variable on rice productivity and gross farm income using The sensitivity test conducted in (Table 11) to check the impact of rice productivity and gross farm income was affected by exogenous variables or not. According the sensitivity test, the impact driven due to adoption of improved rice variety was not affected by exogenous variables (Table 11).

**Table 11.** Analysis of Sensitivity on Rice productivity and Gross Income.

Gamma	Omega ( $\Omega^+$ )	Omega ( $\Omega^-$ )
$d^x=1$	3.2e-15	3.2e-15
$d^x=1.25$	4.1e-12	4.1e-12
$d^x=1.5$	2.1e-12	2.1e-12
$d^x=1.75$	8.1e-12	8.1e-12
$d^x=2$	1.1e-16	1.1e-16
$d^x=2.25$	4.2e-15	4.2e-15
$d^x=2.5$	9.1e-12	9.1e-12
$d^x=2.75$	1.1e-12	1.1e-12
$d^x=3$	9.1e-12	9.1e-12

Source: (Own Competition, 2019)

## 4. Conclusion and Recommendation

The research was accomplished at Jawi and Pawe districts in Awe and Meteke Zone of Amhara and Benshangul Gumuz regional states respectively in North west Ethiopia. Its aim is determining the importance of using improved rice varieties on rice productivity and associated of income generated. In this case, particularly examined the importance of using improved rice variety on rice production and income at household level. The descriptive statics result revealed 44.11% of total respondents are saying my rice farm land is fertile, 44.44% are taking training on rice production, 47.22% are member of co-operatives, 61.67% are owned mobile phone which used for communication about their farm land, economic, social and cultural issues. It also revealed that Adopters are more educated than non-adopters, adopters located near to district market by six-minute walking time on average than non-adopters, the total land owned (2.92ha and 2.98ha) and allocated for rice production (0.589 ha and 0.59 ha) is almost similar between adopters and non-adopters respectively. It also revealed that 44.44% of the total sample households were adopted the improved rice varieties which is medium rate of adoption at study area.

The Econometric analysis part showed that adopters of improved rice variety were earned higher gross farm income than the non-adopters. Adopters are earned 46,159.78 Ethiopian currency(ETHB) whereas the non-adopters are earned 29,797.14 Ethiopian currency(ETHB) from the given rice production. Furthermore, Adopters were produced 3,019.70 kg per ha of rice output which is almost enlarge by one third of the non-adopters' rice output 1,971.20 kg per hectare. The Econometric analysis revealed that Adopters were produced 1,048.44 kg per ha of rice output difference over the non-adopters due to the adoption of improved rice variety. The Econometric output of this research thought that adoption of improved rice variety able to enhance rice production and gross farm income by 35.45 and 34.72% respectively over the non-adopters. This research is recommending for governmental and non-governmental organizations as follow. Adopting of agricultural technologies are a means of improving the smallholder farmers crop production, productivities and income generated from that farm activities. Therefore, any governmental and non-governmental institution should be focused on the outreach of these agricultural technologies to end user over all part of the country.

## Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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