



**Effect of Rural Transportation System on Small Scale
Farm and Agricultural Productivity in Sri Lanka**

Weerasekara Arachchillage Permani Chandika Weerasekara

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Department of Economics

Faculty of Social sciences

University of Kelaniya

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Abstract

Productivity growth in agriculture is essential for the development of the sector whereas Transport plays an important role in agricultural development. Agricultural development is essential for economic growth, rural development, and poverty alleviation in low-income developing countries. Increasing Productivity agriculture is an effective driver of economic growth and poverty reduction both within and outside agricultural sectors. Such productivity increase depends on good rural infrastructure, well functioning domestic markets, appropriate institutions and access to appropriate technology. Inadequate and inefficient rural road transport systems are some of the major constraints to food crops production and quality of life of the people in the rural areas of Sri Lanka. Majority of the small-scale operators are subsistence farmers with low capacity and resource endowment while commercial agriculture is practiced by handful of producers. This is because it is the major means of transporting agricultural produce from the farms to the markets as well as to various urban communities. This study aims to address the connection between transportation system, small scale agriculture and agricultural productivity. Furthermore it examines whether the rural transportation affects the agricultural productivity and income of the famers in Sri Lanka.

It employs the use of both primary and secondary data. One hundred and fifty copies of questionnaire were distributed systematically to the farmers in the study area. Focus group discussion was also used to obtain information on the impact of road transport on rural development as a whole. Transportation system effects of agricultural production and small scale famers in Sri Lanka, while it is widely recognized that the food production of agriculture is essential to overall economic development and poverty reduction. A particular concern of policymakers had been the effect of transportation system and small scale farmer's agricultural productivity. This project could empower the Sri Lankan agriculture and food production by moving towards sustainability.

Key words: Small Scale Farm, Transportation System, Agricultural Productivity

Rural transportation, poverty reduction