

## ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF POST HARVEST LOSSES AND THE DETERMINANTS OF POST HARVEST LOSSES OF RICE AND WHEAT AT FARM LEVEL

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**Abstract:** The present Study was an effort to portray the extent of post harvest losses in rice and wheat in physical as well as in monetary terms and to examine the determinants of these losses so that possible measures could be taken to check these losses. Multi-stage sampling design was adopted for the study. Chhattisgarh state consists of three zones i.e. Northern hills, Chhattisgarh Plain and Bastar Plateau. As Chhattisgarh plain zone has about 73.45% of total area of Wheat and 69.92% area of paddy in Chhattisgarh, thus, Chhattisgarh plain zone has been selected purposely for the present study. The study was carried out in Rajnandgaon district. Pre tested schedule was used to collect data from 100 paddy growing farmers and 100 wheat growing farmers from 10 villages of Rajnandgaon and Dongargarh block (5 blocks each). Post harvest losses in paddy were estimated to be 4.63 kg/q and 180.48 kg/ ha whereas losses in wheat was found 3.12 kg/q and 50.73 kg/ha at farm level. Value to total post harvest losses in paddy and wheat was found 2454.59 and 735.60 Rs per hectare respectively. Losses in rupees per quintal were also worked out which was found 62.97 rupees per quintal in paddy and 45.24 rupees per quintal in wheat. Area, education, age, storage facilities and timely labour availability were the determinants of post harvest losses in paddy found negatively significant. In case of determinants of post harvest losses of wheat, crop yield was found positively significant while timely labour availability was found negatively significant.

**Keywords:** Post harvest losses, Paddy, Wheat, Determinants of post harvest losses

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