

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF TRAWLERS IN KERALA

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ABSTRACT

Economic performance of the trawlers in fishery depends upon the profit that they attain. The nuances of profit distinguished in the study are gross profit and net profit. Gross profit should be non negative for the short run viability of the trawlers and for the long run viability, net profit should be positive. In the present study 30.15 per cent of the owners were not able to meet the total cost of trawl operation in Kerala Fishery and only 6.53 per cent of the owners were able to attain a profit margin of above ₹ 21 lakhs. To identify the factors behind the variations in profit, regression is worked out and the result indicated that the standardized co-efficient 'fishing hours' was having the highest value followed by fixed cost and fuel. The lowest value is marked for the 'experience of the owner'. Profit ratio, net profit ratio and rate of return were also calculated. The rate of return calculated is 12 per cent which was found to be lower than the rate of interest paid by the owners (14.5%) and hence the operation of trawl boats becomes a tedious task.

KEYWORDS: Fishing Hours, Experience of the Owner, Kerala Fishery