

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-56891

Title: Analyzing the Long-Run Determinants of Rice Production in Nepal: Evidence from an ARDL Approach (1990–2019)

Recommendation:

Accept as it is
Accept after minor revision.....
 Accept after major revision
 Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		x		
Techn. Quality		x		
Clarity		x		
Significance		x		

Reviewer's ID: JPR-171

Detailed Reviewer's Report

This paper provides a useful empirical contribution to understanding the long-run drivers of rice production in Nepal, applying an ARDL framework to time-series data. The positive role of electricity generation and exchange rate, alongside the negative impacts of temperature and cultivated area, are clearly presented and policy-relevant. However, several issues require minor revision before acceptance. First, the abstract and conclusion overemphasize forecasts to 2060, yet the paper contains no actual forecast results or scenario tables this discrepancy must be corrected by either including the forecast analysis or removing those claims. Second, the methodology section states that agricultural imports, electricity generation, mean temperature, cultivated area, and rural population are used, but Table 1 lists different variables (e.g., precipitation, fertilizer consumption) that are never analyzed; the authors should harmonize variable descriptions throughout. Third, the FMOLS table reports a coefficient for "LNRURALPOP" but the study's objective focuses on rice production justify why rural population is included and interpret its large negative effect. Fourth, several citations are incomplete or incorrectly formatted (e.g., "Handio" should be "Chandio"). Finally, the English requires light polishing for grammar and readability. With these revisions, the manuscript will be suitable for publication.