

Carbon Footprint for Paddy Rice Production in Egypt

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Abstract: Emissions resulting from rice cultivation are estimated in this paper including emissions from mechanical operations, field burning and N fertilization. The estimates are constructed using data and procedures from the IPCC guidelines for emissions estimation Coupled with Life Cycle Analysis procedures. The results show that the larger amounts of emissions come from Lower Egypt (Nile Delta). The regions with higher emissions are located as a rice belt in the Northern of the Nile Delta, Methane emission from the flooded rice fields are the main source of GHG emissions, contributing about 53.25 % of the total emissions. Rice straw burning after harvesting is the second largest source contributing 35.82 %. Nitrogen fertilization contributes out 9.92% and mechanical activities contribute about 1%. Finally, the carbon footprint for paddy rice is 1.90 Kg CO_{2eq} / Kg paddy rice.

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Abbreviation:

Carbon footprint (CFP) – also named Carbon profile - is the overall amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (e.g. methane, nitrous oxide, etc.) associated with a product. The carbon footprint is a sub-set of the data covered by a more complete Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) (ISO, 14040)

1.Introduction

With the accumulating evidence on climate change, there has been interest in examining the greenhouse gas (GHG) contribution of production practices and products as a mean of identifying intensive emitting options that could be target of GHG mitigation actions. Such a GHG emission level estimation is often called a carbon footprint¹. Agriculture is one target of such activity as emission levels are about 13% of the annual GHG emissions that are related to all human activities (Olivier *et al.*, 2005 and Harada *et al.*, 2007).

Rice cultivation is one activity that has received attention as a GHG emitter (IPCC, 2007). Rice is important in Egyptian agriculture, with Egypt being the largest rice producer in the Near East region (Abdulla, 2007). Total area used for rice cultivation is approximately 600 thousand ha or about 22% of all cultivated area in Egypt during summer (Tantawi and Sabaa, 2001). The average yield is 8.2 tons/ha with an approximate straw production of 5-7 tons/ha (Sabaa and Sharaf, 2000; Badawi, 2004).

Rice is an important emitter of methane (CH₄), one of the major greenhouse gases (GHG). According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the warming contribution

of CH₄ is 19–25times higher than that of CO₂ per unit of weight based on 100-yr global warming potentials (IPCC, 2007).

Agricultural activities are responsible for approximately 50% of the anthropogenic emissions of CH₄, with rice paddies contributing over 10% (Scheehle and Kruger, 2006; USEPA, 2006).

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007) estimated the annual global emission rate from paddy fields averages 60 Tg/yr, with a range of 20 to 100 Tg/yr. This is about 5-20 per cent of the total CH₄ emissions from anthropogenic sources. This figure is mainly based on field measurements from paddy fields in the United States, Spain, Italy, China, India, Australia, Japan and Thailand (IPCC,1997). This carbon footprint is mostly composed of the methane production from flooded rice (67%) and the deforestation effect (29%) due to the persistence of 149 000 ha of hill side slash-and-burn land use change for rice production (Bockel *et al.*, 2010).

Observed seasonal rice methane emissions from around the world show large ranges, reflecting the effects of local as well as regional differences in agricultural, biological, and climatic factors. (Wassmann *et al.*, 2000) compute an average median emission value of 27.23 g m², with a range from less than 1 g m² to 155 g m².

The burning of rice residue is a another emission source yielding carbon dioxide (CO₂),

methane (CH₄), and nitrous oxide (N₂O), plus pollutants such as carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM), and toxic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) (Lemieux *et al.*, 2004 and Duan *et al.*, 2004).

Emissions of N₂O may also occur. Direct sources include emissions from cultivated and fertilized soils. Indirect emissions result from transport of N from agricultural systems into ground and surface waters with subsequent emission as ammonia or nitrogen oxides (Xu *et al.*, 1997; Mosier *et al.*, 1998). Methodologies for calculating both direct and indirect emissions of N₂O related to agricultural production take into account anthropogenic N inputs including synthetic fertilizers, animal wastes and other organic fertilizers, biological nitrogen fixation by crops, cultivation of organic soils, and mineralization of crop residues returned to the field (IPCC, 1997).

With reference to CO₂ emissions, agricultural practices may be grouped into primary, secondary and tertiary sources (Gifford, 1984). The main sources of farm level CO₂ emissions are either due to cropping operations (e.g., tillage, sowing, harvesting and transport) or stationary operations (e.g., pumping water, grain drying). Therefore, reducing emissions implies enhancing use efficiency of these operations by conserving inputs used in the operations, and using other CO₂-efficient alternatives (Lal, 2004).

The aim of this study was to estimate the GHG emissions from Egyptian rice fields in terms of the emission from rice cultivation, mechanical operations (irrigation pumping, tillage, harvesting), nitrogen fertilization and burning rice straw. Finally we calculate the carbon footprint taking into account all GHGs associated with paddy rice (kg-CO_{2eq} / Kg paddy rice)

2. Material and Methods

2.1 Study area

This study focus on the major rice cultivation areas in Egypt especially that along the Northern Coast. This study considers emissions in four major regions Lower, Middle, and Upper Egypt plus lands out of the Nile Valley. The cultivated area of each governorate was collected from the statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation for the years 2008 to 2011. Rice in Egypt is planted as a summer season crop generally under flooded conditions. Urea and synthetic fertilizers are predominantly applied with significant organic matter application (about 15 -20 cubic meters of cattle manure per hectare). Rice straw is normally left in the fields after harvest in September and October, and most of it is burned. Greenhouse gas emissions from rice occur during the growing season and upon burning rice straw.

2.2 Methane emissions from rice cultivation

The annual amount of CH₄ emitted from rice is a function of the number and duration of crops grown, water regimes before and during the cultivation period, and organic and inorganic soil amendments (Neue and Sass, 1994; Minami, 1995; Harada *et al.*, 2007). Soil type, temperature, and rice cultivar also affect CH₄ emissions. Therefore, the basic equation to estimate CH₄ emissions from rice cultivation is shown in Equation (1) Based on IPCC (2006). CH₄ emissions are estimated by multiplying daily emission factors by cultivation period of rice and annual harvested areas.

$$CH_4 \text{ Rice} = \sum_{i,j,k} (EF_{i,j,k} * t_{i,j,k} * A_{i,j,k} * 10^{-6}) \quad (1)$$

Where:

CH₄ Rice = annual methane emissions from rice cultivation, in Gg CH₄ yr⁻¹

EF_{ijk} = a daily emission factor for *i*, *j*, and *k* conditions, in kg CH₄ ha⁻¹ day⁻¹

t_{ijk} = cultivation period of rice for *i*, *j*, and *k* conditions, in days

A_{ijk} = annual harvested area of rice for *i*, *j*, and *k* conditions, in ha yr⁻¹

i, *j*, and *k* = represent different ecosystems, water regimes, type and amount of organic amendments, and other conditions under which CH₄ emissions from rice may vary

Emissions for each different region considered are adjusted by multiplying a baseline default emission factor by various scaling factors as shown in Equation (2). The calculations are carried out for each water regime and organic amendment separately as shown in Equation 1.

$$EF_{ij} = EF_c * SF_w * SF_{pj} * SF_o * SF_{s,r} \quad (2)$$

Where:

EF_{ij} = adjusted daily emission factor for a particular harvested area

EF_c = baseline emission factor for continuously flooded fields without organic amendments

SF_w = scaling factor to account for the differences in water regime during the cultivation period (Continuously flooded = 1, error range= 0.79-1.26 based on??)

SF_{pj} = scaling factor to account for the differences in water regime in the pre-season before the cultivation period (less than 30 days= 1.90, error range=1.65-2.18 source)

SF_o = scaling factor that accounts for differences in both type and amount of organic amendment applied (from Equation3) source

SF_{s,r} = scaling factor for soil type, rice cultivar, etc.,

On an equal mass basis, more CH₄ is emitted from organic amendments containing higher amounts of easily decomposable carbon and emissions also increase as more of each organic amendment is applied. Equation (3) and the default conversion factor for farm yard manure present an

approach to vary the scaling factor according to the amount of farm yard manure applied. (IPCC,2007).

$$SF_o = (1 + \sum_i ROA_i * CFOA_i)^{0.59} \quad (3)$$

Where:

SF_o = scaling factor for both type and amount of organic amendment applied

ROA_i = application rate of organic amendment i , in dry weight for straw and fresh weight for others in tonne ha^{-1}

$CFOA_i$ = conversion factor for organic amendment i (in terms of its relative effect with respect to straw applied shortly before cultivation)

According to IPCC 2006, Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories, the default conversion factor for farm yard manure is equal 0.14 with an error range of 0.07-0.20.

2.3 Greenhouse gases emission from field burning

Based on 2006, IPCC Guidelines, the emission factors for burning of rice residue can be estimated using equation 4.

$$L_{fire} = RB * EF * 10^{-3} \quad (4)$$

Where: L_{fire} the burning emissions in $Mg ha^{-1}$ is the amount of emission from burning of rice residue; RB (Mg) is the amount of rice residue on a dry matter basis that is burned in the field in $kg ha^{-1}$; EF ($g kg^{-1} dm$) is emission factor. The default emission values for rice straw burning of different greenhouse gases are tabulated in Table 1.

Table(1): Default value for emission factors for rice residues open burning.

| | Gef ($g kg^{-1} dm$) |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| CO ₂ | 1185 |
| CO | 113.2 |
| CH ₄ | 2.7 |
| N ₂ O | 0.07 |
| NO _x | 3.1 |
| PM _{2.5} | 27.63 |
| PM ₁₀ | 13 |
| Black Carbon | 0.69 |

According to 2006 IPCC Guidelines

2.4 Greenhouse gases emissions from Fertilizer application

The average nitrogen fertilizer application for cultivated rice is about 285 $kg N / ha$. The emission of N₂O from rice field was estimated following **Bouwman (1996)**, using the following equation for N₂O emissions from agricultural soils:

$$E = 1 + 0.0125X F \quad (5)$$

Where E is the emission rate ($kg N_2O-N ha^{-1}$), the 1 gives the background emission rater and F is the fertilizer application rate ($kg N ha^{-1} y^{-1}$).

There is also one ton CO₂ per ton of N applied that is generated in manufacturing.

2.5 Greenhouse gases emission from fuel consumption

Egyptian agricultural engineers have compiled average values for power requirements and fuel used per hectare for specific farming tasks in those regions as shown in Table 2 (**Grisso et al., 2004**) these figures assume typical conditions and average working depths and may be used to make fuel estimates for the indicated operations.

Predicting fuel consumption for a specific operation can be estimated using the following calculation according to **ASAE (1998)**:

$$Q_i = Q_s \times P_{db} \quad (6)$$

Where:

Q_i = estimated fuel consumption for a particular operation in $L.h^{-1}$

Q_s = specific fuel consumption for the given Tractor $L/Kw.h$

While, a specific fuel consumption (Q_s) estimate may be calculated from the equation as follows (**Grisso et al., 2004**):-

$$Q_s = 2.64 x + 3.91 - 0.203 (738 x + 173)^{0.5} \quad (7)$$

Where; (x) is the ratio of equivalent PTO power required by an operation to that maximum available from the PTO, this ratio depending on draft and speed of implement.

Power requirements for thresher and mower:

To estimate the engine power during threshing and mowing operation, the fuel use was measured immediately after each treatment. The following formula was used to estimate ending used engine power (EP) according to **Hunt Donnell (1983)**.

$$EP = [f.c (1/3600) PE \times L.C.V \times 427 \times \eta_{thb} \times \eta_m \times 1/75 \times 1/1.36] \quad (8)$$

Where :

$f.c$ = The fuel consumption, (L/h)

PE = The density of fuel, (kg/L) ($0.823 kg/L$)

$L.C.V$ = The lower calorific value of fuel, ($11000 k.cal/kg$)

η_{thb} = Thermal efficiency of the engine, (35% for Diesel)

427 = Thermo-mechanical equivalent, ($Kg.m/k.cal$)

η_m = Mechanical efficiency of the engine, (80% for Diesel)

Table(2): Average energy-use rates and fuel requirements for farming tasks

| Operation | Energy-use rate, PTO hp-hrs/acre | Diesel fuel, gal/acre | Diesel fuel Liter/ha |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Chisel plow | 16 | 1.1 | 13.4 |
| Combine, small grains | 11 | 1 | 12.2 |
| Mower | 25 | 1.8 | 21.6 |
| Thresher | 20 | 1.4 | 16.8 |
| Water pump (8 hp) | 24 | 1.7 | 20.4 |

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Distribution of rice cultivation in Egypt:

Total rice cultivated and burned from 2008—2011 is tabulated in Table 2. Note the burned rice residue is smaller with composting, manufacturing and other uses being employed on about 40% of the land (according to **EEAA, 2009**). We assumed that the amount burned is stable during the studied period (Table 3).

The largest rice cultivation area occurs in the Behira, Kafr_El Sheikh, Dakahlia, and Sharkia governorates and these area Northern Coastal zone Governorates in the Egyptian “rice belt”. After that region, the Lower Egypt region (Nile Delta) has the next largest rice cultivation area.

The highest total rice cultivation was recorded at 2008 at about 739 thousand hectares, these area was decreased by about 170 thousand hectares in 2009 years (after a new policy regarding flood irrigation). The rice cultivation area decreased again at 2010 to be about 456 thousand hectares, but this area increased again at 2011 to be about 588 thousand hectare, but then the rice cultivation area increased in 2011 perhaps due to the 25 January revolution and a lack of government enforcement.

3.2 Annual CO₂ Emission from Machinery activities:

Table 3 shows the calculation results for annual CO₂ emission from machinery activities from 2008 till 2011. Most (76%) of the CO₂ emission production result from irrigation water pumping using diesel pumps. GHG emissions from mower activities contributes about 7.7 % of the total machinery emissions while thresher and combine together contribute about 10 %. The highest annual machinery emission was recorded in 2008 due to the high amount of rice cultivation area. Lower Egypt has the highest GHG emissions because has the largest rice cultivated area (Table 4).

In Egypt flood irrigation predominates for rice production, water is poured into a paddy field until reaches a certain height relevant to plant stage of development. Periodically the irrigation is repeated until the crops are mature and ready for the dry harvest. The roots are kept under water for most of the crop life. The energy required to pump water depends on numerous factors including the water flow rate and the pumping system efficiency (**IPCC, 2006**). The energy use depends on the water table depth or the lift height. The diesel pump system could be as close as possible to the water

source or be made floatable to be moved along the irrigation canal. The overall irrigation efficiency is higher as less percolation and drainage losses occur along the open ditch conveying systems. This system need slots of pumping energy and thus pumping uses the most fuel (**Abdulla, 2007; Tantawi and Sabaa, 2001**).

3.3 Annual CH₄ and CO₂ Emissions from rice cultivation:

Data in Table 5 illustrate the annual emissions of methane and carbon dioxide from flooded rice field from 2008 till 2011 for different regions (Lower Egypt, Middle Egypt, Upper Egypt and Out the valley). Regarding to CH₄ emissions, the flooded rice fields are a significant source of atmospheric CH₄. The emission is the net result of opposing bacterial processes, production in anaerobic micro environments, and consumption and oxidation in aerobic micro environments, both of which can be found side by side in flooded rice soils. The annual CH₄ emissions from the cultivated area was estimated at 285323 Tonnes for 2008, with CH₄ decreasing during 2009, 2010 and 2011 due to smaller cultivated area. Normally, the decomposition of organic matter in soil is caused by microbiological activity with wetlands soils showing rapid decrease in oxygen due to heavy microbiological activity during growth (**Cabangon et al., 2002**). Hence, the soil in wetlands is identified as anaerobic, a condition affecting the chemical and biochemical processes when compared to aerobic soils (**Lemieux et al., 2004 ; Duan et al., 2004**). The minus value results from the anaerobic condition of soils that have been long used for rice cultivation and results in conditions of oxygen deficiency, greatly reducing the oxidation reduction potential (**Wassmann et al., 2000 ; Badawi, 2004; Bockel et al., 2010**).

3.4 Annual N₂O from applied nitrogen fertilizers:

Estimates of N₂O emissions from nitrogen fertilization are presented in Table 6. We again find the highest N₂O emissions during 2008 again due to highest cultivated area of rice. Table 5 also shows the total nitrogen used under the assumption of a constant application rate of 285 kg N per hectare. In turn the highest N₂O emission was also in Lower Egypt. Direct emission of N₂O produced naturally in soils through the microbial processes of nitrification and denitrification, has been shown to

be influenced by agricultural management, such as water regime, organic amendments and cropping type (Jiang *et al.*, 2003).

3.5 Annual CO₂ Emission from burning rice straw:

Annual output of rice straw per hectare in recent years is almost stable with a value of about 7-8 Tons per hectare, while the total national output differs due to changes the total rice cultivated area (Table 2). The estimated annual emissions from rice straw burning are presented in Table 7.

The highest GHG emissions again occur in the 2008 season and in Lower Egypt, These findings are in line with estimates in Gupta *et al.* (2004). The major constraint in reducing these emissions is the short time available between rice harvesting and sowing of next crop.

3.6 Total Annual CO₂ Emission and carbon footprint:

The estimated levels of CO_{2eq} across all sources (Machinery, Cultivation, Nitrogen fertilization and rice straw burning) are tabulated in Table 8. Again here the highest total CO_{2eq} was occurred in 2008 season and in the Lower Egypt region. The carbon footprint was also estimated at 1.90 Kg CO_{2eq} / Kg is the same in all regions and years because of the assumptions of equal quantity of water and nitrogen fertilizer application in all regions as well as the assumption of constant yields (8.0 tonnes rice grain per hectare and 6.6 tonnes rice straw per hectare).

The carbon footprint of a product is the quantity of greenhouse gases (GHG), expressed in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_{2eq}) units, emitted across the supply chain for a single unit of that product. Indeed, CFP is a mean for the government to sensitize citizens and industrials to climate change and to reach its GHG reduction target. Moreover, it has a significant advantage for private companies to label their product with the government support since they increase their credibility (Gerber *et al.*, 2010). Measuring the carbon footprint of a product across the supply chain is a recent trend that has several benefits. By giving consumers the choice to turn consumption toward more carbon effective products and by advising them on their own reduction opportunities, CFP labels sensitize the population in order to switch to a low carbon economy. Thus, standards systems such as carbon foot printing, potentially can contribute to a low carbon economy through (i) market differentiation, (ii) driving performance and (iii) platforms for discussion and synergies (Brenton *et al.*, 2010).

3.7 The contribution of GHG emission sources for rice production

Figure 1 shows the percentage contributions from the different aspects and field practices. Methane emissions are the main source of emissions contributing about 53.25 % of the total. Rice straw burning is second contributing 35.82 %, while the machinery activities contribute about 1%. Moreover, nitrogen fertilization contributes about 10% of total GHGs.

Mitigation may be possible and perhaps could generate tradable, income enhancing carbon credits (Tsuruta *et al.*, 1997). To reduce emissions one could replace burning of rice straw with some other use, decrease ploughing and take steps to slow organic decomposition and increase photosynthesis. For methane reduction, agriculturists could reduce fertilization, improve soil quality by increasing aeration and drain water from the paddies prior to the panicle formation stage. For N₂O reduction, farmers can add organic fertilizer instead of chemical fertilizer (Chun *et al.*, 2003, Scheehle and Kruger, 2006; USEPA, 2006).

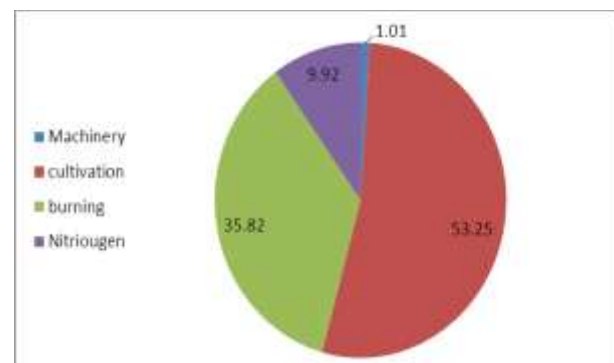


Fig 1: The average percentage of different sources of the GHG resulted from different field practices of rice production in Egypt during the studied period from 2008 to 2011.

Uncertainty in emission estimations

Several factors may affect the accuracy of the estimation of emission estimates above. The calculations rely heavily on inferences from limited statistical information and extrapolations of emission factors from limited literature.

Conclusions

This paper presents a detailed calculation of GHG emission from Egyptian rice production. The main sources are methane releases, field burning and nitrogen fertilization. Lower Egypt is the region with the largest emissions. Additionally the carbon footprint per kg paddy rice was computed and some possible mitigation strategies discussed.

Table (3): Distribution of the rice cultivation in Egypt from 2008 – 2011.

| Governorates | Total Cultivated area /ha | | | | Total Burnt area/ ha | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 |
| Alexandria | 1870 | 850 | 955 | 1059 | 1122 | 510 | 573 | 635 |
| Behera | 97056 | 83432 | 64513 | 87869 | 58234 | 50059 | 38708 | 52721 |
| Gharbia | 74378 | 52840 | 43705 | 51377 | 44627 | 31704 | 26223 | 30826 |
| Kafr_El Sheikh | 149293 | 135262 | 115183 | 123549 | 89576 | 81157 | 69110 | 74129 |
| Dakahlia | 203940 | 149875 | 119732 | 175675 | 122364 | 89925 | 71839 | 105405 |
| Damietta | 30831 | 26968 | 23522 | 28830 | 18499 | 16181 | 14113 | 17298 |
| Sharkia | 140995 | 106807 | 77874 | 98522 | 84597 | 64084 | 46724 | 59113 |
| Ismailia | 1968 | 1648 | 1346 | 2269 | 1181 | 989 | 808 | 1361 |
| Port Said | 8924 | 8408 | 6481 | 9337 | 5354 | 5045 | 3889 | 5602 |
| Suez | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Qalyoubia | 11300 | 4142 | 2200 | 6903 | 6780 | 2485 | 1320 | 4142 |
| Cairo | 14 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Lower Egypt | 720568 | 570235 | 455514 | 585390 | 432341 | 342141 | 273308 | 351234 |
| BeniSuef | 700 | 209 | 60 | 148 | 420 | 125 | 36 | 89 |
| Fayoum | 12605 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7563 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Middle Egypt | 13305 | 209 | 60 | 148 | 7983 | 125 | 36 | 89 |
| Assuit | 81 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Upper Egypt | 81 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Within the valley | 733954 | 570450 | 455574 | 585538 | 440372 | 342270 | 273344 | 351323 |
| New Valley | 4498 | 378 | 1135 | 2830 | 2699 | 227 | 681 | 1698 |
| Noubaria | 726 | 55 | 53 | 108 | 436 | 33 | 32 | 65 |
| Out the valley | 5225 | 432 | 1188 | 2938 | 3135 | 259 | 713 | 1763 |
| Total | 739178 | 570882 | 456762 | 588477 | 443507 | 342529 | 274057 | 353086 |

Table (4): Emissions of carbon dioxide from different mechanical operations during 2008 – 2011.

| Region | Area | Irrigation | Chisel plow | Mower | Thresher | Combine | Total |
|----------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| | ha | Tonnes CO ₂ | | | | | |
| 2008 | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 720568 | 84775 | 8298 | 8641 | 7272 | 2263 | 111249 |
| Middle Egypt | 13305 | 1565 | 153 | 159.6 | 134 | 42 | 2054 |
| Upper Egypt | 81 | 10 | 1 | 1.0 | 1 | 0.25 | 13 |
| Out the valley | 5225 | 615 | 60 | 0.6 | 53 | 16 | 745 |
| Total | 739179 | 86964 | 8513 | 8802 | 7460 | 2322 | 114060 |
| % | | 76.24 | 7.46 | 7.72 | 6.54 | 2.04 | 100 |
| 2009 | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 570235 | 67088 | 6567 | 6838 | 5755 | 1791 | 88039 |
| Middle Egypt | 209 | 25 | 2 | 2.11 | 0.38 | 0.66 | 30 |
| Upper Egypt | 5 | 0.6 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 1 |
| Out the valley | 432 | 51 | 5 | 4.36 | 0.79 | 1.36 | 62 |
| Total | 570881 | 67164 | 6574 | 6845 | 5756 | 1793 | 88132 |
| % | | 76.21 | 7.46 | 7.77 | 6.53 | 2.03 | 100 |
| 2010 | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 455514 | 53591 | 5246 | 5463 | 4596 | 1431 | 70327 |
| Middle Egypt | 60 | 7 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 8 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Out the valley | 1188 | 140 | 14 | 2.2 | 1.3 | 4 | 161 |
| Total | 456762 | 53738 | 5260 | 5465 | 4597 | 1435 | 70495 |
| % | | 76.23 | 7.46 | 7.75 | 6.52 | 2.04 | 100 |
| 2011 | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 585390 | 68871 | 6741 | 7020 | 5907 | 1839 | 90378 |
| Middle Egypt | 148 | 17 | 1.7 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 20 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Out the valley | 2938 | 346 | 34 | 3.2 | 10 | 9 | 402 |
| Total | 588476 | 69234 | 6777 | 7023 | 5917 | 1848 | 90800 |
| % | | 76.25 | 7.46 | 7.74 | 6.52 | 2.04 | 100 |

Table (5): Emissions of Methane and carbon dioxide from rice fields during 2008 – 2011.

| Region | Area | CH ₄ | CO ₂ eq * |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | ha | Tonnes | Tonnes |
| 2008 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 720568 | 278139 | 5840924 |
| Middle Egypt | 13305 | 5135 | 107850 |
| Upper Egypt | 81 | 31 | 657 |
| Out the valley | 5225 | 2016 | 42354 |
| Total | 739179 | 285323 | 5991785 |
| 2009 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 570235 | 220110 | 4622325 |
| Middle Egypt | 209 | 80.674 | 1694 |
| Upper Egypt | 5 | 2 | 41 |
| Out the valley | 432 | 166 | 3502 |
| Total | 570881 | 220360 | 4627561 |
| 2010 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 455514 | 175828 | 3692396 |
| Middle Egypt | 60 | 23 | 486 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Out the valley | 1188 | 458 | 9630 |
| Total | 456762 | 176310 | 3702513 |
| 2011 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 585390 | 225960 | 4745171 |
| Middle Egypt | 148 | 57 | 1200 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Out the valley | 2938 | 1134 | 23815 |
| Total | 588476 | 227152 | 4770186 |

- CO₂eq: the value of CH₄ multiplied by 21

Table (6): Emissions of nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide from rice field during 2008 – 2011.

| Region | Area | Total applied N | N ₂ O | CO ₂ |
|----------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | ha | kg | kg | Tonnes |
| 2008 | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 720568 | 205361880 | 2567025 | 1087842 |
| Middle Egypt | 13305 | 3791925 | 47400 | 20087 |
| Upper Egypt | 81.0 | 23085 | 290 | 122.3 |
| Out the valley | 5225 | 1489125 | 18615 | 7888 |
| Total | 739179 | 210666015 | 2633329 | 1115939 |
| 2009 | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 570235 | 162516975 | 2031463 | 860884 |
| Middle Egypt | 209 | 59565 | 746 | 316 |
| Upper Egypt | 5.0 | 1425 | 18.8 | 7.5 |
| Out the valley | 432 | 123120 | 1540 | 652 |
| Total | 570882 | 162701085 | 2033768 | 861859 |
| 2010 | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 455514 | 129821490 | 1622770 | 687689 |
| Middle Egypt | 60 | 17100 | 215 | 91 |
| Upper Egypt | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Out the valley | 1188 | 338580 | 4233 | 1794 |
| Total | 456762 | 130177170 | 1627218 | 689574 |
| 2011 | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 585390 | 166836150 | 2085453 | 883763 |
| Middle Egypt | 148 | 42180 | 528 | 223 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Out the valley | 2938 | 837330 | 10468 | 4435 |
| Total | 588476 | 167715660 | 2096449 | 888422 |

Table (7): Emission of CO₂, CO, CH₄, N₂O, NO_x, PM2.5, PM10 and black carbon from rice straw during 2008 – 2011.

| Region | Area | Tonnes | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| | ha | CO _{2eq} | CO | CH ₄ | N ₂ O | NO _x | PM2.5 | PM10 | Black carbon | Total CO ₂ |
| 2008 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 432341 | 3381337 | 380079 | 7704 | 19.97 | 8846 | 79697 | 37095 | 197 | 3929399 |
| Middle Egypt | 7983 | 62435 | 7018 | 142 | 0.37 | 163 | 1472 | 685 | 3.64 | 72555 |
| Upper Egypt | 48.6 | 380 | 42.7 | 0.87 | 0.00 | 0.99 | 8.96 | 4.17 | 0.02 | 441.7 |
| Out the valley | 3135 | 24519 | 2756 | 55.9 | 0.14 | 64.14 | 577.90 | 268.98 | 1.43 | 28493.0 |
| Total | 443507 | 3468671 | 389896 | 7903 | 20 | 9074 | 81755 | 38053 | 202 | 4030889 |
| 2009 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 342141 | 2675885 | 300783 | 6097 | 15.81 | 7000 | 63070 | 29356 | 156 | 3109604 |
| Middle Egypt | 125 | 981 | 110 | 2 | 0.01 | 2.57 | 23.12 | 10.76 | 0.06 | 1139.7 |
| Upper Egypt | 3.00 | 23 | 2.64 | 0.05 | 0.00 | 0.06 | 0.55 | 0.26 | 0.00 | 27.3 |
| Out the valley | 259 | 2027 | 228 | 4.6 | 0.01 | 5.30 | 47.78 | 22.24 | 0.12 | 2355.8 |
| Total | 342529 | 2678916 | 301124 | 6104 | 16 | 7008 | 63141 | 29389 | 156 | 3113127 |
| 2010 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 273308 | 2137545 | 240271 | 4870 | 12.63 | 5592 | 50381 | 23450 | 124 | 2484007 |
| Middle Egypt | 36.0 | 282 | 31.6 | 1 | 0.00 | 0.74 | 6.64 | 3.09 | 0.02 | 327.2 |
| Upper Egypt | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0 |
| Out the valley | 713 | 5575 | 627 | 12.7 | 0.03 | 14.58 | 131.40 | 61.16 | 0.32 | 6478.4 |
| Total | 274057 | 2143401 | 240929 | 4884 | 13 | 5607 | 50519 | 23514 | 125 | 2490813 |
| 2011 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 351234 | 2747001 | 308777 | 6259 | 16.23 | 7186 | 64746 | 30136 | 160 | 3192247 |
| Middle Egypt | 88.8 | 695 | 78.1 | 2 | 0.00 | 1.82 | 16.37 | 7.62 | 0.04 | 807 |
| Upper Egypt | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.0 |
| Out the valley | 1763 | 13787 | 1550 | 31.4 | 0.08 | 36.07 | 325 | 151 | 0.80 | 16022 |
| Total | 353086 | 2761482 | 310405 | 6292 | 16 | 7224 | 65087 | 30295 | 161 | 3209076 |

Table (8): Carbon footprint for paddy rice based on the estimation of the total emission of CO₂ from different rice production activities during 2008 to 2011.

| Region | Area | CO ₂ | CO ₂ |
|---|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | ha | tonnes | Gg |
| 2008 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 720568 | 10969414 | 10969 |
| Middle Egypt | 13305 | 202546 | 203 |
| Upper Egypt | 81 | 1233 | 1.23 |
| Out the valley | 5225 | 79480 | 79.48 |
| Total | 739178 | 11252673 | 11253 |
| Carbon footprint Kg Co ₂ eq / Kg paddy rice | | | 1.90 |
| 2009 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 570235 | 8680852 | 8681 |
| Middle Egypt | 209 | 3180 | 3.18 |
| Upper Egypt | 5 | 76 | 0.08 |
| Out the valley | 432 | 6572 | 6.57 |
| Total | 570882 | 8690679 | 8691 |
| Carbon footprint Kg Co ₂ eq / Kg paddy rice | | | 1.90 |
| 2010 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 455514 | 6934420 | 6934 |
| Middle Egypt | 60 | 912 | 1 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Out the valley | 1188 | 18063 | 18.06 |
| Total | 456762 | 6953395 | 6953 |
| Carbon footprint Kg Co ₂ eq / Kg paddy rice | | | 1.90 |
| 2011 | | | |
| Lower Egypt | 585390 | 8911560 | 8912 |
| Middle Egypt | 148 | 2250 | 2 |
| Upper Egypt | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Out the valley | 2938 | 44674 | 44.67 |
| Total | 588477 | 8958484 | 8958 |
| Carbon foot print Kg Co ₂ eq / Kg paddy rice | | | 1.90 |

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