

Technical and Economic Analysis of Solar Photovoltaic Water Pumps against Conventional Systems in Common Crops in Ilocos Sur, Philippines

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ABSTRACT

Irrigation is a well-established procedure on many farms and is practiced around the world. However, typical irrigation systems consume a great amount of conventional energy using electric motors and generators powered by fuel. The cost of solar panels has been continually decreasing, which encourages its usage in various sectors, including agriculture, where irrigation is a crucial economic driver. The study analyzed and compared PV technology against conventional irrigation technology in common crops in Ilocos Sur. Equipment sizes were optimally determined using available irrigation requirements, rainfall data, farm area, and available equipment sizes in Ilocos Sur. Equipment sizing and economic analysis were based on one hectare of land. The cash flow analysis was conducted over an assumed equipment life of 20 years to be able to come up with leveled water pumping costs. Results showed that with typical farmland in Ilocos Sur, the farmland must be alternately planted with rice and corn to be able to be fully utilized all year round. The study showed that the solar pump installation has a heavy upfront investment cost compared to the conventional system. Due to no fuel and little to no maintenance needed, the solar pump turned out to be more economically feasible in the long run. In the 20-year life of both equipment, pumping one cubic meter of water using a solar pump is only PHP 1.35 while for gasoline, it is PHP 5.44 or around four times more expensive based on the prevailing cost at the time of the study.

Keywords

Solar Pump, Photovoltaic Pump, Water Pumping, Irrigation, Cost Analysis, Financial Analysis

Introduction

Water scarcity is becoming a major problem all around the world. It is attributable to water pollution, inadequate river flow and demand increase due to population growth and rapid urbanization [1]. Due to population growth triggering the change of land use due to agricultural land expansion, the world is in need of additional global freshwater resources [2].

Irrigation is a well-established procedure on many farms and is practiced on various levels around the world. This paves the way to crop diversification, at the same time increasing agricultural yields. However, typical irrigation systems consume a significant amount of conventional energy using electric motors and generators powered by fuel. Photovoltaic energy can be found in many applications in agriculture, providing electrical energy in various cases, particularly in areas without an electric grid. Solar energy is the most abundant source of energy in

the world. Solar power is not only an answer to today's energy crisis but also an environmentally friendly form of energy. Photovoltaic (PV) generation is an efficient approach to using solar energy. Solar panels (an array of photovoltaic cells) are now extensively used for running streetlights, for powering water heaters and to meet domestic loads. The cost of solar panels has continuously been decreasing, which encourages its usage in various sectors. One of the applications of this technology is used in irrigation systems for farming [1]. Solar-powered irrigation systems can be a suitable alternative for farmers in the present state of energy crisis in the Philippines. This is a green way for energy production, which provides free energy once an initial investment is made.

In most rural areas in Ilocos Sur, where there is no ready source of water for irrigation, water is usually pumped to the farm through a diesel or gasoline engine. Due to the size of farm areas, the

more common engine used is the gasoline-fired ones. Farmers then have no other choices than to expect the use of these engines for irrigation. An electric pump is an option, but laying hundreds of meters of wire to the farm poses many risks and downsides: the wires are expensive, possible theft, and electricity source are far. Gasoline engines are proven to be reliable as it has been used for around half a century now.

Solar Panels, monocrystalline or polycrystalline have dropped 70% over the last seven years. Its efficiency has been steadily increasing up to recent years. It is forecasted that the electricity cost will soon rival the cost of coal in terms of kilowatt-hour basis. The downside is, however, that the energy can only be harnessed during the daytime.

Since Solar PV plants can only harness energy during the daytime, there is a need to store the energy captured during the day and be released only as soon as it is needed. Storage is on various forms like chemical (batteries), mechanical forms like pumped storage (water), compressed air, and flywheels. For irrigation purposes, water can be impounded on a higher elevation, pumped with water during daytime, and the water may be released on a future desired date.

For the benefit of the agricultural sector, the energy need can be synonymous with irrigation requirement as the conventional technology requires fuel and/or electricity to run the engines and motors of the pumps, alongside other farm machinery.

Solar energy is starting to enter the agricultural scenario thru the introduction of solar DC pumps in recent years. As the cost of Solar panels is dropping every year, there is a need to evaluate whether replacing the existing equipment with solar pumps and storage is worth the investment.

Literature Review

Solar power pumping is principally based on PV technology, which converts solar energy to electrical energy for lifting water at least 7 m head. A PV solar power pumping system consists of a PV array, a DC/AC motor, pump, water storage tank, Electrical wire, and water outlet. The benefits of solar pumping for farms and farmers are: easy energy supply and enhanced access to water for irrigation, improved yields and enlarged

profits, enhanced crop resilience and food security and extra benefits for human health, education and poverty reduction [1]. Solar-powered water pumping technology is boosting smallholder income recently, while it has been positioned for decades due to cost reduction and the potential benefits of this technology.

Many references [2,3,4] discussed the feasibility of using the PV and diesel generator in driving the water pumping systems in remote and rural areas in different locations in the world. Imene Yahyaoui and et al.[5] get the optimized parameters of the PV water pumping system using algorithms depending on the site, load, and panel characteristics for a 10 ha land surface in the north of Tunisia. Ahmad Agus Setiawana et al. studies the development of a PV water pumping system to solve the water supply problem in Indonesia. [6] Francisco J. Chueco-Fernández and Ángel A. Bayod-Rújula [7] compared the cost-effectiveness to drive the water pumping system for irrigation purposes in remote areas in Chile using the diesel generator and the PV panels with the utility grid. In their analysis, they take into account the required investments, fuel, and pumping costs. The water pumping system driven by either PV panels or diesel generator for developing remote areas was also studied by Elham Mahmoud and Hossen El Nather [8] . They compared the feasibility of using the diesel units and the stand-alone PV generation taking into consideration the different parameters affecting the present value and the other costs of both systems. According to their study, they concluded that the cost of using diesel systems in water pumping is much higher than that of the PV system, and the water cost is more sensitive to the panels' prices than their life periods.

Objectives

1. Identify common crops in Ilocos and determine planting season and irrigation requirements. The common crops to be evaluated shall be based on planting interval schemes that would optimally use the lot throughout the year.
2. Calculate irrigation costs using conventional methods.
3. Calculate irrigation costs using Solar PV pumps.

4. Determine required optimal Solar PV equipment and determine current market costs.
5. Determine operation and maintenance costs.
6. Compare the costs of conventional methods and the use of Solar PV pumps.

Significance of the Study

The study shall give a comparative financial analysis of adapting solar PV pumps in the irrigation of local crops in the province compared to conventional gasoline pumps, giving an overview to check if solar pumping is a financially viable option.

Scope and Limitation of the study

This study focused on the financial analysis of the use of gasoline pumps and solar water pumps as a source of irrigation in Ilocos Sur. No detailed technical analysis and design on equipment sizing were incorporated but instead relied on common practices and equipment used in the province and, at the same time, prevailing equipment, fuel, and operation costs.

Materials and Methods

Common crops in Ilocos Sur determine planting season and irrigation requirements

The study first investigated the common crops being planted in Ilocos Sur. The activity was conducted to properly simulate a good representative of a typical farm in the province. Once the common crops were identified. Planting and growing season were determined. A year-round schedule of crops was also prepared.

Irrigation requirements were determined. Initially, monthly rainfall was determined by taking recent rainfall data from PAGASA. This was matched with the irrigation requirements of the crops. Then the volume required for the water pumping formula is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{required water for pumping} \\ & = \text{irrigation requirement} - \text{rainfall} \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The data from PAGASA and kinds of literature taken provides the water requirements in terms of millimeters. This study evaluated 1 hectare of land. Thus, to convert millimeters of water to volume,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Total volume of water} \\ & = \text{land area} \times \text{depth of irrigation} \\ & = 1 \text{ hectare} \times [\text{depth, mm}], \\ & = \text{depth in mm} \times 1000 \\ & \rightarrow \text{units shall now be in cubic meters} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Evapotranspiration is not included in the study as the amount is deemed negligible. In cases where the rainfall exceeds irrigation requirements, the water requirement was assumed zero and will not be stored.

Theory and Calculation

The common gasoline engine used in Ilocos Sur was identified. The nameplate capacity was identified and noted as follows:

- Power output, HP or KW
- Total Head, m
- Volume flow rate, cubic meters per hour

The total head will only be noted for reference with the solar pump. The head requirement was evaluated on this research as the pump is already been proven and used by most farmers, To compute for the fuel required in one (1) hour to operate the engine at max load, the total energy required was calculated first, thus

$$\text{Total Power required in KW} \quad (3)$$

$$= \text{Total HP} \times 0.746 \text{ kW/HP} \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Total Energy required} \\ & = \text{Total kJ/s} \times 3600 \text{ s} \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Total fuel required} \\ & = \text{Total Energy} / \text{Efficiency} / \text{Calorific Value} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Total fuel cost} \\ & = \text{fuel required} \times \text{fuel cost/liter} \end{aligned}$$

The calorific value and engine efficiency were taken in the literature. Fuel cost was taken from a local gas station.

The cashflow was taken on an annual basis up to year 20. It indicates all costs incurred, which would include equipment, fuel, manpower, and other expenses.

The total cost during the entire 20 year period shall be summed as well as the total volume being

pumped. The actual cost of generating a volume of water shall be

(7)

water cost

$$= \frac{\text{(Total volume pumped in 20 years)}}{\text{(Total cost incurred in 20 years)}}$$

Calculate irrigation costs using solar water pumps

To be able to size the required equipment for solar pumping properly, the required maximum daily water requirement was determined. This was based on the month with maximum water requirement divided by the number of days.

Based on the maximum daily requirement, the maximum capacity for the pump was determined.

(8)

$$\text{Required pump capacity} = \frac{\text{(Daily capacity)}}{\text{(sun-hours)}}$$

It is customary that the sun hours assumed is 4-5 hours. This represents the hours if the solar equipment is generating at maximum capacity equivalent to the actual output generated throughout the day,

Based on this, the required pump was chosen on the manufacturer catalog, it would also be able to match the head capacity of the gasoline engine commonly used.

A simulation of various scenarios of water tank capacity was made to fit the actual pumping and the actual dispatch of water, it must be ensured that the water tank will not dry out.

For the water flow output, the maximum flow was determined using the formulas

Maximum water speed

(9)

$$v = \sqrt{2gh}$$

Where: $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$

$h =$ water head

and maximum Volume flow, Q

(10)

$$Q = \text{Area} \times v$$

$$Q = \frac{\pi d^2}{4} \times v$$

This value is the basis to ensure that that required flow during irrigation is achieved.

For the number of PV modules, the quantity was based on the pump capacity. The performance

ratio of solar PV installations is usually at 70-80%. A conservative value of $PR = 70\%$, the required size is used:

(11)

Required PV installation size

$$= \frac{\text{(Pump capacity)}}{\text{(Estimated PR)}}$$

A common size in the market was used. Polycrystalline type of PV modules will be preferred over monocrystalline because it is cheaper. The number of modules must have the capacity equal or exceeding the required PV installation size.

The cashflow was taken on an annual basis up to year 20, where it is assumed that the equipment will be close to its life end and be scrap value worth. It indicated all costs incurred, which would include equipment, fuel, manpower, and other expenses.

The total cost during the entire 20 year period was summed as well as the total volume being pumped. The actual cost of generating a volume of water is computed as

(12)

water cost

$$= \frac{\text{(Total volume pumped in 20 years)}}{\text{(Total cost incurred in 20 years)}}$$

The comparison among conventional methods against the use of solar water pumps was directly compared to the levelized cost of production of water of both technologies.

Results and Discussion

Crop Selection

In 2012, the area planted to palay is 47,414 hectares with a total production of 209,977 MT or an average productivity level of 4.16 MT. This production exceeded the demand by 42,488.03 MT, which is suitable for 116 days or four months supply.

The aggregate food crop production for the province attained a total of 386,015 MT for C.Y. 2012. Rice garnered the highest share of 209,977 MT or an equivalent of 54%, followed by corn with a total production of 76,039 MT or 19.9 % of the total output. Vegetable production was recorded at 75,298 MT or an equivalent of 19.7% of the total production. Fruits registered a production of 20,678 MT or an equivalent of

5.4%. Root crops produced were 2,965 MT, and legumes production was 1,513 MT. Total crop production was valued at P5,429,133,000.00 [9]

Table 1. Agricultural Production and Value of Produce in Ilocos Sur in 2012

Commodity	Production (MT)	Cost per Kg (Php)	Value of Produce (000 Php)
Palay	209977	15	3,149,655
Corn	76719.5		1,017,674
Root Crops	2510		86,062
Camote	1230	10	12,300
Cassava	300	10	3,000
Gabi	980	10	9,800
Legumes	1513		107,820
Mungo	418	27	38,880
Peanut	1095	20	68,940
Vegetables	75298		1,071,035
Leafy	14440		
Stringbeans	2183	15	32,745
Sweet	1160	10	11,600
Pepper	900	20	18,000
Finger			
Pepper			
Tomato	26213	10	262,130
Eggplant	8119	10	81,190
Watermelon	3000	15	45,000
Ampalaya	3125	20	62,500
Upo	550	10	5,500
Squash	2350	10	23,500
Cabbage	10040	20	200,800
Cauliflower	4220	20	84,400
Garlic	238	50	11,900
Onion	14044	15	210,660
Patola	485	10	4,850
Okra	626	10	6,260
Ginger	865	20	17,300
Fruits	20678		314,860
Mango	8558	20	171,160
Avocado	4500	15	67,500
Papaya	1100	10	11,000
Jackfruit	2350	10	23,500
Calamansi	1170	10	11,700
Chico	1400	10	14,000

Based on the table above, palay and corn are the most planted crops in Ilocos Sur. Vegetables are coming in third based on crop type. With these

findings, these top crops were evaluated for cropping intervals.

Crop Selection

Based on several kinds of literature and local practices in Ilocos Sur, planting palay for two cropping season and corn in the dry season is a viable option of optimizing land use. It is now logical to see that these two crops are top ones in Ilocos Sur because they can be planted in this way.

Table 2. Proposed Planting Schedule for Rice and Corn

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rice1												
Rice2												
Corn												

Based on several kinds of literature and local practices in Ilocos Sur, planting palay for two cropping season and corn in the dry season is a viable option of optimizing land use. It is now logical to see that these two crops are top ones in Ilocos Sur because they can be planted in this way.

Based on FAO, the average plant growth of rice is up to 5 months while corn is up to 4 months. To be able to squeeze three croppings in a year, rice-growing shall be limited to 4 months. Based on the table above. The first planting season for rice will start in May, around the start of the rainy season in Ilocos Sur, and harvesting will be in September, Second planting shall immediately commence on the same month and end in January. The month of February has little rainfall and just in time for Corn planting as it requires a minimal amount of water at the beginning. Corn harvesting shall be in May.

Water requirement

Table 3 summarizes the irrigation requirements of the crops to be planted together with the sources of irrigation. Rainfall data for 2019 was taken from PAGASA[10]. The monthly irrigation requirement for rice is based on the recommendation of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University[11]. Irrigation requirement for corn was taken from a study at the University of Georgia in 2016 [12]. The water volume

requirement is computed based on the difference between the rainfall and the total irrigation requirement.

Table 3. Rainfall data, and water requirements of proposed crops

Month	Rain-fall data 2019, mm	Irrigation Requirement, mm			Water volume required	
		Rice 1	Rice 2	Corn Total	From pump mm	1 ha land, m3
Jan	5.4		125	125	119.6	1196
Feb	0.1			33	32.9	329
Mar	8			151	143	1430
Apr	37			245	207.8	2078
May	342	40		214		
Jun	294	200		200		
Jul	406	458		458	52.1	521
Aug	1015	417		417		
Sep	529	125	40	165		
Oct	68		200	200	132.3	1323
Nov	250		458	458	208.1	2081
Dec	57		417	417	360	3600
Total					1255.8	12558

Irrigation costs using conventional methods

In Ilocos Sur, the most common way to irrigate is thru the use of the gasoline engine water pump, more commonly, a 5hp pump is used. Table 4 shows the specification of a typical water pump used and shall be used as a basis for computation in the study:

Table 3. Robin water pump technical/nameplate specifications [13]

LONFA Robin Water Pump		
Self-priming centrifugal gasoline water pump		
Technical Parameters		
Model	PTG210	PTG310
Suction * Delivery (mm)	50*50	80*80
Suction * Delivery (inch)	2*2	3*3
Total Head (m)	46	32
Suction Head (m)	8	8
Max Delivery Vol.(m ³ /h)	36	60
Engine Model	ADEY20/5.0hp	
Fuel tank capacity (L)	3.8L	
Starting System	Hand start	
Packing Size (L*W*H)mm	495*380*440	
Net Weight (kg)	26	28

The Robin PTG210 type is enough for most irrigation needs in Ilocos Sur due to its high head capacity. The current price of the equipment is PHP 15,000 [14]. Table 5 summarizes initial values and assumptions for computation

Table 4. Referenced and assumed values as the basis for water cost computation using the gasoline engine

Description	Value/Assumption
Pump Max Capacity	36 cu.m/hr
Fuel cost	47 PHP/l
Cost	PHP 15,000
Calorific value	45,000 kJ/kg [15]
Fuel density	0.7489 kg/l [16]
Manpower Salary	200 PHP/day
Manpower requirement	6 man-days/mo
Accessories (hoses, adaptors, etc)	PHP 5000
Overall engine efficiency	20.5% [17]
Inflation rate	5%

The fuel cost were computed in terms of cubic meter of water to liter of fuel to be used. It was also be assumed for the basis of computation that the pump will be running at its peak load of 36 cu.m/hr.

To compute for the fuel required in one (1) hr to operate the engine at max load, the total energy required was first be computed, thus

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Total Power required} &= \text{Total HP} \times 0.746 \text{ kW/HP} \\
 &= 5 \times 746 \\
 &= 3.730 \text{ kW} \quad \text{or} \quad 3.730 \text{ kJ/s} \\
 \text{Total Energy required} &= \text{Total kJ/s} \times 3600 \text{ s} \\
 &= 13,428 \text{ kJ}
 \end{aligned}$$

To get the amount of fuel required

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Total fuel required} &= \text{Total Energy} / \text{Efficiency} / \text{Calorific Value} \\
 &= [13,428 \text{ kJ}] / [0.205] / [45,000 \text{ kJ/kg}] \\
 &\quad \times [0.7489 \text{ kg/l}] \\
 &= 1.944 \text{ liters}
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it requires 1.944 liters of fuel to produce 36 cubic meters or 0.534 liters of fuel to produce 1 cubic meter of water. In one year the total cost

pump all the required 1225.8 liters shall be 1225.8 x 47 Pesos = 57,612 Pesos.

Irrigation costs using conventional methods

A year table were generated to determine the cash flow. The following were assumed:

On year 1

- Purchase of water pump and accessories
- Maintenance cost
- Fuel cost
- Manpower

On year 2 to 20

- Maintenance cost
- Fuel cost
- Manpower

It will be assumed that there will be an additional investment required from year 2 to 20. After year 20, the pump and accessories shall be considered to be fully depreciated and will have no value. The table below summarizes the computation, with the costs in year 2-20 reflected as present values with to inflation rate factored in. To be able to compare the "production cost" the cost of pumping one cubic meter of water were determined.

Table 5. Cash flow analysis on the usage of gasoline-fueled water pump over 1 hectare of land

Description	Expense Cost	
	Year 1	Year 2-20
Gasoline pump	15000.00	
Water Tank	0.00	
Manpower	9400.00	9400.00
Accessories	2000.00	
Maintenance Cost	500.00	500.00
Fuel Cost	57612.00	57612.00
Total	84152.00	67512.00
Total Cost for 20 years		1367240
Total water pumped for 20 years		251160
Cost per m ³ pumped, PHP		5.44

Based on the table above, the cost of pumping one cubic meter of water is PHP 5.44, factoring in all equipment, fuel, maintenance cost, and manpower.

Irrigation costs Solar water pump

Irrigation using a solar water pump requires infrastructure to be constructed at the site. This requires an installation of a solar water pump facility, a shed with installed solar panels, and a water storage facility located at the higher elevation side of the land, with the water dispatch shall be done through gravity.

To size up the solar water pump, the maximum water requirement throughout the year was determined. Based on the table showing water requirements, the month of December shows the highest demand at 360 liters. Determining the daily average output,

Daily output required

$$= 360 \text{ m}^3/30 \text{ days} = 60 \text{ m}^3 \text{ per day}$$

Assuming around 4 sun hours per day, the required capacity was 15 cubic meters per hour. Based on the manufacturer specification below the following type were picked

DC pump model: 4JTSC15/70-D72/1300
 Pump power: 1300w
 Water flow 15 m³/hr
 Water head 78m

Table 6. Sample of Catalog of DC solar pumps of [greensunsolar brand]

DC Pump Model	Pump Power (watt)	Water Flow (m ³ /h)	Water Head (m)	Outlet (inch)	Weight (kg)
3JTS (T)1.0/30-D24/80	80	1.0	30	0.75"	7
3JTS (T)1.5/80-D24/210	210	1.5	80	0.75"	7.5
3JTS (T)2.3/80-D48/750	750	2.3	80	0.75"	9
4JTS3.0/60-D36/500	500	3	60	1.0"	10
4JTS3.8/95-D72/1000	1000	3.8	95	1.0"	13.5
4JTS4.2/110-D72/1300	1300	4.2	110	1.0"	14
3JTSC6.5/80-D72/1000	1000	6.5	80	1.25"	14.5
3JTSC7.0/140-D192/1800	1800	7.0	140	1.25"	17.5
3JTSC7.0/180-D216/2200	2200	7.0	180	1.25"	15.5
4JTSC15/70-D72/1300	1300	15	70	2.0"	14

4JTSC22/90-D216/3000	3000	22	90	2.0"	14
4JTSC25/125-D380/5500	5500	25	125	2.0"	16.5
6JTSC35/45-D216/2200	2200	35	45	3.0"	16
6JTSC33/101-D380/7500	7500	33	101	3.0"	22.5
6JTSC68/44-D380/5500	5500	68	44	4.0"	23.5
6JTSC68/58-D380/7500	7500	68	58	4.0"	25

Assuming that water irrigation shall only happen during the daytime to maximize solar power, irrigation time shall be considered to be 6 am - 5 pm. This is to maximize the full potential of the solar pump while minimizing storage size.

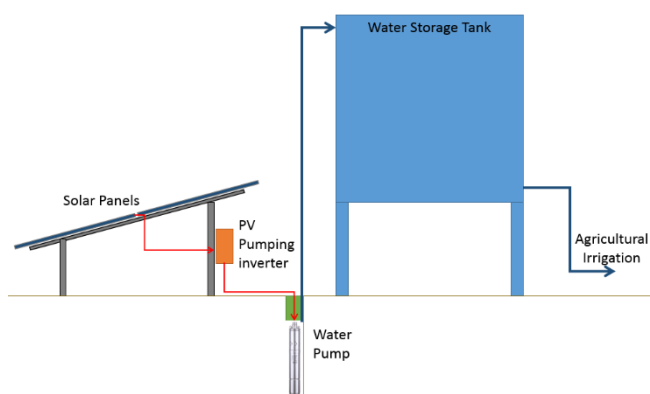


Figure 1. Equipment Design

Method of Construction:

1. Mounting Structure of the PV Modules: the frame shall be made with 1"x1" angle bar with the PV modules to face south, azimuth at zero degrees, tilted at a 15-degree angle.
2. Frame feet shall be made of concrete ballast or to be rammed into the ground. Concrete ballast volume shall be determined in the study based on the uplift forces caused by high wind surges. If rammed, the depth shall be established to counter high wind uplift forces.
3. The storage tank shall be made concrete with waterproofing liners. It will be preferable to be located in the higher elevation side of the farm and slightly elevated to around 1m.
4. Inverter Location: the Inverter pump to be used shall usually be IP65-rated. However,

Inverters shall be placed underneath the PV modules.

5. Electrical wiring: DC cables shall be XLPE type, 4-6mm² size.
6. For the water tank size, a series of the simulation was made to determine the optimal storage size. The figure below shows that a 30L storage capacity is ideal for the situation. Water tank cost shall be conservatively estimated at PHP 50,000.
7. Figure 2 shows the external dimension of the water tank, slightly elevated by 1 meter with a water volume capacity of 30 cubic meters.

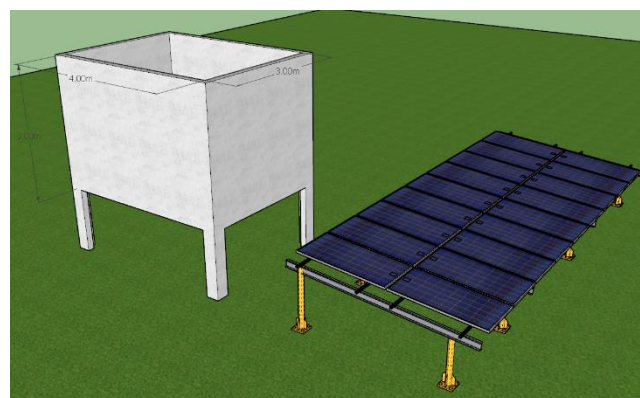


Figure 2. Water tank dimensions

In the Figure 3, the curve was modelled based on a 30-liter storage tank. It is shown that the tank capacity dips to only 5 liters by 11 AM, leaving room for uncertainties in the weather and water requirement. The tank shall be full be around 2 pm. Usage and water pump will stop at about 6-7 pm and will retain 25-liter water in the tank.

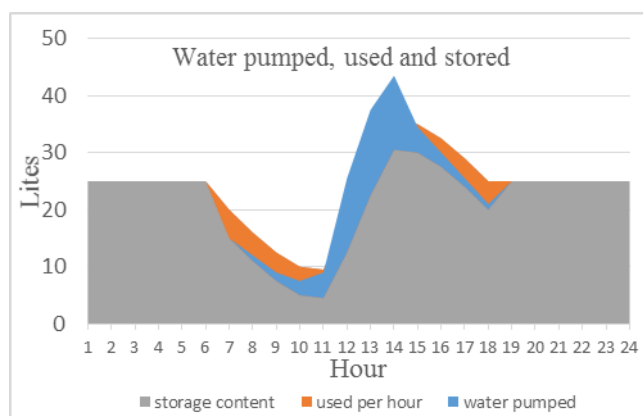


Figure 3. Water storage pumped in and used over 24 hour period

For the water flow, assuming that the irrigation system shall use a single 2" pipe tubing, water volume output is computed based on the law of conservation of energy.

Volume of flow

$$= \text{cross section area of pipe} \times \text{water speed}$$

For maximum water speed

$$v = \sqrt{2gh}$$

$$= 7 \text{ m/s or } 25200 \text{ m/hr}$$

For maximum Volume flow

$$Q = (\pi d^2) / 4 \times v$$

$$= 3.14 \times 0.0508^2 / 4 \times 25200$$

$$= 51 \text{ cubic meter /hr}$$

This would indicate that the maximum volume flow that can be achieved is above the required flow of 11 cubic meters per second

For the number of PV modules, the quantity were based on the pump capacity of 1100W. The current performance ratio of solar PV installations is at 70-80%. Using conservative PR of 70%, the required size is

Required PV installation size

$$= \text{Pump capacity} / \text{estimated PR}$$

$$= 1100W / .7$$

$$= 1571W$$

The typical size in the market right now is 305-315Wp Polycrystalline modules. Using 5 x 315Wp = 1575Wp capacity of modules, it will be more than sufficient to run the 1100W DC pump. The PV modules shall be installed in a steel racking system with the modules tilted 15 degrees facing south.

Table 7. Cash flow analysis on the usage of solar water pump over 1 hectare of land

Description	Expense Cost	
	Year 1	Year 2-20
PV pump, wiring,	40000.00	
PV Solar modules 315Wp x 5	40000.00	
PV racking system	10000.00	
Water Tank 30L	50000.00	9400.00
Manpower	9400.00	9400.00
Accessories	2000.00	
Maintenance Cost	500.00	500.00
Fuel Cost	0	0

Total	84152.00	67512.00
Total Cost for 20 years		340000
Total water pumped for 20 years		251160
Cost per m ³ pumped, PHP		1.35

Based on the table above, it shows that the cost of producing one cubic meter of water is only PHP 1.35.

Conclusion and recommendation

The study showed that common crops in Ilocos Sur like rice and corn could be alternately be planted to be able to maximize the full potential of the land. This, in turn, would be able to optimize the use of the water pump, whether gasoline or solar pump.

With the gasoline pump usage turning out to be low cost at the beginning but with high operating and maintenance cost, the opposite goes for the solar pump. Solar pumps have a high upfront cost but little to no maintenance cost. As a result of this study, the use of a solar pump is cheaper in the long run. In the 20-year life of both equipment, pumping one cubic meter of water using a solar pump is only PHP 1.35 while for gasoline, it is PHP 5.44 or around four times more expensive.

Acknowledgement

The authors would like to thank the Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College for the financial support to this research. The first and third authors would also like to thank the second author for the additional financial and technical support for the completion of this paper.

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