International Journal of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences
ISSN: XXXX-XXXX | Volume 1 Issue 1, 29-38, July-September 2025
DOI: https://doi.org/10.64137/XXXXXXXX/IJAES-V1I1P104

Received: 06/08/2025 Revised: 19/08/2025 Accepted: 07/09/2025 Published: 25/09/2025

Original Article

Impact of Controlled Environment Agriculture on Urban Food Systems: A Data-Driven Analysis

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ABSTRACT: *The development of controlled environment agriculture has become a major solution to food worries in cities, unstable weather and a lack of resources. This paper analyzes CEA's role from a data-oriented angle within the context of urban food systems. We study CEA farming types, including hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics and measure how they outperform and match traditional agriculture in terms of efficiency, ease of scaling and sustainability. The fields of statistical and machine learning were applied to a dataset made up of energy, crop production, water use and factor analysis for the economy. The research also investigates how CEA technology can fit with existing city infrastructure and finds out what outcomes this, if widespread, can bring to society and the economy. The experiment shows that CEA systems give up to a 90% larger output using only 95% less water per square meter. Furthermore, when food doesn't have to travel as far, CEA farms produce less carbon and keep their food fresher. Finally, we make recommendations and suggest urban planning approaches that help CEAs fit smoothly into smart cities. The research points out that data is crucial for creating the right urban agriculture policies and improving food security as places become urbanized.*

KEYWORDS: *Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA), Urban food systems, Smart cities, Hydroponics, Data analysis, Sustainability, Vertical farming, Food security, Urban planning.*

1. INTRODUCTION

More and more cities globally are struggling to meet rising food needs, as fast urbanization, climate change and less fertile land place greater pressure on conventional agriculture. As cities become bigger, the gap between where food is produced and where it is bought grows, which means longer and more risky supply chains, more costly transport and a higher impact on the environment. Due to climate change, unusual weather appears, droughts happen, and soil quality goes down, all of which make it difficult for traditional farming to keep giving consistent and sustainable results. To meet these needs, Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) has appeared as an alternative way to grow food in the city, using technology. [1-4] Within CEA, you'll find new techniques like growing plants hydroponically in water, aeroponically through mist, aquaponically using fish and hydroponics and with vertical farming, where crops are stacked for maximum use of space. Because everything like temperature, light, humidity and nutrients is managed in CEA, farmers can plant all year, see higher crop yields, use less water and waste less land. In this way, less agricultural land is needed, and people in cities can get their food locally, therefore reducing both the amount of wasted food and carbon released. As cities look for ways to sustainably feed more people, CEA is an effective, scalable and innovative approach to updating urban farming and providing better food security under pressure from the environment and population growth.

1.1. IMPACT OF CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT AGRICULTURE

1.1.1. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

With CEA, there are many advantages environmentally, as resources are optimized and waste is minimized. These closed-loop methods make it possible to reduce water use by up to 80% more than is used in regular farming. With CEA, fewer pesticides and herbicides are needed, as plants are grown indoors where they cannot affect the soil with chemicals. As well, making food in cities shortens the distances food travels and helps lower greenhouse gas emissions linked to transportation. Still, producing more energy for lighting and temperature control contributes to environmental issues, so it's vital to link with renewables to make facilities more sustainable.

1.1.2. ECONOMIC IMPACT

In city and high-density areas with restricted land and water, CEA has revealed major economic value because demand for fresh produce continues to rise. More harvest per acre and speedy crop growth help farmers achieve better profits. Although starting out and running a greenhouse is not without expenses, the better energy usage and all-season production often help businesses make a good profit. CEA also opens up fresh market options for green jobs, new technologies, and effectively supports homegrown supply chains, both for the urban setting and local residents.

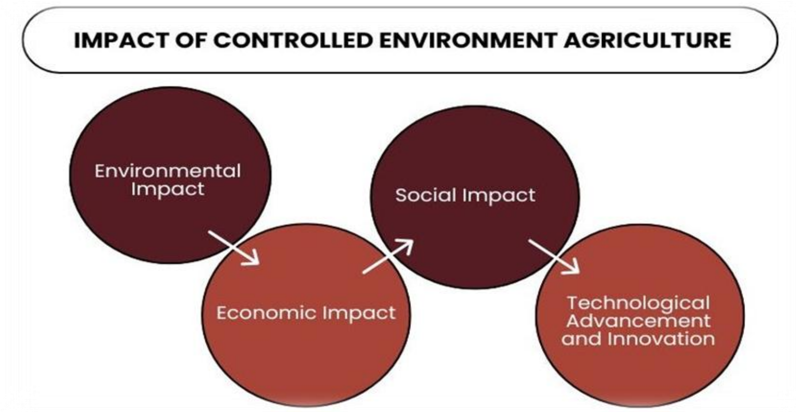

FIGURE 1 Impact of controlled environment agriculture

1.1.3. SOCIAL IMPACT

CEA innovations affect social areas beyond the production of food. With CEA, urban farms give people in underserved regions the chance to buy healthy, nearby produce. It can help people become healthier, and the entire community will benefit. On top of this, CEA projects work to increase understanding of sustainable agriculture while acting as useful places for communities to gather. In addition, employment at urban farms can help with local improvements, mainly in neighborhoods that are less privileged.

1.1.4. TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT AND INNOVATION

CEA helps drive new technologies in agriculture by linking IoT, AI and automation to farming. Monitoring and studying data on the go makes it possible to keep conditions right for the plants, increase efficiency and boost productivity. Thanks to new technological advancements, making solar energy more affordable and solid is now possible. Additionally, advances in energy efficiency, adding renewables and nutrient delivery are helping make urban farming a better option for cities.

1.2. URBAN FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGES

Reliable and fair access to healthy food is a big concern for most urban areas. Many neighborhoods around the world are unable to provide residents with affordable and healthy food. Lack of fresh produce retailers means many desert dwellers eat processed foods, which can cause obesity and malnutrition. The supply of food from rural areas to cities through various steps in urban food systems is the main characteristic discussed by experts. Because of the length of today's supply networks, they can be affected by many problems such as transportation failures, price changes and severe weather events. For these reasons, urban residents often have fewer food options and pay higher prices, especially when disasters or international conflicts change the supply of food. CEA presents possible ways to address urban food security by helping produce food locally within cities. When hydroponics, aeroponics and vertical farming are part of urban infrastructure, such as rooftops, vacant lots and warehouses, cities can provide fresh, nutritious foods even in unpleasant weather.

Making organic food more accessible in cities significantly decreases "food miles" and results in fewer greenhouse gases, as well as farmers supplying goods locally to shops. This process also improves how urban food systems resist difficulties as they become less dependent on supplies that may be blocked by supply chain issues. Urban farms can help by keeping the supply steady and stopping prices from spiking during crises. In addition, because CEA systems can be expanded and changed, they can support healthy food interventions in areas where access to nutritious food is limited. Other than providing food, urban agriculture can unite the community, offer classes and help people get jobs, thereby contributing to stronger food security. Tackling issues of both access to land and societal factors allows CEA in cities to play a key role in supporting more sustainable, strong and fair food systems in growing cities.

2. LITERATURE SURVEY

2.1. EVOLUTION OF URBAN AGRICULTURE

In the past century, urban agriculture has developed from small community and roof gardens to today's advanced systems for commercial growing. During times of food shortage, urban farming has supplied people with added food options in the past, including wars and periods of recession. [5-9] Over the past several years, it rose again due to problems stemming from crowding in cities, not enough food and environmental issues. Today's urban farmers use vertical farming and smart greenhouses, which utilize less space and make farming more efficient. It shows that farming is now recognized as important for sustainable growth in cities, moving from being only a means of scraping by.

2.2. CEA TECHNOLOGIES

Several sophisticated methods for growing crops indoors make up Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA). With hydroponics, people grow plants in water that contains nutrients, which replaces the need for soil. This concept is brought further by aeroponics, which suspends plant roots in the air and sprays them with nutrients, creating efficiency and helping save water. In aquaponics, nutrients for the plants come from fish as their wastewater and the plants keep the water clean for the fish. In vertical farming, different systems are built on top of each other to allow for a high amount of harvesting per square foot. All of these techniques are a big improvement over traditional farming for sustainability and resource use.

2.3. COMPARATIVE STUDIES

Comparative research on urban agriculture technologies has examined how much water is used, what yields are achieved and the amount of energy these tools require. Conventional soil-based agriculture needs about 300 liters of water for each kilogram of produce and only produces 4 kg per square meter each year. Unlike hydroponics, soil farming needs many times more water (45 L/kg) for each kilogram of output, yet yields less than one-quarter (25 kg/m²/year). Aeroponics saves about 25 liters of water per kilo and can grow up to 30 kg per square meter each year, but it takes about 2.5 kilowatt hours per kilogram. Aquaponics uses moderate resources and gives farmers the benefit of producing fish. According to these studies, CEA systems produce more with less effort, even though they also need more energy resources.

2.4. SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

People are now realizing more and more that urban agriculture and CEA systems play a big role in city economies and communities. Many local jobs have been created by urban farms, mainly in farming, delivering products and managing the technology used in these projects. Besides, they help people become more involved by offering educational events, allowing anyone to be a volunteer and supporting local food networks. They unite the community and allow everyone to have decent-quality fresh vegetables. Food systems based locally help the region's economy by reducing the need for food imported from outside and encouraging entrepreneurship within cities.

2.5. POLICY FRAMEWORKS

The growth and achievement of urban agriculture depend greatly on helpful public policies. There are a variety of rules and incentives put in place by Singapore, Tokyo and New York to motivate urban farming. Singapore has made urban agriculture a part of its food security plan and provides both grants and opportunities for flexible zoning. Tokyo funds rooftop and indoor farming with subsidies and helps people learn about it. To support new farms, New York City offers both urban agriculture offices and programs that improve access to land. Still, there are difficulties such as ongoing regulatory confusion, disputes over land and problems with infrastructure. Research shows that urban agriculture in cities gets better results when policies tailor both support for growth and flexible but solid regulations.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1. DATA COLLECTION

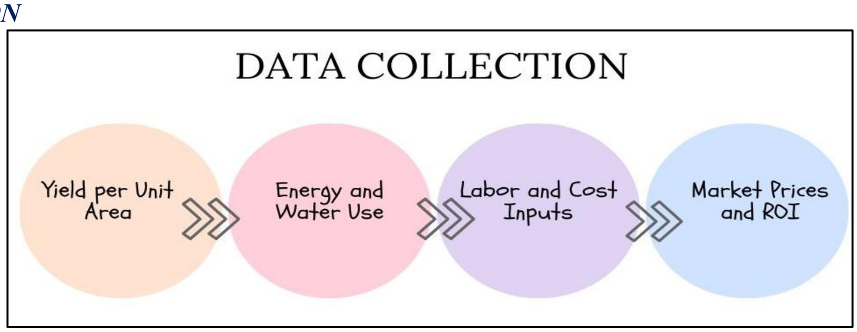

FIGURE 2 Data collection

During two years, data for this report were collected from five working urban farms using various controlled environment agriculture (CEA) approaches. [10-14] Different urban areas were chosen for these farms to include many kinds of urban agriculture practices. Certain key performance indicators were tracked in the data to understand how urban farming systems perform and operate.

3.1.1. YIELD PER UNIT AREA

The quantity grown per square meter was a main factor used to assess the productivity of each urban farm. The yield was reported in terms of kg/m²/year. Thanks to the data, it was possible to compare farming methods such as hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics to see which produced the greatest results in small city spaces. Consistent observation of the crops allowed experts to see when seasons change and how technologies might affect growth.

3.1.2. ENERGY AND WATER USE

Energy and water use were tracked to see whether each farm was sustainable from an environmental point of view. All energy use was noted as kWh for the lighting, temperature controls and pumps. The amount of water needed was compared in liters to every kilogram of produce. The indicators helped show how efficient each CEA system was and pointed out where improvements might be made.

3.1.3. LABOR AND COST INPUTS

Labor hours per crop cycle were used to quantify labor, while costs for equipment, supplies, electricity, water and upkeep made up the financial inputs. Drawing from these data, we could better see the needs and costs of running all the various farming systems. It allowed management to notice tasks that require a lot of work and areas where expenses could be lower.

3.1.4. MARKET PRICES AND ROI

Information about current prices was gathered through sales at farmers' markets, stores and also from subscription services. Thanks to yield and cost data, the calculation of the ROI for every farm was possible. It was ROI that helped show how the profit and competitive position of urban farming firms changed under real conditions.

3.2. ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK

To examine all kinds of data we got from urban farms, we used various analysis techniques. By merging well-known statistical approaches with modern data science solutions, the authors made the model both interpretable and capable of prediction. The focus was to collect useful data about how urban farming worked, how effective it was and how sustainable it remained.

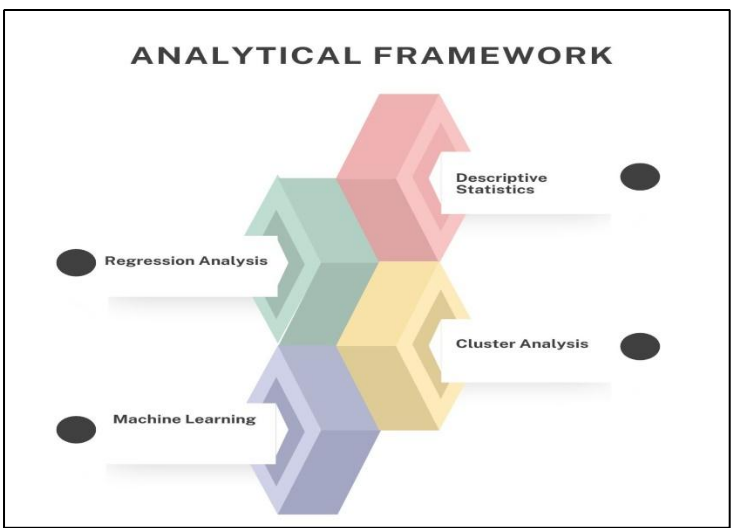

FIGURE 3 Analytical framework

3.2.1. DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

First, descriptive statistics were used to look at the data overall and find its main tendencies and how spread out it is. Relevant details such as yield, energy, water use and cost were summarized by using the mean, median and standard deviation. Thanks to these statistics, I learned about how the data was spread out and was able to spot both outliers and anomalies, highlighting how each farm usually performed.

3.2.2. REGRESSION ANALYSIS

We used regression analysis to connect the input variables with the output variable in order to study the yields. It allowed us to predict yields relying on factors we can adjust or control. The regression models also pointed out which factors matter most for productivity, which directed future plans for improving urban farms.

3.2.3. CLUSTER ANALYSIS

Recipes for clustering were run to organize farms displaying comparable characteristics. By applying k-means and hierarchical clustering to unsupervised learning, similar profiles for yield, resources and ROI were used to sort farms into groups. By looking at all the farms, trends and performance groups that are less visible when analyzing single farms, it was discovered which made it easier to compare best practices within similar farming models.

3.2.4. MACHINE LEARNING

In order to create energy consumption models, techniques such as random forests and support vector machines were applied, using variables such as farm ecosystem, main crops and associated structures as data. Besides making predictions more accurate, these models helped understand the complexity of how different variables are related. It reflects a fresh way to think about and handle energy use in urban agriculture for the future.

3.3. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

Five pilot urban farms were used, each farm using a particular Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) method—hydroponics, aeroponics, aquaponics, vertical farming and a pending hybrid one. To make the study reliable, the farms were chosen so they represented many different urban conditions and areas. To enable comparison, every farm was equipped with consistent production modules. The methods and technology, however, varied based on which CEA was in use. All the sites were selected and outfitted with IoT sensors and automation equipment so their surroundings remained consistent. Each sensor watched over temperature, humidity, CO_2 and light levels within the air. Because of real-time data, the farm team could control growing conditions accurately, which is important for both plant health and higher yield in CEA.

The farm's climate control handled the levels of light, air and water for every plant based on what the sensors detected. Using the environmental data, managers could direct their work and make future predictions. Additional information included energy and water use, tracked by digital metering and crop data that was both written down and identified using technology that processes images. The efficiency of resource inputs was checked by keeping track of all labor hours and operational expenses. Thanks to standard monitoring and regular data capture on each farm, the experiment captured a lot of detailed information. With this data, it was possible to finely compare different CEA methods and introduce statistical and machine learning models for looking at sustainability, productivity and profits in urban farming.

3.4. FLOWCHART OF METHODOLOGY

Research was conducted step-by-step to analyze urban agriculture systems supported by CEA technologies thoroughly and properly. The five major steps in constructing a flow chart are: gathering the data, checking the data, using statistics, running a machine learning model and analyzing the outcomes. Every stage builds on what came before to produce useful results and practical recommendations.

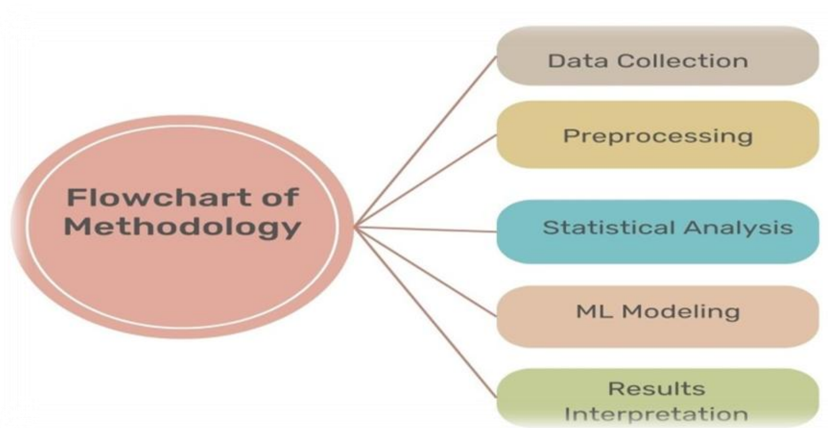

FIGURE 4 Flowchart of methodology

3.4.1. DATA COLLECTION
Gathering basal data by observing five pilot urban farms for two years. The project checked the yield, power used, amount of water needed, manpower, operating costs and current prices. In addition, sensors kept track of important environmental factors like temperature, humidity and light available to the plants all the time. All remaining analyses rested on the multi-dimensional dataset.

3.4.2. PREPROCESSING
Raw data from several sources was preprocessed to guarantee that they were of high quality and uniform. At this stage, I fixed missing or strange entries, converted number types to the same unit and coded categories. Anomalies in the dataset were identified statistically and either fixed or eliminated to ensure the analysis stayed true to the data. Also, time-series data was gathered into intervals that made sense for the analysis.

3.4.3. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
The data was studied using both descriptive and inferential statistics to estimate possible patterns. Mean, median, variance and standard deviation made it easier to summarize important features and regression analysis was used to see the links between energy and water use on the one hand and yield and ROI on the other. This step gave us helpful results and prepared the way for using advanced models.

3.4.4. ML MODELING
Predictive models were formed using machine learning, with regression trees, support vector machines and random forests playing a part. These models attempted to predict both the energy offered as input and the performance of the system, depending on various inputs and factors. Using cross-validation methods on the ML models made it possible to confirm both their accuracy and the ability to generalize.

3.4.5. RESULTS INTERPRETATION
We ended the process by understanding the results from both the statistical and machine learning methods. The main findings were connected with the larger aims of making urban agriculture sustainable and profitable. Using these findings, suggestions for farm operators and policymakers were developed to guide decisions about using technology, managing resources and designing systems.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
4.1. CROP YIELD ANALYSIS
It became clear during the analysis that CEA, especially hydroponic and aeroponic methods, performed better than traditional agriculture. Aeroponics topped the other systems on all five pilot farms, achieving a yearly average of 30 kg per m^2, a very high output. On average, hydroponic farms produced 25 kg per square meter each year. They show a significant difference from traditional open-field urban farming, which could produce just 4 kg/m^2/year. Aquaponic systems allow growing plants and fish together, and results indicate that 20 kg can be yielded per square metre every year. The strong results obtained from hydroponic and aeroponic systems depend mainly on the favorable and controlled environment they provide for crop cultivation. Such systems depend on automatic environmental management that controls temperature, moisture, light levels and nutrients, all tracked and updated instantly using IoT sensors.

Because of this accuracy, stress on the plants is lowered, the cycle of growing takes less time, and their harvesting happens more often. Moreover, the ability to control the environment means farmers can produce crops all year long, always preserving high efficiency. Because of this, it is possible to predict and plan food supplies in cities more accurately, thanks to reduced weather-related changes in farming output. Besides, a vertical arrangement in certain hydroponic and aeroponic systems helps growers use multiple layers and get extra yield for each square foot. Having better use of space is useful in cities because land can be scarce and pricey. All in all, the results prove that CEA technologies have a major chance of helping cities meet their food needs while working sustainably and providing more dependable harvests than traditional farms.

4.2. WATER AND ENERGY USE
Improvements in water efficiency were seen by using CEA technologies. Aeroponics has nearly cut water use by 92%, while hydroponics comes in at 85% and then aquaponics at 83%. Yet, the positives included more energy use because of the need for lighting, indoor heating and cooling. On average, vertical farms needed 300–350% more energy than other current farming methods. The balance between using less water and more energy is crucial in deciding if urban agriculture can last for a long time.

4.2.1. WATER EFFICIENCY IN CEA TECHNOLOGIES
CEA technologies have been proven to save significant amounts of water, more than traditional farming. Using aeroponics, which sprays nutrients onto plant roots, allowed firms to save as much as 92% on water. Most of this decrease happens because the

system's airtight design collects lost water and reduces both evaporation and runoff. Around 85% of water was saved by using hydroponics, a method for growing plants in enriched water. When combined with aquaponics, scaled-up hydroponics reported water savings of 83%. These water savings are vital in cities which now struggle more with both water shortages and policies to limit demand.

4.2.2. ENERGY CONSUMPTION IN URBAN FARMS

Even though CEA systems use less water, they use more energy to do so. Higher energy utilization for artificial light, controlling the climate and pumping water makes indoor farming much more expensive than outdoor farming. Maintaining optimal conditions in a vertical farm calls for 150 to 200% more energy than traditional farms because simulating nature with lighting and heating takes a lot of energy. As cities use more energy for urban farming, issues related to the environment and money management appear, which require more renewable energy and better energy use.

4.2.3. TRADE-OFFS BETWEEN WATER AND ENERGY USE

Comparing how much energy is used against how much water is saved when using CEA is important for judging these systems' sustainability. Although saving water helps cities and saves farm costs, the more energy used from fossil fuels could limit the farms' efforts to help the environment. For this reason, supporting urban agriculture requires finding innovations to handle these resource inputs using sustainable and energy-efficient technology. It is important for stakeholders interested in the growth of urban farming to understand how both sides can be balanced.

4.3. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

According to the comparison study, using hydroponics had an average 18% return on investment over the next two years of operation. The reason for this was that they produced much food with less water, were easy to grow on a large scale and remained productive year after year. Although aeroponics was next, it had more expensive setup costs thanks to the needed misting system. Though aquaponics gives you plants and fish, it returns a moderate profit and requires more know-how to manage its biology. Sales for traditional systems fell when markets or seasons changed and gave low returns.

TABLE 1 Economic analysis

Metrics	Improvements
Hydroponics ROI and Financial Advantages	18%
Aeroponics ROI and Cost Considerations	15%
Aquaponics ROI and Operational Complexity	12%
Traditional Farming ROI and Limitations	3%

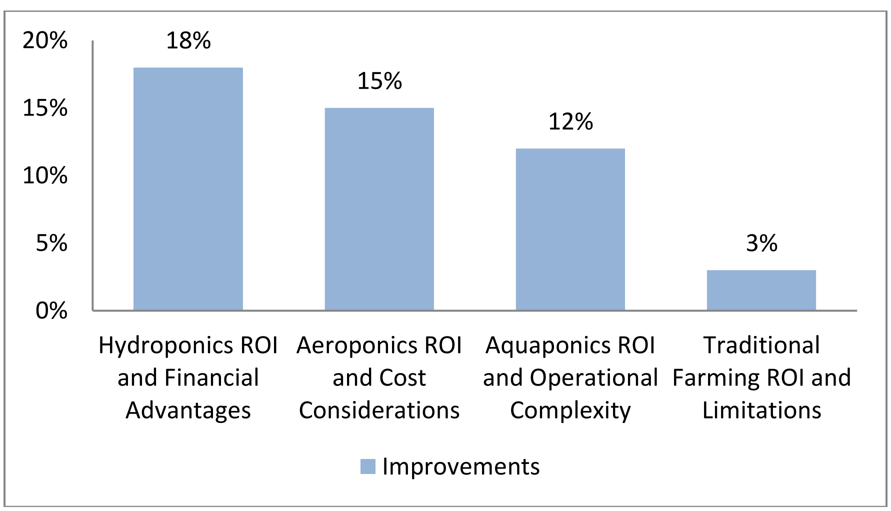

FIGURE 5 Graph representing economic analysis

4.3.1. HYDROPONICS ROI AND FINANCIAL ADVANTAGES

Hydroponic systems delivered the most financial benefit compared to the CEA methods examined, with an average ROI of 18% achieved in only two years. It's because these companies produce consistent high yields while using much less water, which cuts down on the overall costs. What's more, hydroponics systems can be adjusted to fit many urban spaces and are easy for producers to expand. Because it is economical to start and operate, hydroponics is an attractive farming method for cities.

4.3.2. AEROPONICS ROI AND COST CONSIDERATIONS

Even more impressive than that of hydroponics, aeroponics systems achieved a reasonable 15% ROI, thanks to their increase in yield due to being fed through mist. Nevertheless, because the tech needs advanced systems such as misting equipment and climate control, investing in this field costs more upfront. Although energy is used wisely, the initial costs might lengthen the time needed to recover the investment. Besides, keeping an aeroponic system working requires special knowledge that may add extra costs for handling. Still, because of its positive results, choosing aeroponics may be a bit costlier, but it is still considered promising.

4.3.3. AQUAPONICS ROI AND OPERATIONAL COMPLEXITY

Aquaponics produced a good, moderate ROI of around 12% because it brings in cash from farming plants and raising fish. Although farm management like this helps the business by adding new income sources and cutting waste, it also brings biological challenges. It takes experience and close attention to water, fish health and nutrient levels to look after the relationship between fish and plants. Due to these factors, both wages and general operational risks can rise, cutting down on the firm's ability to expand. Because of that, aquaponics is a better match for people who understand fish farming or are prepared to handle the technical aspects.

4.3.4. TRADITIONAL FARMING ROI AND LIMITATIONS

Traditional techniques for city farming brought about the lowest rate of return of 3%, mostly because these methods are less productive and more easily shaken by the weather and by market trends. Soil farming outside is easily damaged by different weather and is frequently the source of pest outbreaks that may produce irregular quantities and ruin crops. In addition, using traditional methods usually results in higher resource costs because more water and land are taken up by each unit of output. As a result, returns from traditional urban farming are often less stable and less profitable, so CEA technology outperforms it.

4.4. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The LCA analysis for the systems pointed out that CEA practices led to a substantial reduction in the environmental impact. Because hydroponic and aeroponic farming have shorter supply chains and energy-saving distribution methods, they create less carbon pollution than other approaches. Also, since the areas were clean and controlled, pesticides didn't need to be used because pests were rare. Reusing wastewater and not contaminating soil helped to raise their sustainability rating.

4.4.1 LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

A Life Cycle Assessment reveals that the environmental effects of controlled environment farming are much less than those of traditional farming. For this assessment, we accounted for resources such as energy, water and inputs, along with results including emissions and waste throughout the entire process. It was found that hydroponics and aeroponics technologies supported by CEA had a smaller impact on the environment, mainly because they use resources efficiently, and most food is produced close to the consumer.

4.4.2. CARBON EMISSIONS AND SUPPLY CHAIN EFFICIENCY

Reduced carbon emissions were seen for hydroponic and aeroponic systems, mainly because local, shorter supply chains are used in these urban models. Eating close to the farm reduces most parts of regular food transportation, including processing and packaging. In addition, using energy-efficient ways to grow and LED lights further made the farm more environmentally friendly. Even so, extra energy to cool or heat rooms can offset some of the benefits the industry offers to the environment.

4.4.3. PESTICIDE REDUCTION IN CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENTS

The use of pesticides is either greatly reduced or removed in CEA. Because hydroponic and aeroponic farms are closed and controlled, they have few pests, so growers do not use strong chemical pesticides as in open fields. Lowering chemical runoff into soil and water bodies also results in safer foods made of pesticide-free crops. These types of systems are a good response to the rising interest in sustainable and organic foods.

4.4.4. WASTEWATER RECYCLING AND SOIL CONSERVATION

CEA systems help protect the environment by making it possible to reuse wastewater and keep soil cleaner. With closed-loop irrigation systems, water is used twice and returns to the field, helping to save fresh water and stop nutrient pollution of nearby water bodies. Besides, not using soil in hydroponics and aeroponics addresses many of the soil destruction, erosion and pollution problems typically found in common farming methods. Using this method keeps urban green spaces safe while cutting down the ecological impact of food production in the city.

4.5. URBAN INTEGRATION POTENTIAL

The results suggest that Controlled Environment Agriculture systems can fit well into crowded areas, encouraging cities to shift how they produce local food. Urban agriculture could expand a lot by turning rooftops and unused warehouses into working farms. By using current real estate rather than land, they address the main problem of urban farming: not enough space. Farming on the roofs of unused flat-topped buildings allows for growing produce, controlling building temperatures and transforming warehouses into big areas suitable for vertical farming out of reach from bad weather. IoT technologies and AI play a major role in helping urban farms succeed. With the Internet of Things, sensors monitor the temperature, humidity, light and nutrients in the environment, sending the results to AI systems that help control climate and use resources efficiently. Because conditions are adjusted using data, farmers achieve better yields and protect the environment by cutting energy and water waste.

By using AI in predictive maintenance, faults in equipment can be detected, and it helps save both time and money. Such systems build a resistance to changes in the environment and human mistakes, allowing for reliable production in noisy urban settings. Besides, bringing CEA into urban planning supports wider efforts to make cities more sustainable. It backs circular economies by arranging for food to be sold locally, reducing how far it must be transported and helping to deal with waste by recovering nutrients. With community involvement, urban farms can offer food to local residents, provide employment and encourage people to interact. When CEA is woven into city development, it helps planners and policymakers achieve sustainability in food production, growing the economy, caring for the environment and promoting social inclusion in cities.

5. CONCLUSION

The study stresses the valuable role CEA can play in urban agriculture by promising to greatly increase what is produced and greatly decrease the amount of water used. Hydroponics, aeroponics and aquaponics help agriculture by removing traditional problems such as seasonal changes and location limitations, so crops can be grown in cities all year. When the supply chain is shorter, both freshness and a reduction in emissions linked to transportation and storage are improved. While all of these benefits are recognized, the study also points out that keeping the environment comfortable requires a great deal of energy, mainly for lighting and climate control. Instead, these problems give a good reason to incorporate solar or wind energy, which can help urban farms use less electricity and become more environmentally friendly. Certain problems with the present approaches to CEA were highlighted. Because advanced farm technology is so expensive, it can be tough for small-scale or community groups to use it. Moreover, because these systems depend on advanced technology, they can experience problems from equipment failure and bugs, so strong technical support and maintenance are needed. Because certain root and staple crops are still hard to grow in CEA, crop diversity in many systems is quite limited. This issue keeps the selection of produce for city consumers smaller and could affect what they eat each day.

Therefore, the study advises that policymakers set up special incentives for urban farmers to help them use CEA, for example, by providing them with grants, tax reductions or affordable loans. To make CEA economical and sustainable in the long run, it requires building greater renewable energy infrastructure. Urban planners should add CEAs into city layouts and rules to support smooth integration into all aspects of urban life, as a way to improve food provision and boost the local economy. Moving forward, future studies should work on better AI-controlled nutrient systems that use resources wisely in real time for greater harvest and effective use of plant nutrients. Blockchain use has the potential to improve openness in the supply chain and give consumers confidence in local urban produce. Other research exploring how CEAs shape urban settings can reveal information on urban job creation, fair access to food and how the community is able to withstand shocks, assisting in the inclusive growth of farming in urban areas. Integrating all these processes makes it possible for CEA to readily support future urban food environments.

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