

Table 3 Comparison of costs for various agricultural inputs between small and large producers for mixed cropping (per hectare)

Variables	Overall (N=90)	Small producer (N=50)	Large producer (N=40)	Mean difference	t-value	p-value
Mixed mini-tiller cost-NRs/ha	750 (1605.79)	739 (978.73)	759 (1980.13)	19.30	0.05	0.955
Mixed bullocks cost-NRs/ha	14577 (7355.06)	17042 (7874.74)	11497 (5293.36)	-5545.09***	-3.81	0.001
Mixed organic manure cost-NRs/ha	65048 (36679.25)	75819 (44586.32)	51585 (15424.48)	-24233.17***	-3.28	0.001
Mixed chemical fertilizer cost-NRs/ha	19711 (6968.24)	19594 (8309.16)	19857 (4901.36)	-0.002	0.00	1.00
Maize seed cost-NRs/ha	12544 (4774.77)	10787 (2380.97)	13949 (5688.70)	3162.58***	3.29	0.001
Mixed pesticide cost-NRs/ha	3073(1960.62)	3758 (2299.62)	2217 (878.61)	-1541.52***	-4.00	0.001
Mixed potato tuber cost-NRs/ha	24320 (13527.46)	21035 (4838.09)	26948 (1725.39)	5913.07	2.10	0.39
Mixed irrigation cost-NRs/ha	5210 (5143.46)	7591 (5884.01)	2235 (728.95)	-5355.37***	-5.71	0.001
Mixed transportation cost-NRs/ha	2504 (609.29)	2231 (285.33)	2722 (707.31)	-1245.47***	-11.83	0.001
Mixed storage cost-NRs/ha	1075 (861.84)	716 (623.83)	1362 (922.12)	645.64***	3.78	0.001
Mixed labour requirement cost-NRs/ha	44526 (26975.43)	27991(10097.99)	57755 (28961.42)	2976.13***	6.199	0.001

Note: *** indicate significant at 1% level