



New Technologies of Growing Rice for Higher Yield

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DESCRIPTION

Rice is one of the most popular foods in the world. It is an important cultural element in cuisines around the world, from Asia to Africa to the Americas. In fact, rice accounts for at least 20% of the daily calories of more than 3.5 billion people. Rice is also attractive, especially to the poor, because of its versatility, nutritional value and affordability to produce and purchase. To continue to provide this much-needed staple food for millions of people around the world, it is imperative that rice farming is efficient and productive. Here are some attempts to demonstrate how technology is improving rice production.

Boro rice, once commonly grown rice in Bangladesh, is becoming increasingly stressed due to the high levels of irrigation the country uses. Most of the popular Boro rice varieties are developed by the Bangladesh Rice Research Institute and are effective against farming in flooded areas.

Under these dire circumstances, scientists from Bangladesh Agricultural University have come up with an alternative method of growing Boro rice that could save time. This dry method requires only half the amount of water needed for the traditional clay method.

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is a global research organization that discovers and implements rice farming and production solutions to help end world hunger. One such initiative is the development of a useful product for rice production called Crop Manager. Crop Manager is a computer program designed to help rice farmers with tasks such as nutrient management and fertilizer selection.

Crop Manager is especially useful for poor farmers because of its simple method of disseminating information. The program provides information to farmers quickly and concisely through computer printouts and text messages. Thus, even farmers with only basic technology such as mobile phones or computers can access this advanced data and improve their agricultural productivity. The Crop Director is currently active in Bangladesh, India, Indonesia and the Philippines. IRRI is also committed to improving the rice crop itself. To do this, the organization embarked on the research and implementation of

the process of biochemistry: genetically modifying a crop to enhance its nutritional value. With this method, the beans have been genetically modified to provide more nutrients such as zinc and iron. This innovation is extremely useful for those who consume rice as a main part of their diet. More nutrient-rich rice could help poor families prevent diet-borne illnesses like iron-deficiency anemia, an extremely debilitating condition caused by low red blood cell counts.

Increasing agricultural productivity can be an important condition for achieving economic growth and development in developing countries, although the relationship between agricultural productivity and economic growth can be complex. Agricultural productivity growth can be achieved through the adoption of improved agricultural technology by farmers (e.g. high yielding diversity crops, genetically modified crops), as well as the provision of good agricultural extension services, facilitating access to credit, insurance and basic irrigation markets. All of these can not only lead to improved output, revenue, labor savings, efficiency and productivity, but also have environmental benefits (e.g. mitigation of climate change impacts). However, despite the potential benefits associated with the adoption of agricultural technological innovations, the relatively low level of adoption remains a development scourge in most developing countries, particularly in the developing world. Especially in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), where agriculture is the mainstay of the economy.

The rice-intensive system consists of growing rice with as much organic fertilizer as possible, starting with seedlings planted individually with wider spacing in squares; and with intermittent watering to keep the soil moist but not waterlogged, and regularly intercropped with a weed that has a positive aeration effect.

SRI is not a fixed and standardized technological method. Instead, it is a set of ideas, a methodology for overall resource management and conservation by changing the way soil, seeds, water, nutrients, and human labor are used. People to increase productivity from a small but well maintained number. As Father de Laulanié has observed, SRI is a combination of many beneficial practices.

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