

EFFECT OF DIRECT SEEDING TECHNIQUES AND TRANSPLANTING ON THE RIPENING AND KERNEL DEVELOPMENT IN COARSE RICE

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ABSTRACT

The effect of direct seeding techniques and transplanting was seen on the ripening and kernel development in coarse rice. Three sowing techniques i.e. broadcasting with hand, drilling with hand driven drill and transplanting and two rice varieties i.e. IR-6 and KSK-282 were included in the trial. It was found that transplanting proved to be most favourable for increasing panicle bearing tillers, spikelets per panicle, 1000-grain weight and paddy yield per plot. The percentage of abnormal kernels was also reduced in transplanting.

INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) the ancient food of the Asian world feeds more than half of the world's population today. It, being the major exportable commodity of Pakistan, plays an important role in its economy. In addition, it meets food requirements of the people and earns money for the farmer as a cash crop. On the international scene, after Thailand and USA, Pakistan is the 3rd biggest rice exporting country of the world. However, the average yields in Pakistan are considerably low (1741 kg/hectare) as compared with many rice growing countries of the world (Anonymous, 1983). The average yields of rice may be increased by different ways. One of these is the use of best sowing techniques. The common method of rice culture in Pakistan is by transplanting, which is a cumbersome method and entails lot of expenditure on raising nursery, its uprooting, transporting and transplanting in the fields whereas, in direct seeding, only 2 man hours are required