

Performance of transplanted scented rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) under different spacing and weed management regimes in southern Kerala

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Abstract

A field experiment to study the effects of spacing and weed management practices on transplanted scented rice ('Pusa Basmati 1') in the sandy clay loam soil of Vellayani during the winter season of 2001-'02 showed that adoption of 20 x 10 cm spacing and pre-emergence application of anilofos+2,4-D ethyl ester (0.40+0.53 kg ai ha⁻¹) at six days after transplanting supplemented with 2,4-D Na salt (1.0 kg ai ha⁻¹) at 20 days after transplanting generally favoured increased yield and net income. The benefitcost ratio for anilofos+2,4-D ethyl ester was 2.07 as against 0.93 for unweeded check. In addition, the weed flora consisting of *Echinochloa colona*, *Echinochloa crus-galli* and *Leersia hexandra* (grasses); *Cyperus iria*, *Cyperus difformis* and *Fimbristylis miliaceae* (sedges); and *Ludwigia parviflora* and *Monochoria vaginalis* (broad-leaf weeds), had considerably lower NPK uptake in the weed management treatments compared to unweeded plots.

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