TECHNICAL SHEET

Introduction to rice

Rice is a cereal of the Poaceae family and is grown in tropical, subtropical and warm temperate regions. It is rich in starch and is cultivated on land that is flooded. Rice (Oryza sp) plays a major role in the diet of rural and urban households in Africa and is a strategic and priority product for food security in developing countries (Seck et al, 2013 cited by Kouassi, 2019). According to the FAO1 (2016) cited by Kouassi (2019), rice is the most common cereal in the world after wheat, accounting for 20% of cereal consumption. It is consumed by more than half of the world's population with nearly 50 million consumers in Africa (Kouassi, 2019). There are several varieties of rice (Brown rice or brown rice, parboiled rice, white rice, long grain rice, short grain rice, etc.) in the world (Adégbola et al, 2014). Rice is of Asian origin but is now distributed on all five continents (Adégbola et al, 2014).



Rice cycle

Figure 1 : Rice cycle (source : Kouassi, 2019)

Production of rice in Ghana

Erratic rainfall pattern resulting from climate change limits productivity of rice fields because about 80% of rice fields in Northern Ghana are rainfed. Terminal drought is considered a major yield limiting factor in the region. CSIR-Banse rice; an early maturing variety (80-85 days), with adequate disease resistance and acceptable grain quality will help farmers escape the frequent terminal drought resulting from climate variability and late planting. C93 could also serve as a flood recession variety to help make use of residual moisture along the Volta river banks after flooding.

In addition, the rice industry in Ghana is booming. According to Owusu Afriyie Akoto (pictured), Minister of Food and Agriculture of Ghana, the grain harvest is expected to rise to 1.1 million tons. in 2021, 15.7% higher than last season (Agence Ecofin, 2021).

Targets of the technology

Rainfed lowland ecologies where the rainfall pattern is erratic. Suitable for direct seeding.

Area of application of the technology

Rainfed lowland ecologies where the rainfall pattern is erratic. Suitable for direct seeding.

Level of technology development or deployment

Fully developed technology being commercialized

Photo of the technology



Figure 2 : CSIR-Banse rice, a climate-smart hybrid rice variety

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