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Evaluation of traditional rice cultivars under various cultivation practices

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Abstract

A field experiment was carried out in wet land farms, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore during 2021-22 at *Navarai* season, to study the performance of traditional rice cultivars under various cultivation practices. The experiment was laid out in split plot design with two replications. The main plot consisted of three cultivation practices (organic practices, inorganic practices and control) and sub plots consisted of eleven rice cultivars. The data related to growth attributes, yield and yield attributes were collected and statistically analyzed. The organic cultivation practices showed better growth, yield attributes and yield in traditional cultivars than check (Co 51). All the traditional cultivars performed better under organic cultivation practices than inorganic and control. The higher grain and straw yield were noticed in C₁₁ (Co 51) about 3730 kg ha⁻¹ whereas among the traditional rice cultivars *Annamazhagi* (C₁) recorded maximum grain yield of 2712 kg ha⁻¹ and C₁₀-*Varappukudaichan* recorded significantly maximum straw yield of 7354 kg ha⁻¹. Meanwhile lower grain yield of 2122 kg ha⁻¹ noted in *Ottukitchili* (C₆) and lower straw yield of 5872 kg ha⁻¹ were observed in C₁₁ (Co 51) among traditional rice cultivars C₂-*Arupatham kuruvai* noted the lowest straw yield of 6005 kg ha⁻¹. The results revealed that all the ten Traditional rice cultivars were performed better and gave positive response under organic cultivation practices than inorganic and control practices. In order to usage of traditional cultivars and their importance, need in regular diet and consumption is still less, however, this study helps to produce organic and good quality traditional rice cultivars with proper cultivation practices to make them available to the market.

Keywords: Traditional rice cultivars, organic production package, Annamazhagi, Karuthakaar

Introduction

The most important necessity for maintaining human existence is food. If a person had wholesome nourishment, they would be able to survive even if they lacked clothing and shelter. More than half of the world's population relies on rice (*Oryza sativa* L.), an important agricultural crop, as their primary source of calories and protein on a daily basis. It provides around 21% of the world's total dietary calories, 14% of the protein and 14% of the fat (Kennedy and Burlingame, 2003) [5]. Paddy is available in a wide range of colours including black, brown, red and purple. For their health advantages, the colourful rice varieties are regarded as important. White rice that has been milled or polished contains less nutrition than unpolished rice with its bran. However, the fact that brown rice has important nutritious content, consumers prefer to eat polished white rice (Devi *et al.*, 2015) [3]. The Thirukkural, written by the renowned Tamil poet Thiruvalluvar, has the famous line, "To dump manure is better than to plough". Now days, food grown organically is becoming more and more in demand across the world. Organic farming has an objective to encouraging and enhancing the health, biodiversity and soil biological activities of agro-ecosystem (Chouichom and Yamao, 2010) [2]. Adoption of organic agriculture would help to mitigate the problems connected with input intensive conventional agriculture (Wheeler, 2008). Conventional farming has resulted in negative effect on the environment, presence of toxic residues in food and an overall reduction in quality of food which have resulted in more diseases.

Locally farmed rice cultivars (traditional varieties) have been proved the availability of high grain protein, carbohydrate and ash content (Fernando, 2013) [4]. Recent past, research on rice crop in the nation is mainly focused on improving yield, pest and disease resistance of crop, and lack of importance is given to cultivate the traditional rice varieties and evaluate its suitable season, management option for better establishment and production. With all of the above facts in mind, a field experiment was conducted to investigate the impact of organic nutrient sources on traditional rice cultivars growth and yield.

Materials and Method

In the Wetland farms of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, a field research was carried out in field number B8 (inorganic field) and O8 (organic field). The sowing was taken in

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nursery at navarai season (December 2021 to January 2022). The experiment was laid out in a split plot design with three main plots and twelve sub plots which were replicated twice. The main plot consist of C₁-*Annamazhagi*, C₂-*Arupathamkuruvai*, C₃-*Chithiraikaar*, C₄-*Kallurundaiyan*, C₅-*Karuthakaar*, C₆-*Ottukitchili*, C₇-*Salem samba*, C₈-*Sigappu kuruvaikaar*, C₉-*Thirunelvelikitchili*, C₁₀-*Varappukudainchan*, C₁₁ - Co 51 (Check). Organic production practices is one of the main plot treatment, in that seeds of each traditional rice cultivars were treated with *Bacillus subtilis* @ 10 g kg⁻¹ + *Azospirillum* @ 30 g kg⁻¹ + *Phosphobacteria* @ 30 g kg⁻¹ and soaked in water for 12 hours then seeds were collected and covered by paddy straw in a dark room for 24 hours. Then pre-germinated seeds were sown in the sunken nursery bed. Gypsum was applied @ 100 g m⁻² at 10 days after sowing to prevent root snapping. Neem cake @ 250 kg ha⁻¹, Gypsum @ 500 kg ha⁻¹ (source of Calcium and Sulphur nutrients) were applied at last ploughing. Application of *Azospirillum* @ 2 kg + *Phosphobacteria* @ 2 kg mixed with 25 kg of FYM was applied to main field before transplanting. The 18 days old seedlings were uprooted and dipped with *Azospirillum* (1 kg ha⁻¹) + *Phosphobacteria* (1 kg ha⁻¹) in 40 liters of water for 15-30 minutes before transplanting. With 25 x 25 cm spacing, seedlings were transplanted to the main field. Vermicompost was applied @ 1000 kg ha⁻¹ at active tillering, panicle initiation and flowering stages. Panchagavya was sprayed @ 30 ml l⁻¹ of water twice at 30 and 45 DAT as a growth promoter.

Results and Discussion

Plant growth parameters

The results pertaining to plant height, drymatter production and LAI at flowering stage are presented in Table 1. The growth attributes of plant height, dry matter production (DMP) and Leaf Area Index (LAI) were recorded at flowering stage. Plant height is the visible indicator of growth. A significant difference was noticed with regards to plant height, DMP and LAI at flowering stage due to production packages.

Among the main plot treatments, P₁ (Organic production package) recorded significantly maximum plant height, DMP and LAI when compared to P₂ (Inorganic production package) and P₃ (control). Concerning subplots (different rice cultivars), the maximum plant height was recorded in C₅ (134.41 cm) which was on par with C₈ (130.38 cm) meanwhile the lowest plant height was observed in C₆ (90.20 cm) which was on par with C₁₁ (88.36 cm). The maximum DMP was noted in C₁ (11264 kg ha⁻¹) which was on par with C₁₀ (10768 kg ha⁻¹) and C₄ (10590 kg ha⁻¹) meanwhile the lowest DMP was recorded in C₉ (6847 kg ha⁻¹). The higher LAI was noted in C₁ (4.18) and lower LAI was observed in C₂ (2.87). The similar finding was reported by Ramesh *et al.* (2019) [7] in traditional variety of Mapillai samba which registered significantly maximum plant height of 129.30 cm, LAI of 7.84 and DMP of 6195 kg ha⁻¹. The least values of plant height of 98.71cm in Seeraga samba, number of 11.83 tillers hill⁻¹ in Mapillai samba and LAI of 6.80 cm and DMP

of 5370 kg ha⁻¹ registered under Illupai poo samba. As like Devkota *et al.* (2019) stated the maximum growth parameters by application of organic manure alone compared to inorganic manure alone. The variation of the plant height, tillers number and LAI among the varieties may be due to the ability and genetic trait of the variety with response to nutrient supply. These findings were in accordance with Ranabhat and Amgain (2016) [8].

Yield attributes and yield

Organic production packages gave the significant increase of yield and yield parameters in different rice cultivars when compared to inorganic and control production packages. Tables 2&3 display the results for yield parameters and yield in traditional rice cultivars.

Among the rice cultivars, maximum number of filled grains panicle⁻¹ (113.53) and maximum length of panicle (19.56 cm) was registered under C₁₀ and minimum number of ill-filled grain panicle⁻¹ (17.35) was noted in C₉. Meanwhile the less number of filled grains per panicle⁻¹ (62.35) recorded in C₂ and lower panicle length (16.52 cm) was obtained in C₁ and maximum number of ill filled grain panicle⁻¹ (19.43) observed in C₆. The varieties derived from the various parental origins maintained the wide variability in yield attributing factors. The genetically regulated phenomena are attainments of particularly greater or lower yield assigning character among varieties. These were in line with findings of Otung (2014) [6]. In respect of grain and straw yields, C₁₁ (Check) noted the maximum grain yield of 3730 kg ha⁻¹ and among traditional cultivars C₁-*Annamazhagi* recorded maximum grain yield of 2712 kg ha⁻¹ and C₁₀ - *Varappukudaichan* recorded significantly maximum straw yield of 7354 kg ha⁻¹. Meanwhile lower grain yield of 2122 kg ha⁻¹ noted in *Ottukitchili* (C₆) and lower straw yield of 5872 kg ha⁻¹ were observed in C₁₁ (Co 51) among traditional rice cultivars C₂-*Arupatham kuruvai* noted the lowest straw yield of 6005 kg ha⁻¹. The similar findings of grain and straw yield of traditional rice was recorded by Ramesh *et al.* (2019) [7]. Ameen *et al.* (2017) [11] reported the application of compost manure + gypsum increase the rice yield compare to control. Several organic bio-fertilizers such as *panchagavya* and *Beejamrutha* are shown to be effective by enriching the soil for improving the crop yield (Sreenivasa *et al.*, 2011) [9].

Conclusion

In contrast to inorganic production packages, these traditional rice cultivars are responding favourably to and adopting them. Though traditional red rice varieties originated in India and are widely used by both traditional healers and the general public as a part their cultural heritage, their practical applications and health benefits in terms of current scientific methodology are few and far between. Because there isn't enough information available, most people are still unaware of these type's health benefits. Stakeholders must push for comprehensive research on these native coloured variations in order to make them available to consumers as special functional foods or as a regular part of their diet.

Table 1: Effect of production packages on growth parameters at flowering stage in traditional rice cultivars

Treatments	Plant height (cm)				Leaf Area Index				Drymatter production (kg ha ⁻¹)			
	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean
C ₁	136.06	121.92	96.91	118.30	5.44	5.04	2.07	4.18	15882	13298	4612	11264
C ₂	112.42	104.55	89.03	102.00	3.71	3.29	1.62	2.87	13363	11184	5588	10045

C ₃	134.48	123.88	98.49	118.95	5.26	4.82	1.55	3.88	10749	9758	5675	8727
C ₄	130.33	123.15	99.06	117.51	5.36	4.75	1.08	3.73	14974	12330	4468	10590
C ₅	158.90	140.75	103.58	134.41	5.17	4.76	1.19	3.71	12442	10258	4948	9216
C ₆	99.77	95.42	75.42	90.20	4.09	3.63	1.34	3.02	11533	10216	4185	8645
C ₇	143.78	133.25	92.12	123.05	5.55	5.02	1.86	4.14	11350	10090	5119	8853
C ₈	158.66	142.70	89.77	130.38	5.65	5.07	0.95	3.89	11587	10108	5822	9172
C ₉	133.52	120.40	82.66	112.19	5.36	4.97	1.65	3.99	8792	7729	4020	6847
C ₁₀	136.97	125.85	99.06	120.63	5.64	4.84	1.07	3.85	14179	12724	5402	10768
C ₁₁	95.45	91.95	77.67	88.36	3.17	2.99	1.01	2.39	10909	9224	3996	8043
Mean	130.94	120.35	91.25		4.94	4.47	1.40		12342	10629	4894	
	P	C	P x C	C x P	P	C	P x C	C x P	P	C	P x C	C x P
S.Ed	1.96	4.20	5.78	6.89	0.06	0.24	0.31	0.33	289.3	335.6	567.8	793.2
CD(0.05)	8.42	8.57	11.55	15.02	0.27	0.49	0.61	0.71	1244.6	685.4	1133.6	1728.2

Treatment Detail

P ₁ - Organic production packages (NPOF)		P ₂ -TNAU recommended inorganic package of practices					P ₃ -Control
C ₁ -Annamazhagi	C ₂ -Arupatham kuruvai	C ₃ -Chithiraikaar		C ₄ -Kallurundaiyan		C ₅ -Karuthakaar	C ₆ -Ottukitchili
C ₇ -Salem samba	C ₈ -Sigappu kuruvaikaar	C ₉ -Thirunelveli kitchili		C ₁₀ -Varappukudainchan		C ₁₁ -Co51(Check)	

Table 2: Effect of production packages on yield parameters in traditional rice cultivars

Treatments	Filled Grains				Ill Filled Grains				Panicle Length (cm)			
	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean
C ₁	125.85	114.85	75.40	105.37	14.50	16.50	25.40	18.80	16.84	16.99	15.73	16.52
C ₂	71.50	62.45	53.10	62.35	14.90	16.40	26.60	19.30	18.32	17.30	15.64	17.09
C ₃	105.80	93.90	75.40	91.70	14.60	15.10	26.40	18.70	21.09	19.61	17.73	19.48
C ₄	113.70	104.05	72.80	96.85	14.70	15.90	24.40	18.33	19.92	18.53	16.66	18.37
C ₅	115.40	107.95	71.20	98.18	14.30	15.45	22.90	17.55	20.00	18.64	16.09	18.24
C ₆	103.70	96.30	72.00	90.67	15.80	17.50	25.00	19.43	20.06	18.79	17.07	18.64
C ₇	119.30	113.70	89.50	107.50	15.70	17.40	23.60	18.90	21.08	18.61	18.28	19.32
C ₈	122.50	111.20	90.80	108.17	15.10	15.50	21.90	17.50	20.91	19.73	17.65	19.43
C ₉	117.70	109.15	90.90	105.92	14.30	14.65	23.10	17.35	18.96	17.54	15.97	17.49
C ₁₀	128.10	122.20	90.30	113.53	15.70	16.80	22.70	18.40	21.14	19.63	17.90	19.56
C ₁₁	109.10	102.70	84.90	98.90	14.70	15.90	23.60	18.07	20.20	18.55	17.17	18.64
Mean	112.06	103.50	78.75		14.94	16.10	24.15		19.87	18.54	16.90	
	P	C	P x C	C x P	P	C	P x C	C x P	P	C	P x C	C x P
S.Ed	1.96	3.37	4.91	6.18	0.43	0.96	1.32	1.55	0.40	0.64	0.95	1.21
CD(0.05)	8.44	6.89	NS	NS	1.85	NS	NS	NS	1.71	1.30	NS	NS

Treatment Detail

P ₁ - Organic production packages (NPOF)		P ₂ -TNAU recommended inorganic package of practices					P ₃ -Control
C ₁ -Annamazhagi	C ₂ -Arupatham kuruvai	C ₃ -Chithiraikaar		C ₄ -Kallurundaiyan		C ₅ -Karuthakaar	C ₆ -Ottukitchili
C ₇ -Salem samba	C ₈ -Sigappu kuruvaikaar	C ₉ -Thirunelveli kitchili		C ₁₀ -Varappukudainchan		C ₁₁ -Co51(Check)	

Table 3: Effect of production packages on yield in traditional rice cultivars

Treatments	Grain yield (kg ha ⁻¹)				Straw yield (kg ha ⁻¹)			
	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean	P ₁	P ₂	P ₃	Mean
C ₁	3520	3030	1585	2712	8925	7315	4995	7078
C ₂	2730	2300	1410	2147	7400	6215	4400	6005
C ₃	3105	2675	1580	2453	8345	7145	4725	6738
C ₄	3315	2705	1700	2573	8415	7275	4635	6775
C ₅	3295	2930	1575	2600	8655	7125	5045	6942
C ₆	2595	2245	1525	2122	7057	6850	4600	6169
C ₇	2805	2395	1715	2305	8185	7555	4515	6752
C ₈	2855	2300	1475	2210	8545	7650	4625	6940
C ₉	2950	2585	1155	2230	7995	7215	4455	6555
C ₁₀	3405	2930	1370	2568	8891	8095	5075	7354
C ₁₁	4810	4415	1965	3730	7754	6282.5	3580	5872
Mean	3217	2774	1550		8197	7157	4605	
	P	C	P x C	C x P	P	C	P x C	C x P
S.Ed	73.47	87.33	146.07	202.80	175.60	178.18	322.72	466.06
CD(0.05)	316.1	178.4	291.6	441.9	755.5	363.9	644.3	1015.4

Treatment Detail

P ₁ - Organic production packages (NPOF)		P ₂ -TNAU recommended inorganic package of practices			P ₃ -Control
C ₁ -Annamazhagi	C ₂ -Arupatham kuruvai	C ₃ -Chithiraikaar	C ₄ -Kallurundaiyan	C ₅ -Karuthakaar	C ₆ -Ottukitchili
C ₇ -Salem samba	C ₈ -Sigappu kuruvaikaar	C ₉ -Thirunelveli kitchili	C ₁₀ -Varappukudainchan	C ₁₁ -Co51(Check)	

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