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System Productivity and Profitability of Rice Greengram System under Different Irrigation and Nutrition Following Rice Establishment Method

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ABSTRACT: A field experiment was conducted in the Instructional Farm, Department of Agronomy, OUAT, Bhubaneswar in 2019-20 and 2020-21. In the *kharif* season, rice was grown in Randomized Block Design with three different establishment methods namely, Direct sowing, Non Puddled Transplanting and Puddled Transplanting. In the *Rabi* season greengram was taken in those plots where the residual effect of rice establishment methods was taken as main plots, two irrigation schedules *i.e.*, one irrigation at the pre-flowering stage & No irrigation was taken in sub plots. In sub-sub plots nutrient management schedules were taken *i.e.*, no fertilizer, 2% spray of NPK 19-19-19 at pre-flowering and flowering stage & 100 kg soil application of DAP. DSR-based system was found to be economically profitable even though PTR-based system has produced higher system yield. Crop grown with irrigation performed better over no irrigated plots. Similarly, soil application of fertilizers has shown higher system productivity and profitability over foliar application followed by no fertilizer.

Keywords: Establishment method, Irrigation, Soil application, Foliar application, Rice-greengram.

INTRODUCTION

Rice, being the predominant crop in South Asia is mostly cultivated in a single season of a year but the same area often remains unutilized during the successive cropping seasons which are termed as rice fallows (Mutert and Fairhurst 2002). In India, the rice fallow area covers about 19.6 million ha (Gumma et al., 2016). In eastern India, rice is typically cultivated in the kharif season; however, large areas remain fallow during the subsequent rabi season. Around 80% of India's rice fallow is from the eastern Indian states of Odisha, West Bengal, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Assam (Ali et al., 2014; Singh et al., 2016; Kumar et al., 2016). The farmers in eastern India are unable to utilize the rice fallows productively due to various environmental and socioeconomic factors (Kumar et al., 2019). Lack of irrigation facilities is one of those factors, as the rapid depletion of residual soil moisture makes it difficult for farmers to go for a second crop in the rabi season followed by rice (Ghosh et al., 2016 ; Kar et al., 2009). Considering the better utilization of these areas pulse crops should be grown as they have several benefits. Further, the cultural practices that are followed in rice have a greater impact on the succeeding crop. In the conventional puddled transplanting system (PTR), a large quantity of

irrigation water is used for puddling which destroys soil aggregates and results in the formation of a hardpan, creating problems for the establishment and growth of succeeding crops.

Among the various agronomic practices required to enhance the productivity of succeeding pulse crops nutrients play a pivotal role in increasing seed yield (Chandrasekhar and Bangarusamy 2003). Soil application of fertilizers at land preparation is an ageold practice but nowadays foliar application is also gaining popularity because of higher utilization efficiency as there is less loss. Foliar application is a simple and effective method of providing nutrients to the crops directly without spending energy for their transport and any losses in transit which often brings about an immediate improvement in the crop growth than soil application (Alexander and Schroeder 2012). However foliar application cannot be considered as a suitable substitute for soil application concerning macronutrients as the amount that is applied is very less in foliar application. Pulse crops grown in the rabi season suffer due to moisture stress because of low winter rainfall. Hence providing irrigation at the most critical stage can enhance productivity.

This paper aims to evaluate the system productivity and profitability of the rice-greengram cropping system under different irrigation and nutrition schedules

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following distinct rice establishment methods. By analyzing these factors, we seek to provide insights into the most effective strategies for maximizing crop yield and economic returns while promoting sustainable agricultural practices.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The field experiment was conducted at the Instructional Farm of Department of Agronomy, College of Agriculture, Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar (20°15' N, 85°52' E, 25.9 m above mean sea level and about 64 km away from the Bay of Bengal), Odisha during the Year 2019-20 and 2020-21. The station lies within the East and South Eastern Coastal Plain Agro-climatic Zone of Odisha. The soil of the experimental site was sandy loam in texture having pH 5.43, organic carbon 0.37%, available N 183 kg/ha, available P 14.13 kg/ha, and available K 297.2 kg /ha. In kharif season rice variety (Swarna sub-1) was grown with three different establishment methods namely Direct sowing, Pudlled transplanting, and non-puddled transplanting which was taken as the main plot. Land preparation for the plots was done as per the requirement of treatments. In Rabi Greengram variety IPM 2-14 was grown with two irrigation treatments *i.e.*, with & without irrigation taken as sub plot. Irrigation was given to the assigned plots at pre flowering stage *i.e.*, at 26 DAS. Three nutrient management schedules i.e., no fertilizer, 2% foliar application of NPK 19-19-19, and soil application of 100 kg DAP were taken in sub-sub plots. Soil application was done at the time of sowing and foliar application was done two times one at pre flowering stage and flowering stage. The residual effects of kharif treatments as well as the direct effect of irrigation and nutrient schedules on greengram were evaluated in a split-split plot design. Data related to system yield were collected. Production economics of rice- greengram system was computed to find out the suitable combination of treatments for productivity and profitability of the system.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

System yield and production efficiency of the ricegreengram system was significantly influenced by the residual effect of the rice establishment method and different irrigation and nutrition schedules in both the years under the study (Table 1).

 Table 1: System yield and Production Efficiency of rice- greengram system under different irrigation and nutrition schedules following rice establishment methods.

Treatment	System y	ield (Kg/ha)	Production efficiency(kg REY/ha/day)							
Main plot : Establishment method	2019-20	2020-21	Pooled	2019-20	2020-21	Pooled				
DSR	7112	7257	7185	19.49	19.88	19.69				
NPTR	7212	7355	7284	19.75	20.15	19.96				
PTR	7256	7389	7323 19.88		20.24	20.06				
SEm(±)	23.138	24.580	20.526	0.065	0.067	0.056				
CD (0.05)	90.83	96.50	80.58	0.25	0.26	0.22				
Sub plot : Irrigation										
without irrigation	6697	6827	6762	18.41	18.70	16.53				
With irrigation	7690	7840	7765	21.00	21.48	21.28				
SEm(±)	13.176	12.161	5.341	0.033	0.033	0.015				
CD (0.05)	45.58	42.07	18.48	0.11	0.11	0.05				
Sub sub plot: Nutrition										
No fertiliser	6683	6854	6768	18.78	18.78	16.55				
Foliar application	7349	7449	7399	20.41	20.41	20.27				
Soil application	7549	7698	7624	21.09	21.09	20.89				
SEm(±)	16.952	19.386	12.999	0.046	0.053	0.036				
CD (0.05)	49.47	56.57	37.94	0.14	0.15	0.10				

Maximum system yield and production efficiency were found in the PTR-based system (7323 kg/ha, 20.06 kg/ha/day) which was at par with the NPTR-based system (7284kg/ha, 19.96 kg/ha/day) followed by DSRbased system. This might be ascribed to the higher grain yield of rice under Puddled transplanted conditions.

Similarly, irrigation had a significant effect on system yield and production efficiency. Maximum system yield and production efficiency were observed, when grown with one irrigation at the pre-flowering stage (7765 kg/ha, 21.28 kg/ha/day) was significantly higher than one grown without irrigation. This might be due to better translocation of photosynthates towards grain due to water availability at the root zone at the critical stage whereas, plots having no water supply produced lesser

system yield because of less availability of nutrients from soil solution. Similar results were obtained by Amede *et al.* (2014), who reported that On an average, crop yield under irrigation was at least 35% higher compared to non-irrigated farms. A significant difference in system yield and production efficiency was observed with the difference in methods of fertilizer application. Pooled data reveals that the highest system yield and production efficiency (7624 kg/ha, 20.89 kg/ha/day) was obtained with soil application of 100 kg DAP followed by foliar application of 2% NPK (19-19-19) (7399 kg/ha, 20.27 kg/ha/day) and no fertilizer.

Treatment		Ν		Р		K				
Main plot : Establishment method	2019-20	2020-21	Pooled	2019-20	2020-21	Pooled	2019-20	2020-21	Pooled	
DSR	135.56	139.86	137.71	23.95	25.27	24.61	132.23	136.24	134.24	
NPTR	137.87	142.08	139.97	25.67	26.91	26.29	135.82	139.05	137.44	
PTR	138.67	142.44	140.56	26.28	27.64	26.96	135.74	139.52	137.63	
SEm(±)	0.234	0.204	0.189	0.027	0.024	0.023	0.168	0.114	0.137	
CD (0.05)	0.920	0.802	0.743	0.106	0.094	0.090	0.659	0.449	0.537	
Sub plot : Irrigation										
without irrigation	131.47	135.47	133.47	24.84	26.15	25.50	131.84	135.54	133.69	
With irrigation	143.93	148.12	146.03	25.76	27.06	26.41	137.35	141.00	139.18	
SEm(±)	0.217	0.093	0.124	0.017	0.010	0.010	0.125	0.079	0.096	
CD (0.05)	0.751	0.322	0.428	0.060	0.035	0.035	0.431	0.274	0.332	
Sub sub plot: Nutrition										
No fertiliser	131.31	135.66	133.49	24.91	26.21	25.56	131.82	135.60	133.71	
Foliar application	139.79	143.70	141.75	25.46	26.74	26.10	135.52	139.22	137.37	
Soil application	142.00	146.03	144.01	25.54	26.87	26.21	136.45	139.99	138.22	
SEm(±)	0.170	0.186	0.141	0.015	0.019	0.013	0.111	0.097	0.094	
CD (0.05)	0.496	0.544	0.410	0.043	0.054	0.037	0.324	0.284	0.274	

 Table 2: Nutrient Uptake of rice- greengram system under different irrigation and nutrition schedules following rice establishment methods (kg/ha).

 Table 3: Economics of rice- green gram system under different irrigation and nutrition schedules following rice establishment methods.

Treatment	GROSS RETURN (Rs/ha)			NET RETURN (Rs/ha)			B/C Ratio			System Profitability (Rs/ha/day)		
Main plot : Establishment method	2019-20	2020- 21	Pooled	2019- 20	2020- 21	Pooled	2019- 20	2020- 21	Pooled	2019- 20	2020- 21	Pooled
DSR	137458	144202	140830	57877	63581	60729	1.72	1.79	1.76	158.6	174.2	166.4
NPTR	139605	146345	142975	57758	63419	60589	1.70	1.76	1.73	158.2	173.7	166.0
PTR	140480	147066	143772	55529	61051	58290	1.65	1.71	1.68	152.1	167.3	159.7
SEm(±)	419.94	544.92	421.34	419.94	544.92	421.34	0.005	0.007	0.005	0.61	0.45	0.40
CD (0.05)	1648.6	2139.3	1654.1	1648.6	2139.3	1654.1	0.021	0.026	0.020	2.4	1.8	1.6
Sub plot : Irrigation												
without irrigation	130166	136393	133279	49036	54218	51627	1.60	1.66	1.63	134.3	148.5	141.4
With irrigation	148196	155348	151772	65073	71149	68111	1.78	1.84	1.81	178.3	194.9	186.6
SEm(±)	239.14	223.36	98.21	239.14	223.36	98.21	0.003	0.003	0.001	0.65	0.61	0.27
CD (0.05)	827.4	772.8	339.8	827.4	772.8	339.8	0.010	0.009	0.004	2.3	2.2	0.9
Sub plot: Nutrition												
No fertiliser	129917	136897	133407	49660	55596	52628	1.62	1.68	1.65	152.3	152.3	144.2
Foliar application	141996	148023	145009	59127	64077	61602	1.71	1.76	1.74	175.5	175.5	168.7
Soil application	145631	152692	149161	62377	68379	65378	1.75	1.81	1.78	187.3	187.3	179.1
SEm(±)	307.67	362.38	239.81	307.67	362.38	239.81	0.004	0.004	0.003	0.84	0.99	0.65
CD (0.05)	897.9	1057.5	699.8	897.9	1057.5	699.8	0.011	0.013	0.009	2.5	2.9	1.9

Maximum N uptake (140.56 kg/ha), P uptake (26.96 kg/ha), and K uptake (137.63 kg/ha) were observed under the PTR-based system followed by NPTR and DSR-based system (Table 2). This might be due to the maximum system yield under PTR-based system that directly resulted in the maximum value of nutrient uptake. Among irrigation schedules higher value of N uptake (146.03 kg/ha), P uptake (26.41 kg/ha), and K uptake (139.18 kg/ha) was found under one irrigation at pre flowering stage followed by no irrigation. Similarly, the maximum value of N uptake (26.21 kg/ha), and K uptake (26.21 kg/ha), and K uptake (138.22 kg/ha) was recorded under soil application of 100 kg DAP followed by foliar application and no fertilizer.

Economics of rice- greengram system as influenced by different nutrition and irrigation schedules followed by rice establishment methods (Table 3) revealed that the maximum Gross return was found for PTR-based system (143772 Rs/ha) followed by NPTR and DSR-based system. This might be due to the higher system yield of PTR-based system that resulted in the higher

Gross return of the system. However, a higher value of Net Return (60729 Rs/ha), B-C ratio (1.76), and system profitability (166.4 Rs/ha/day) was observed for DSRbased system followed by NPTR and PTR based system. Lesser production cost involved in a DSRbased system is the probable reason for this maximum value. The value of all economic parameters followed a similar trend as that of system yield for irrigation schedules. Maximum Net Return (68111 Rs/ha) and B-C ratio (1.81)were observed with one irrigation at pre sowing stage. This is because irrigation enhances the crop performance under moisture stress conditions in *rabi* season reflected in higher crop yield as well as higher value of economic parameters.

Among the nutrient management practices, the maximum value of Gross Return (149161 Rs/ha), Net Return (65378 Rs/ha), and B-C (1.78) ratio was observed with soil application of 100 kg DAP followed by foliar application and no fertilizer. Both the nutrient management practices performed well over no fertilizer. It is because of the better availability of

nutrients that is reflected in the overall performance of the crop. In between soil and foliar application, soil application performed well as the macronutrients are required for the plant in larger amounts that can be supplied through soil application.

CONCLUSIONS

From the above study, it can be concluded that even though for system productivity and production efficiency PTR-based system was higher still DSR system performed better concerning system profitability. As moisture during the *rabi* season is one of the critical factors, hence providing one irrigation at pre flowering stage will serve the purpose. Soil application of fertilizers performed better over foliar application as macronutrient needs are fulfilled better through soil application because of its requirement in higher quantities.

FUTURE SCOPE

The effect of other various rice establishment methods on the succeeding crops needs to be studied. Furthermore, research related to the comparison between soil and foliar application of macro and micronutrients is still less. More studies can be conducted on it.

Conflict of Interest. None.

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