

ASSESSMENT OF OCCURRENCE, SEVERITY AND MANAGEMENT OF MAJOR DISEASES IN SCENTED RICE CULTIVARS BY THE TRIBAL FARMERS OF JASHPUR DISTRICT, CHHATTISGARH

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Abstract: Chhattisgarh is having large variability and diversity due to its topography and ecological situations. Among several crops and cultivars, farmers are generally cultivating rice with variety of practices and methods. The cultivation of scented rice varieties is one of the oldest practices. Looking to the changing consumer preferences, the demand of the scented rice is increasing day by day. The availability of scented rice in comparison to the demand is meager due to low productivity and susceptibility to several biotic and a-biotic stresses. Infestation of diseases is one of the important factor caused reduction in the productivity of scented rice. In this perspective the present study was undertaken in Jashpur district of Chhattisgarh with data collected from 144 scented rice growing farmers. The findings shows that, majority of the respondents perceived that Blast, BLB, False smut, Sheath rot and brown spot, in order are the major diseases causing yield loss in scented rice varieties. Accordingly it was found that the severity of blast was highest and brown spot was lowest. With regard to occurrence of disease, the respondents reported that blast and false smut were regularly occurred diseases than others. The yield loss caused due to these diseases is never more than 25 per cent. Remarkably, it was found that few farmers follows the disease management practices and only about 1 per cent scented rice growers were using fungicides for the management of diseases. It shows a complex situation which has to be overcome by incorporating strategic extension approaches so that the disease management can be done effectively to increase the productivity and profitability from scented rice cultivation.

Keywords: Scented rice, Disease management, Yield loss, Productivity

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