

RESPONSES OF TRANSPLANTED RICE TO IFDC DISPENSER METHOD  
OF HAND DEEP PLACEMENT OF UREA SUPERGRANULES IN  
LATERITIC SOILS OF MAHARASHTRA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

The IFDC dispenser method developed primarily for small rice farmers of developing countries consists of hand deep placement of urea supergranules (USG) during line transplanting using USG dispenser with Transplanting Guide. During the 1987 and 1988 Kharif (wet) seasons, its agronomic performance has been evaluated in 14 nonreplicated farmer-managed trials on fields of small rice farmers for rainfed transplanted rice grown on lateritic soils of Konkan region, Maharashtra, India. The method was found significantly superior to all the different farmers' methods compared (random transplanting and one or two split applications of prilled urea or application of prilled urea in the furrows immediately behind the plow during the last puddling) and increased grain yields by 609 kg/ha (18%) over the farmers' methods at a rate of 38 kg N/ha. Its estimated incremental benefit:cost ratio was about 5.6. The results suggest that the IFDC dispenser method could be profitably used by small rice farmers who transplant rice at random in their small paddy fields and can afford to use small doses of urea.