Package and Practices of Ragi

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Rayagada

Field preparation and sowing of direct seeded crop:

Prepare a well pulverized seed bed for direct seeding of ragi. Apply FYM or compost 5t/ha and incorporate well into the soil along with fertilizer before sowing. Sow the direct seeded crop in line 22.5 cm apart, seed rate of 10kg/ha will be adequate for line sow crop.

Nursery:

Seedlings should be raised in well prepared nurseries in an area of 500m² for transplanting of 1ha area. Apply 20 basket of FYM and small dose of fertilizer to help rapid growth of the seedlings. The seedling will be ready within 25 to 30 days. 8-10 kg of seeds will be sufficient for transplanting 1 ha.

Transplanting:

Apply manure, fertilizer after land preparation. Transplanting should be closed Spacing – Early variety – 20x10cm, Medium duration varieties 22.5 x 10cm.

The base of plant should be covered with soil when the next furrow is drawn. Shallow planting within 5 cm depth encourages quick establishment & better tillering.

Fertiliser:

It is better to apply fertilizer as per soil test recommendation. 40:30:25 NPK kg/ha for short towards 60:30:30 NPK kg/ha for medium, boy duration of ragi. Nitrogen may apply two split 50% as basal and the remaining 50% as top dressing just before first hoeing and weeding so as to incorporate fertilizer into the soil.

Weed management:

Early weeding of the direct seeded crop is essential for getting good yields. The 1st hoeing & weeding is done @ 2 to 3 weeks after sowing. What ever necessary 2nd weeding may be done 15-20 days after irrigation. Alternatively pre-emergence application of Metoxuron @0 .75kg/ha and one hand weeding at 3 weeks stage gives excellent control of weeds.

Water management:

Excess irrigation should be avoided. Rabi & Summer ragi should be irrigated at 20-25 days intervals.

Plant protection:
Stem borer, spray nursery bed once at 15-20 days after germination with Chloropyriphos or Monocrotophos @ 40ml/ 10 cm nursery area. Before transplanting apply Phorate @ 0.5kg or Carbofuran 3G 1.2 kg/ha.

Aphids- Spray Methyl Demeton @1000 ml/ha at pre flowering stage.

Ear caterpillars- Dust crop with Malathion 5% @ 25 kg/ha

**Disease:**

Blast- Spray Tricyclazole 0.6gm/lt or Iso pothialine @ 1ml/1ltr of water

Leaf spot-Treat the seeds with fungicide vitavax power @1.5gm /kg of seed .Grow resistant varieties