

RESEARCH NOTES

Abhilash (IET-5882), a Promising Lowland Drill sown Variety in Karnataka

Abhilash (IET-5882), released in 1985 to replace the existing variety, A-200 is a mid late variety developed from the cross CR-63-5218 x Pankaj and is suitable for cultivation in low lying areas of drill sown transitional tract of Karnataka, India.

During the *kharif* seasons of 1981, 82, 84 and 88, the experiments conducted in randomised block design with 3 replications at Agricultural Research Station, Mugad, Dharwad district (15°-50' N, 74°-40' E and 697 M above sea level) in the lowlands included Abhilash as a test entry along with local checks, viz. A-200, Intan and Y-4. The total precipitation until harvest during four cropping seasons was 867.3, 725.6, 911.1 and 1034.3 mm respectively. Recommended cultural techniques were used to raise a good crop. Abhilash consistently out-yielded the local

checks not only in experiments (5.125 t/ha) (see table) but also in farm trials conducted during 1981, 1982 and 1983, where it gave 27.6 per cent more yield (4.16 t/ha) over local check A-200.

Abhilash being efficient in emerging through the hard crust, is medium tall erect and has a characteristic wrapping of leaf sheath by internodes till grain filling stage. It has slow leaf senescence, with green to dry leaf ratio of 2.11 at harvest. It has low spikelet sterility, high grain weight and long bold grains. It is tolerant (score 3.0) to leaf blast and brown spot diseases.

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(Received April, 1993)

Table. Performance of Abhilash (IET-5882) in relation to local checks under rainfed, drill sown conditions at Mugad, Karnataka, India (Mean of 1981, 1982, 1984 and 1988 wet seasons)

| Variety | Grain quality | Plant height (cm) | Panicle length (cm) | Number of flowering panicles per m ² | Days to 50% yield | Grain (t/ha) |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------|--------------|
| Abhilash IET-5882 | LB | 106.5 | 23.6 | 323.0 | 127 | 5.125 |
| A-200 | LB | 146.1 | 25.7 | 293.8 | 136 | 4.011 |
| Intan | LB | 111.8 | 22.9 | 294.3 | 128 | 4.726 |
| Y-4 | MS | 147.8 | 27.9 | 264.7 | 147 | 3.073 |
| S.Em. ± | --- | 4.43 | 0.41 | 4.43 | 2.67 | 0.406 |
| C.D. (at 5%) | --- | 17.48 | 1.17 | 12.66 | 10.52 | 1.156 |
| C.V. (%) | --- | 6.70 | 2.95 | 2.16 | 3.30 | 15.44 |