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## EVALUATION OF GROWTH, YIELD AND NUTRIENT CONTENT OF SOME BORO RICE CULTIVARS

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### ABSTRACT

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A field experiment was conducted at the Soil Science Field Laboratory of Bangladesh Agricultural University; Mymensingh during December 2012 to May 2013 to investigate the growth, yield and nutrient content of fifteen widely used boro rice cultivars of Bangladesh. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with 15 cultivars having each cultivar replicated three times. The cultivars tested in this experiment were BRR1 dhan28, BRR1 dhan29, BRR1 dhan45, BRR1 dhan47, BRR1 dhan50, BR 3, BR 6, BR 14, BR 15, BR 16, BINA dhan5, IRATOM 24, Bachi boro, Chola boro and Sada boro. BR 15, BRR1 dhan29 and BRR1 dhan28 were the three rice cultivars having high potentials for grain and straw production during boro season. The highest yield was recorded 5.26 t/ha which is still very low compared to other rice growing countries of the world. So there is plenty of scope to increase the yield. Chola boro and Sada bore are two local land races having potentials for producing higher number of effective tillers and higher 1000 grain weight. Sada boro and Chola boro, two local cultivars were found very high in grain nitrogen content compared to other test cultivars. These two cultivars could be a nice tool for rice breeder to develop high nitrogen content rice. Chola boro, IRATOM 24 and BR 14 are three high straw-K containing varieties having breeding potentials to make our future rice plant strong. Before using these cultivars for breeding, fine tuning of the research findings is required.

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## INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa*) is one of the leading cereal crops in the world and staple food crop in Bangladesh. It is life for more than 60% of the world's population and one of the most potential grain crops that could contribute to the efforts for the realization of food security (Gebrekidan and Seyoum, 2006). Rice alone covers 80% of the total cropped area, contributes 93% of the total grain production and is a source of 68% of the total calorie intake of the people of Bangladesh (AIS, 2008). The population of Bangladesh is growing by two million every year and may increase by another 30 million over the next 20 years. About 0.15% cultivable land of the country is going out of the agriculture sector every year due to ever increasing pressure for housing and industries for the added people. Therefore, sustaining self-sufficiency in food in the face of an ever-increasing population continues to be a major challenge for agriculturists in Bangladesh. There is very limited scope for horizontal expansion of cropping area due to limitation of land sources therefore, increase in production per unit area is the only way to increase food production. The yield of rice is quite low (3.69 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) in Bangladesh compared to other leading rice producing countries of the world such as Japan, China, Korean republic and USA where per hectare rice yield is 9.74, 6.64, 6.60, and 9.03 t, respectively (FAO, 2003). Improving soil fertility, efficient use of fertilizers, and development of high yielding nutrient efficient rice varieties are the major means to minimize the yield gap. Indigenous rice cultivars from Bangladesh as well as high yielding rice varieties possess a wide diversity in ecological, morphological, nutritional and physiological characteristics (Bhowmik *et al.*, 2000; Islam, 1990; Jahan, 2003). There are significant differences in nitrogen utilization efficiencies among rice genotypes. Nitrogen use efficiency for rice crop productions largely ranges between 25% and 35%. Exploring this capacity is an option for increasing yield as well as providing adequate nutrients to the people of rice based food diet. Therefore, along with other management practices for increasing the efficiency of applied fertilizers, the selection of efficient varieties could be a good option to minimize losses of nutrients as well as to develop high yielding nutrient use efficient varieties. Hence, the present study was carried out to evaluate the growth, yield and nutrient content potentials of some boro rice varieties.

## MATERIALS AND METHOD

The experiment was carried out in the Soil Science Field Laboratory of Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh during Boro season (December 2012 to May 2013). The study was performed to evaluate the growth, yield and nutrient content of some boro rice cultivars. The soil of the experimental site belongs to the Sonatala series under the AEZ of Old Brahmaputra Floodplain. The soil was silt loam in texture having pH 6.13, organic matter 1.62%, total N 0.113%, available P 7.03 ppm, exchangeable K 0.069 me% and available S 12.2 ppm. The experiment was laid out in a Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with fifteen rice cultivars and each cultivar replicated three replications. The cultivars used in the experiment were: V<sub>1</sub>- BR 3, V<sub>2</sub>- BR 6, V<sub>3</sub>- BR 14, V<sub>4</sub>- BR 15, V<sub>5</sub>- BR 16, V<sub>6</sub>- BRRI dhan28, V<sub>7</sub>- BRRI dhan29, V<sub>8</sub>- BRRI dhan45, V<sub>9</sub>- BRRI dhan47, V<sub>10</sub>- BRRI dhan50, V<sub>11</sub>- IRATOM 24, V<sub>12</sub>- BINA 5, V<sub>13</sub>- Chola boro, V<sub>14</sub>- Sadaboro and V<sub>15</sub>- Bachiboro.

The rice cultivars were planted in a single line having one check cultivar (BRRI dhan28) in between two test cultivars. Each line of the test and check cultivars had ten hills with a hill to hill distance of 20 cm, the line to line distance was also 20 cm. All the fertilizers except urea i.e. TSP, MoP, gypsum and zinc sulphate were applied as basal doses in all the plots at final land preparation. Prilled urea was applied in three equal splits. Forty-eight days old seedlings were transplanted. The first dose of urea was applied at 7 days after transplanting (DAT), the second dose was applied at 41 DAT and the third dose was applied at 56 DAT. Different intercultural operations such as irrigation, weeding, pest control etc. were done as and when required.

The crop was harvested plot wise at full maturity and the data on plant height, panicle length, number of effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>, number of filled grain panicle<sup>-1</sup>, number of unfilled grain panicle<sup>-1</sup>, 1000 grain weight, grain and straw yields were recorded. The grain and straw samples were analyzed for N, P and K content and uptake. All the data were statistically analyzed by F-test and the mean differences were adjudged by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) using statistical package, Minitab.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Yield attributes

The yield attributes of different boro rice cultivars were significantly influenced except panicle length even with the same fertilizer management. There was a significant variation in the number of effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> among the boro rice cultivars (Table 1). The maximum number of effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> (16) was found in Chola boro which was statistically significant over rest of the cultivars. Bhowmick and Nayak (2000) also reported remarkable variations in tillering between the varieties in a field study. Plant height of boro rice was also significantly varied between the cultivars in the experiment (Table 1). The tallest plants (98.1 cm) were found in Sada boro and the shortest plants (59.9 cm) were found in IRATOM 24. There was no significant variation among the boro rice cultivars in terms of panicle length. The number of filled grain production was found statistically significant between the cultivars (Table 1).

The number of filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> varied from 33 to 117. The highest number of filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was found in BR 15 and that of the lowest was found in Chola boro. The highest number of unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was in BR 14 (22) which was statistically identical to rest of the varieties except BR 3, BRRI dhan47 and the three local cultivars. The 1000-grain weight of rice ranged from 18.6 to 25.9 g. The highest 1000-grain weight of 25.9 g was found in Chola boro and that of the lowest was noted in BRRI dhan50 (18.6).

**Table 1.** Yield contributing characters of different boro rice cultivars under same fertilization

Treatments	Effective tillers /hill (No.)	Plant height (cm)	Panicle Length (cm)	Filled grains/ panicle (No.)	Unfilled grains/ panicle (No.)	1000-grain weight (g)
BR 3	9.35 bc	59.93 f	20.44	52.79 ef	11.39 bcd	25.60 ab
BR 6	9.80 bc	71.58 def	21.91	54.50 def	15.17 abc	24.10 abcd
BR 14	8.46 bc	79.6 bcd	21.62	58.52 cdef	21.59 a	24.20 abcd
BR 15	8.11 bc	77.7 bcde	23.47	117.02 a	20.58 a	21.25 efg
BR 16	8.77 bc	74.55 de	22.46	84.29 bcd	15.93 abc	22.40 def
BRRI dhan28	9.66 bc	78.09 bcd	22.84	84.41 bc	10.13 cd	23.80 bcd
BRRI dhan29	10.06 bc	72.91 de	23.01	100.00 ab	20.31 ab	22.60 def
BRRI dhan45	9.66 bc	75.10 cde	20.18	61.91 cdef	11.21 cd	24.00 abcd
BRRI dhan47	7.60 c	79.63 bcd	23.39	78.18 bcde	21.02 a	25.00 abc
BRRI dhan50	9.66 bc	66.01 ef	22.42	54.62 ef	21.36 a	19.50 h
IRATOM 24	8.33 bc	59.86 f	19.23	56.53 cdef	17.34 abc	23.70 cd
BINA 5	8.93 bc	71.95 de	20.49	59.09 cdef	17.01 abc	22.90 bcde
Chola boro	16.20 a	89.41 ab	19.07	33.8 f	5.4 d	25.95 a
Sada boro	11.73 b	98.13 a	22.50	57.30 cdef	5.5 d	19.60 gh
Bachi boro	6.53c	86.88 abc	19.22	57.58 cdef	11.54 bcd	20.85 fgh
<i>p value</i>	<0.001	<0.001	0.08	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001

Figures in a column having common letters do not differ significantly at 5% level of significance

### Grain yield

Grain yield of boro rice cultivars varied significantly in the experiment (Figure 1). The grain yield ranged from 1.74 to 5.26 t/ha. Borah and Deka (1994) reported a great variation in grain yield, N uptake, translocation efficiency and N use efficiency among rice varieties. The highest grain yield of 5.26 t/ha was recorded in BR 15 which was statistically similar to Sada boro, BR3, Chola boro, BINA 5, BR6, IRATOM 24, BR14 and Bachi boro. The lowest value of 1.74 t/ha was recorded in Bachi boro. Bose et al. (2005) reported that high genotypic co-efficient of variation was observed for plot yield. The varieties may be ranked in the order of BR 15> BRRRI 29> BRRRI dhan 45 > BRRRI dhan50> BRRRI dhan47> BR 14 >BR 16> Sada boro> BR 3> Chola boro > BINA 5> BR 6> IRATOM 24 > BR 14> Bachi boro in terms of grain yield.

### Straw yield

The straw yield of different boro rice cultivars also performed different at same fertilizer application (Figure 1). The straw yield observed in different varieties ranged from 1.93 to 4.81 t/ha. The highest straw yield of 4.81 t/ha was obtained in BRRRI dhan29 which was statistically similar to BR 15, Chola boro, BR 16, BINA 5, Sada boro and BR3. The lowest straw yield (1.93t/ha) was noted in IRATOM 24. The varieties may be ranked in the order of BRRRI dhan 29> BR 15> Chola boro > BR 16> BINA 5> Sada boro> BR 3> BRRRI dhan47> BRRRI dhan28> BR 14> BRRRI dhan50> BR 6> BRRRI dhan45 > Bachi boro> IRATOM 24 in terms of straw yield.

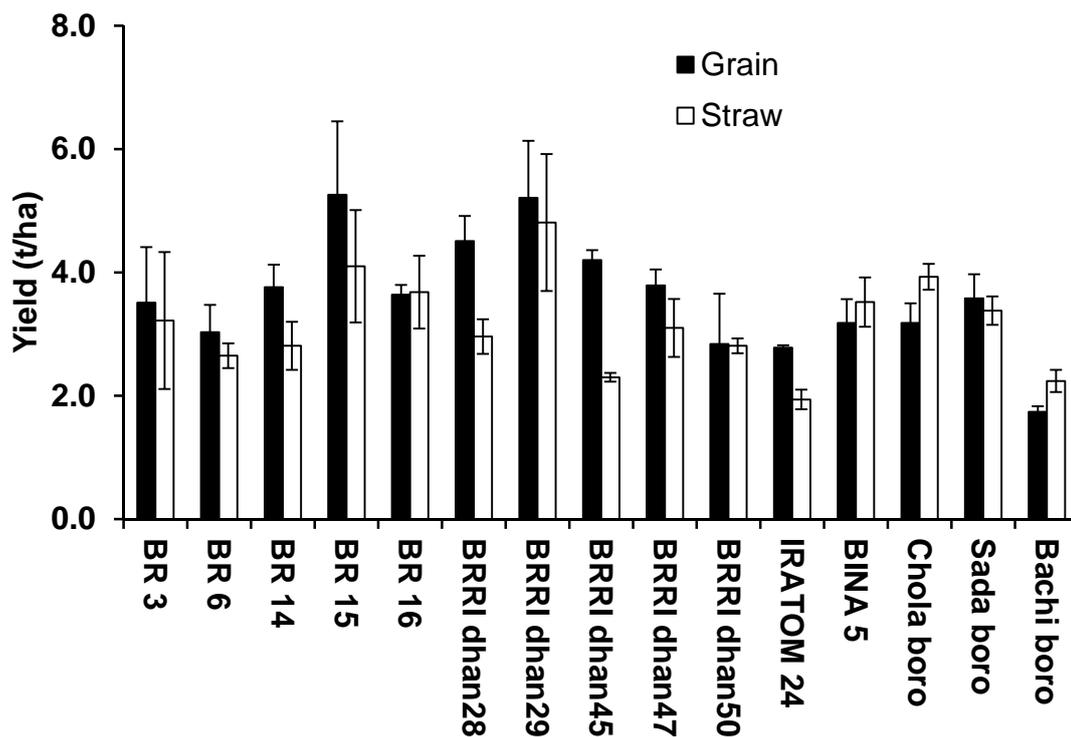


Figure 1. Grain and straw yields of Boro rice cultivars under same fertilization

### NPK content and uptake

The boro rice cultivars used in the experiment showed numerical variations in nitrogen content of grain and straw though the variations were not statistically significant (Table 2). Sada boro was found very high in grain N content compared to other test cultivars having grain N 1.76%. Hassan et

al. (2009) reported that Basfulehikon as a high grain N content rice cultivar (1.53%) and some others were very close to it. The N uptake in grain and straw of boro rice varieties did not vary significantly. The highest N uptake in grain (62.67 kg/ha) was observed in Sada boro and in straw (21.11 kg/ha) was observed in BRR1 dhan29 and the lowest N uptake in grain (18.45 kg/ha) was obtained in Bachi boro and in straw (8.99 kg/ha) was obtained in BRR1 dhan45.

**Table 2.** Nitrogen content and uptake in boro rice cultivars

Treatments	N content (%)		N uptake (kg/ha)		Total N uptake (kg/ha)
	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw	
BR 3	1.12	0.50	33.66	12.98	46.65
BR 6	1.34	0.50	42.08	13.90	55.99
BR 14	0.81	0.42	30.34	12.44	42.79
BR 15	0.92	0.58	43.36	20.66	63.92
BR 16	1.06	0.47	37.83	16.07	53.84
BRR1 dhan28	1.03	0.50	46.00	14.89	60.89
BRR1 dhan29	0.84	0.50	40.27	21.11	61.38
BRR1 dhan45	1.00	0.39	44.26	8.99	48.13
BRR1 dhan47	0.98	0.39	33.76	11.23	46.99
BRR1 dhan50	1.40	0.3	25.40	9.44	40.21
IRATOM 24	1.06	0.53	29.88	10.75	40.64
BINA 5	1.17	0.50	27.70	15.40	54.13
Chola boro	1.45	0.36	48.99	13.89	62.89
Sada boro	1.76	0.47	62.67	16.79	79.46
Bachi boro	1.06	0.44	18.45	9.93	28.38
<i>p value</i>	<i>0.675</i>	<i>0.757</i>	<i>0.479</i>	<i>0.138</i>	<i>0.237</i>

**Table 3.** Phosphorus content and uptake in boro rice varieties

Treatments	P content (%)		P uptake (kg ha <sup>-1</sup> )		Total P uptake (kg/ha)
	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw	
BR 3	0.21	0.057	6.78	1.50	8.29
BR 6	0.22	0.064	6.69	1.76	8.46
BR 14	0.23	0.074	9.15	2.26	11.42
BR 15	0.16	0.063	7.92	2.45	10.37
BR 16	0.17	0.068	6.14	2.27	8.42
BRR1 dhan28	0.18	0.078	8.42	2.25	10.67
BRR1 dhan29	0.21	0.069	10.12	2.95	13.07
BRR1 dhan45	0.15	0.067	9.81	1.81	11.32
BRR1 dhan47	0.21	0.048	7.80	1.40	9.20
BRR1 dhan50	0.22	0.063	6.64	2.86	5.54
IRATOM 24	0.21	0.060	6.12	1.22	7.34
BINA 5	0.19	0.080	6.43	2.60	7.82
Cholaboro	0.18	0.069	5.85	2.65	8.51
Sadaboro	0.15	0.053	5.77	1.86	7.63
Bachiboro	0.16	0.050	2.83	1.13	3.97
<i>p value</i>	<i>0.974</i>	<i>0.436</i>	<i>0.270</i>	<i>0.173</i>	<i>0.225</i>

Results in Table 3 show that phosphorus content in grain and straw of boro rice cultivars did not vary significantly though the numerical variations seems quite remarkable. The highest P content in rice grain was observed in BR 14 and that of the lowest was observed in BRRRI dhan45. The highest P content in rice straw was found in BINA dhan5 (0.08%) and the lowest P content in rice straw was found in BRRRI dhan47 (0.05%). The results presented in Table 3 show that P uptake both in grain and straw of boro rice did not vary significantly among the varieties. The maximum P uptake in grain and straw was found in BRRRI dhan29 and the lowest P uptake by grain and straw was found in Bachi boro. The potassium content in grain and straw of boro rice cultivars also did not vary significantly (Table 4). The highest K content in rice grain was recorded in BINA dhan5 and that in straw was recorded in Chola boro. The K uptake in grain and straw of boro rice did not vary significantly among the test cultivars (Table 4). The K uptake by grain ranged from 5.43 to 17.30 kg/ha and that by straw ranged from 58.29 to 142.19 kg/ha. The total K uptake by grain and straw also did not vary among the test cultivars with same fertilizer application. The varieties may be ranked in the order of Chola boro> BR 15> BRRRI dhan29> BINA 5> BR 14> BRRRI dhan28> BR 16> BRRRI dhan47> Sada boro> BRRRI dhan50> IRATOM 24> BRRRI dhan45> BR 16> Bachi boro> BR 3 in terms of total K uptake. The results indicate huge k depletion from soil due to rice cultivation which needs to be addressed when recommending K fertilizer for rice.

**Table 4.** Potassium content and uptake in boro rice cultivars

Treatments	K content (%)		K uptake (kg/ha)		Total K uptake (kg/ha)
	Grain	Straw	Grain	Straw	
BR 3	0.35	2.27	10.90	58.29	69.19
BR 6	0.34	2.53	10.46	69.91	80.37
BR 14	0.41	3.65	15.75	109.37	125.12
BR 15	0.29	3.49	14.12	131.39	145.51
BR 16	0.32	2.81	11.67	94.44	106.11
BRRRI dhan 28	0.31	3.20	14.41	95.20	109.61
BRRRI dhan 29	0.35	2.58	17.21	108.88	126.09
BRRRI dhan 45	0.31	2.76	17.30	92.93	80.84
BRRRI dhan 47	0.36	3.05	13.48	87.36	100.84
BRRRI dhan 50	0.37	2.66	5.43	74.86	86.13
IRATOM 24	0.35	3.65	10.07	73.72	83.97
BINA 5	0.48	3.59	9.28	109.99	125.91
Chola boro	0.24	3.72	7.76	142.19	149.95
Sada boro	0.42	2.32	15.41	81.70	97.11
Bachi boro	0.37	2.87	6.59	64.46	71.05
<i>p value</i>	<i>0.425</i>	<i>0.053</i>	<i>0.051</i>	<i>0.058</i>	<i>0.084</i>

## CONCLUSIONS

Finally, it can be concluded that BR15, BRRRI dhan29 and BRRRI dhan28 are the three rice cultivars having high potentials for grain and straw production. Chola boro and Sada boro are two local land races having potentials for producing higher number of effective tillers and bigger grain producing cultivars. Sada boro was found to have very high grain N. Therefore, this cultivar could be a tool for rice breeders to develop high N containing rice. Chola boro, IRATOM 24 and BR 14 are three high straw-K containing varieties having breeding potentials to make our future rice plant strong.

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