

## Climarice II field visit – 30-31<sup>st</sup> July 2012

Kharif season 2012 sowings were delayed due to the late onset of monsoon. In many villages sowings were not initiated due to the late monsoon and lack of water supply from irrigation projects in Andhra Pradesh.



Fallow lands due to delayed monsoon and lack of canal water supply in Krishna Western delta (KWD).

However, farmers in Jonnalagadda and Modukur villages (Climarice II villages) have gone for direct seeding of rice. During 2011, Modukur village has sown 150 acres under direct seeding and have noticed significant reduction in water utilization in the initial phase of crop and increase in yield of about 2 qt per acre. Farmers have also noticed long root length in direct seeding compared to the transplantation method. However, more fertilizer and pesticides/herbicides were applied in the direct seeding method, but at the same time costs were reduced due to lower labour requirement as compared to transplanted rice. In the present year (Kharif 2012) about 1000 acres was taken up under the direct seeding in Modukuru. Farmers from Jonnalagadda village were also invited for the sowings due to their expertise in the direct seeding. According to farmers, pilot testing and awareness has motivated them to take up the practice (Source: Papi Reddy and Ramakrishna Reddy, Farmers from Modukuru, Guntur district, Andhra Pradesh).



Fig 1. Farmers showing the sowings of direct seeding and root length within 5 days of sowing

Non-climarice villages (Namburu, Appikatla in Guntur district) are inviting Jonnalagadda farmers for sharing the experience of direct seeding of rice. The field visits organized for the stakeholders at Jonnalagadda village, printed publication on direct seeding with the results achieved in Climarice II has given more exposure to the practice. Though Direct Seeding of Rice has been in practice for many years in the region, projects such as Climarice II are helping to disseminate the technology to more farmers and standardize the practice.



Direct seeding machine is given to Jonnalagadda farmers under government subsidy scheme by Department of Agriculture.

In Doppalapudi village, Guntur district, where farmers earlier practiced limited irrigation in Climarice II they are also now planning for the direct seeding due to lack of water in the canals. In another similar case of Rangareddipalem village, where farmers practiced machine transplantation they are now showing interest to continue with the same practice (Source: Nagi Reddy and D. Srinivas Reddy, farmers).

As a part of Zonal Research and Extension Advisory Council (ZRAEAC) meetings Kharif, 2012 contingency plan for 2012-13 was prepared by RARS, Lam (table 1 & 2). Due to the late monsoon and water supply the contingency crop plan was also advised to the farmers as a part of adaptation strategy. RARS has been involved in Climarice II field testing and interaction with farmers.

Table 1: Contingency Crop planning for Rainfed black soils

S.No	Crop	June	July	August	September	October
1	Cotton	✓	✓ (up to 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	✓	✓ (early rabi)	x
2	Blackgram	✓	✓ (up to 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	x	✓ (early rabi)	✓ (rabi)
3	Greengram	✓	✓	x	✓ (early rabi)	✓ (rabi)
4	Soybean	✓	✓	✓ (up to 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	✓ (early rabi)	✓ (rabi)
5	Redgram	✓	✓	✓	X	x
6	Castor	✓	✓	✓ (up to 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	X	x
7	Maize	✓	✓	X	✓ (with protected irrigation)	✓ (with protected irrigation)
8	Korra	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Chillies	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Table 2: Contingency Crop planning for Rainfed Red soils

S.No	Crop	June	July	August	September	October
1	Redgram	✓	✓	✓	x	x
2	Greemgram	✓	✓ (up to 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	X	x	x
3	Castor	✓	✓	X	x	x
4	Jowar	✓	✓	✓	x	x
5	Bajra	✓	✓	✓	x	x
6	Cowpea	✓	✓	x	x	x
7	Horsegram	x	X	✓ (from 15 <sup>th</sup> only)	✓	✓