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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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A medium duration fine grain rice cv. PALGHAR-2 for Konkan region of Maharashtra State

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ABSTRACT

The rice cv. PALGHAR-2 (PLG 103-1-2-2) was evolved from the cross between IR-5 and Zinia-63 using former parent as female through pedigree method of selection. It is midlate in duration (125-130 days in Kharif), Semi-dwarf (100-105 cm plant height) with short slender and translucent kernel. The cv. PALGHAR-2 showed 19.99 per cent higher yield over the checks in adaptive trials. It showed good milling, head rice recovery and good cooking qualities. It has been observed superior over check Zinia-63 in disease and pest reaction with an average yield potential of 3.0 to 3.5 t/ha. Therefore, the rice variety Palghar-2 was released for commercial cultivation in Konkan region of Maharashtra state

KEY WORDS: Rice, Palghar-2, Fine grain, Medium

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INTRODUCTION

Rice is the most important food grain crop of Konkan region of Maharashtra State. Total area, annual production and productivity of rice crop are 15 lakh hectares, 25 lakh tonnes and 1.7 ton/ha, respectively in the state. The rice crop is grown under varied agro-ecological situations with varied grain quality preferences of the farmers in state. There is a greater preference for fine grain varieties among the rice farmers in the state due to higher market prices and more demand of consumers (Anonymous, 2005). Keeping the requirements of farmers and trade, efforts were made to develop a superfine and medium duration rice variety suitable for midlands in Konkan region of Maharashtra state.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

A cross was made between IR -5 and Zinia-63 using IR 5 as female parent at Agril. Research Station, Palghar. The selections were made for super fine and high yielding progenies from the segregating generations of above cross. Among the several selections in segregating populations

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of above cross, a promising pure line PLG-103-1-2-2 was further tested in various trials on station, state and national programme, co-ordinated trials at various locations in the state and country up to 2001. The culture was screened for resistance to various insect pests and diseases at endemic sites and quality parameters. The yield data of various trials were statistically analyzed according to Panse and Sukhatme (1967). Based on yield data of various trials, superior grain quality, disease and insect pest reactions and stable yield performance at various test locations, PALGHAR-2 (PLG 103-1-2-1) rice cultivar was released in the Konkan region of Maharashtra state for commercial cultivation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The yield performance of Palghar-2 (IET-16092) rice cultivar in various trials conducted during 1990 to 2001 is presented in Table 1. Palghar-2 (PLG 103-1-2-2) rice variety recorded 25.96, 43.0 and 22.03 per cent increase in grain yield over check Zinia-63 in initial and advance variety trials (station) during *Kharif*-1990 to 1992, respectively at Agril. Research Station, Palghar (Anonymous, 1992). The variety showed 38.22, 39.65 and 10.6 per cent increase in yield over check during *Kharif* 1993 to 1995, respectively in state co-ordinated trials conducted at different locations in the Maharashtra state (Anonymous, 1995).

The above rice variety was evaluated in All India