Field level (high spots)

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Rice Fact Sheet

What it does

Seeds planted on high spots are more prone to weed competition, and may suffer in moisture stress. Some times due to moisture stress, the germination of seeds is also lowered causing poor plant stand in the field.

Why and where does it occur

The problem occurs due to the unevenness of fields with the high spots lying above the water level. The problem tends to be more problematic in rainfed areas.

How to identify

Rice plants on high spots are often water-stressed, resulting in:

- Stunting
- Rolling of leaves
- Burning of leaf tips
- Leaf drying or senescence delayed flowering
- Possible whiteheads (with tillers attached to the stem)

The pattern of damage is usually in patches.

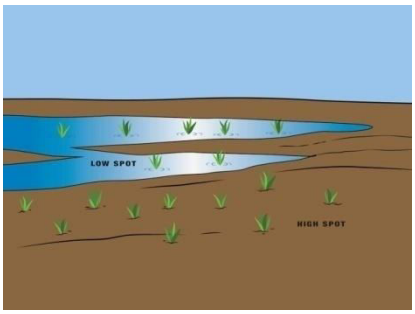
This field problem has similar symptoms to drought and Nitrogen (N) deficiency. To confirm the cause of damage, check the field level. Fe deficiency is most common in raised spots.

Parts of the field are higher than the surrounding area and higher than the average elevation for the entire field. Raised areas often have more weeds and poor plant growth.

How to manage

- Level the fields properly
- Laser land leveler to be used for proper leveling of the field
- Maintain a flat even surface during ploughing and other crop growth stages
- Ensure that water reaches to the each corner of the field well in time

Parts of the field are higher than the surrounding area



Parts of the field are higher than the surrounding area

Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART)

The World Bank is the funding agency of APART
Department of Agriculture, Assam is the nodal department for implementation of APART
ARIAS Society is the State level coordinating and monitoring agency for APART
Assam Agricultural University is the leading Agricultural University of the State and implementing agency of APART, imparting research and scientific support.
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) is the rice global leader providing technical and hand-holding support in the implementation of APART