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Varietal preferences of the green leafhopper

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The relative survival on different varieties and the varietal preferences of the green leafhopper *Nephotettix virescens* have been studied under artificial conditions. This study tried to determine the insect's varietal preferences in the field. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research provided funds for the investigation.

The rice varieties IET2815, IR34, IR32, IR8, IET1991, IET2233, CR44-1, IET2295, Cauvery, IET2895, IR30, IR20, IR579, IR26, IR28, Pusa 2-21, Latisail, and TN1 were grown in the plant virus experimental field during the 1977 kharif. The usual cultivation methods were followed except that no pesticides were applied. Each plot was swept at 1-week intervals from the 1st week of September to the 3d week of October.

The average number of leafhoppers

Varietal preference of rice green leafhoppers. Kalyani, West Bengal, India.

Designation	Leafhoppers ^a (no./sweep at av. of 5 sweeps/plot)					
	1st week, Sept. *(82 days)	2d week, Sept. (90 days)	3d week, Sept. (96 days)	4th week, Sept. (105 days)	1st week, Oct. (113 days)	3d week, Oct. (125 days)
IET2815	3	13	10	5	13	6
IR34	4	11	8	2	12	0
IR32	4	10	7	4	9	2
IR8	4	13	4	1	10	3
IET1991	0	5	3	1	2	1
IET2233	3	2	1	1	7	2
CR44-1	0	9	13	8	22	10
IET2295	2	0	8	6	8	0
Cauvery	1	4	11	2	12	7
IET2895	3	3	7	6	29	6
IR30	1	3	9	7	9	3
IR20	5	1	9	6	9	4
IR579	0	1	4	1	4	0
IR26	0	16	2	0	9	1
IR28	0	9	5	3	16	2
Pusa 2-21	7	20	6	4	9	5
Latisail	0	9	3	2	16	
TN1	17	14	15	10	12	10

^aNumbers in parentheses indicate plant age at time of sweeping.

collected for IET1991 and IR579 in the different periods was low — not exceeding five (see table). Leafhopper populations on IET2815, CR44-1, Cauvery, IET2895, and TN1 were,

however, fairly high during the entire observation period. The results indicate that green leafhoppers have differential preference for different rice varieties in the field. W

Pest management and control DISEASES

Symptoms resembling those of rice dwarf disease in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal

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Rice plants seeded in April and transplanted in May 1978 in farmers' fields in the Kathmandu Valley showed symptoms typical of rice dwarf (or stunt) disease described in Japan. Farmers reported that the disease has been present for 5 or 6 years.

The symptoms included stunting (the degree of which was related to the stage of infection), some reduction in tillering, inhibition of or delayed flowering, and typical whitish-yellow chlorotic spots



Chlorotic specks forming interrupted streaks, a symptom of rice dwarf disease.

Differences between healthy and diseased plants collected from the crossing block of the Khumaltar Agricultural Station, Nepal. August 1978.

Character	Reduction in diseased plants (%)
Plant ht	54.2
Root length	15.5
Root wt	57.5
No. of tillers	47.8
No. of spikelets/panicle	43.0 ^a

^aOnly one infected plant flowered.

along the interveinal areas and on the leaves. The spots either were discrete or coalesced to form lines parallel to the