EFFECT OF BLUE GREEN ALGAE IN RICE PRODUCTIVITY: A COMPARISON OF FIELD AND POT TRIALS IN KATHMANDU VALLEY OF NEPAL

A Dissertation Submitted to the Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University for the partial fulfillment of M.Sc. in Botany

> Submitted by Yagya Prasad Paudel Roll. No. 23(060/062) Symbol No. 660 T. U.Regd. No.: 5-1-49-676-97

Central Department of Botany Tribhuvan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal 2006 Prof. Dr. B.N. Prasad



Molling Address: Residence Professor's Quarter A-1 Tribhovan University, Kittipur, Katherando, Nepel, Tel: (977-1) 4330582 Fex. (977-1) 4330582 Fex. (977-1) 4330582 Fex. (977-1) 4330582

Ref. No.

Office

Pinfessor (P ant Biotechnology)

Central Department of Botany Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal

Tal: 977-1-4331322 (O) Fax: 977-1-4332636

2nd November 2006

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Yagya Prasad Paudel has completed the dissertation work entitled, "Effect of Blue Green Algae in Rice Productivity: A Comparison of Field and Pot Trials in Kathmandu Valley of Nepal" under my supervision. To the best of my knowledge this work has not been submitted for any other academic degree elsewhere. I recommend this dissertation for the partial fulfillment of M.Sc. Botany with specialization in Biotechnology degree in Tribhuvan University.

Defressed.

Prof. Dr. Braj Nandan Prasad (Supervisor) Biotechnology Unit Central Department of Botany Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur



TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Ref. No.

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Kirtipur, Kathmandu Nepel

LETTER OF APPROVAL

This dissertation work entitled "Effect of Blue Green Algae in Rice Productivity: A Comparison of Field and Pot Trials in Kathmandu Valley of Nepal" has been accepted as partial fulfillment of the Master's degree in Botany

Expert Committee:

Prof. Dr. B.N. Prasad (Supervisor) Central Department of Botany Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal,

8 Jha Prof.

Central Department of Bolany Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal.

an-L

Dr. H.P. Bimb (External Examiner) Bio Technology Unit NARC, Khumaltar, Lalitpur

Eli-La

Prof. Dr. Sanú Devi Joshi (Internal/Examiner) Central Department of Botany Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal.

Date of Examination: 18th December 2006

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the dissertation work entitled "BGA affected rice productivity: a comparision of Field and Pot Trials in Kathmandu Valley of Nepal" Submitted by Yagya Prasad Paudel for the partial Fulfillment of M.Sc in Botany has been carried out under my supervision.

This entire dissertation is based on the results of his own work and has not been submitted for any other degree to the best of my knowledge.

> Prof. Dr. Braj Nandan Prasad (Supervisor) Central Department of Botany

> > Tribhuvan University

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude, appreciation and indebtedness to my Supervisor Prof. Dr. B.N. Prasad, Plant Biotechnology Unit, Central Department of Botany T.U. for his potential guidance, supervision and constant encouragement throughout this investigation.

I am greatly indebted to Prof. Dr. V.N. Gupta, Co-ordinator Plant Biotechnology Unit, Central Department of Botany, T.U. for his invaluable guidance, intellectual suggestions and constant inspiration during the entire period of the study.

I am grateful to Prof. Dr. P.K.Jha, Head of the Department, Central Department of Botany, T.U. for providing me the necessary facilities during the period of the study.

I owe my profound thanks to Prof. Dr. S.D. Joshi, Dr. B. Pant, S. Rajbhandary, S. Pahari and all other respected teachers for their suggestions and help during academic period.

I express my high regards to respected teacher Bharat Babu Shrestha, Lecturer, Central Department of Botany, T.U. for his great help and suggestions during the analysis of soil samples in T.U. laboratory and statistical analysis of the data.

I am thankful to all the non-teaching staff of Central Department of Botany, T.U. for their kind help and co-operation during the research period.

I am indebted to Dr. R.C. Prasad and Miss Apsana Giri for providing algal inoculum and valuable suggestions during their research period.

I am equally thankful to Mr. Hari Krishna Upreti and LI-BIRD, Chitwan for providing rice seeds required for research work.

My heartfelt thanks goes to my friend Miss Shreeti Pradhan who helped me throughout the research period. I would like to thank to Mr. Madhu Sudan Thapa Magar and his family members for providing me field facilities and other helps in conducting field experiments.I appreciate to my friends Dhan Raj Kandel, Nabin Bhattarai, Saraswati Aryal, Narayan Prasad Ghimire, Purbendra Nath Yogi ,Dharma Raj Koirala and all others who directly or indirectly helped in my research work.

I am thankful to Cornell Nepal Study Program (CNSP) for providing me financial support.

Finally, special appreciation is extended to my family and relatives for their constant inspiration and immense patience during the entire study period.

Yagya Pradad Paudel

ABSTRACT

Rice is one of the oldest cultivated crops and single most important staple food crop for more than a third of the world's population. It is the main cereal grain and important staple food crop of Nepal. Nepal is importing chemical fertilizers from other countries for rice production. On the other hand there is a problem of transportation of fertilizers in hilly areas. The inoculation of Blue Green Algale is an alternative source of nitrogen to increase the rice productivity. The mixed inoculum of Nostoc, Anabaena, Westiellopsis, Aulosira and Scytonema was used in field and pot trials. Similarly a single inoculum of Anabaena was also used to compare the most effective treatment. The rice varieties used were NR 10414 and Mansuli. From the field and pot trials the BGA mixed inoculum with N:P:K (30:20:20) was found most effective for rice productivity. The grain yield ranged from 7.1% - 23.6% whereas the increase in straw yield ranged from 7.2% - 22.2%. The BGA inoculum was found helpful in increasing the chlorophyll of rice plant. BGA added Nitrogen and Organic matter to the rice grown soil.

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVATIONS

ANOVA	Analysis OF Variance
%	Percent
ARA	Acetylene Reduction Assay
BGA	Blue Green Algae
(°C)	Degree celcius
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
Chl.	Chlorophyll
et al.	et alebi(and others)
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
F.W.	Fresh weight
g	gram
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ha	hectare
IARI	Indian Agricultural Research Institute
ICAR	Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Κ	Potassium
Kg	Kilogram
LI-BIRD	Local initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and
	Development
MoAC	Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
Mt	Metric tone
MPE	Ministry of Population and Environment
Ν	Nitrogen
NARC	Nepal Agricultural and Research Council
NAST	National Academy Of Science and Technology
NG	Nepal Government
O. D.	Optical Density
Р	Phosphorus
PH	Negative logarithm of Hydrogen ion concentration
t/ha	ton per hectare
T.U.	Tribhuvan University
Vol.	Volume
wt.	weight