

B10

THE GENEALOGY OF IMPROVED HIGH YIELDING RICE VARIETIES OF SRI LANKA

Ranjini Peiris and S.D.G.Jayawardena

*Div. of Botany Central Agricultural Research Inst., Gannoruwa*

Ninety seven percent of the rice land in Sri Lanka is planted with improved high yielding rice varieties.

This analysis was carried out to find out the maternal ancestry of the released high yielding rice varieties and entries in the co-ordinated varietal trials. Eighty six percent of the released high yielding rice varieties and 84% of the entries in the co-ordinated trials had the same maternal parent "Cina".

Therefore this cytoplasmic similarity of the modern high yielding rice varieties could be a practical problem in future and it is worthwhile paying more attention (by the plant breeders of Sri Lanka) to broaden the maternal genetic base of the improved high yielding varieties.