

B-47 Performance of medium-duration groundnut varieties (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) in regosols in the Eastern Region of Sri Lanka

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An experiment was conducted to study the performance of 8 selected groundnut varieties of ICRISAT origin in regosols of the Eastern region of Sri Lanka (Agroecological region DL₂) during the period February to 1st week of June 1997. The varieties were arranged in RCBD and replicated 3 times.

Two varieties ICGV 88345 (T₃) and ICGV 88338 (T₄) performed remarkably well when compared to the Check variety (Red Spanish). ICGV 88345 (T₃) gave the highest pod yield of 3205 kg/ha followed by ICGV 88338 (T₄) (3163 kg/ha). These two varieties gave 42% and 40% increase in pod yield respectively over the Check variety Red Spanish. The same two varieties also produced higher number of pods (10/plant and 11/plant respectively), which were found to be 13% and 22% more pods in number than the check. They also formed heavy kernels, weighing 60% more than the kernels of the Check variety. The 2 varieties were found to have shelling % over 65% which was not inferior to the check variety.

The results elucidate that under conditions in the experiment, ICRISAT varieties ICGV 88345 and ICGV 88338 showed remarkable performance in pod yield and its components. They may be the potential candidates to grow in regosols of the eastern region of Sri Lanka.