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Effect of raised bed width on performance of groundnut variety 'Walawa' grown in RHODUSTALFS during Maha season.

Groundnut is widely grown in the dry zone under supplementary and complete rainfed conditions in Maha season. Maha rains can cause drainage problem unless excess rainwater is removed by surface drain system especially in very wet years, Farmers adopt different field layouts for groundnut cultivation changing from flat surface to bedded (furrowed) basins with different bed widths and capable of accommodating 2 to 4 crop rows. As a result, drainage condition and aeration are also varied accordingly.

Therefore, a trial was conducted at the Regional Agriculture Research centre, Angunakolapallassa to ascertain the suitable bed width under beded basin system for groundnut cultivation.

Basins were prepared to 5 m squares and each was boarded with an earth bund. Three different bed widths accommodating different number of crop rows *viz* single, double and treble row, were taken as the treatments. Treatments were arranged in 13 basins under RCB design with 4 replicates. Supplementary irrigation was provided when dry spells exceeded 7 days.

A significant yield difference was recorded at $P= 0.07$ due to the adoption of different bed widths in beded basins. Double row bedded basins yielded 2598 kg/ h, which are 13 and 19% increase over the single and treble row beded basins respectively. Also considering water distribution and easiness in land preparation, double row beds can be chosen as the best for groundnut (walawe) grown in *rhodustalfs*.