

Rice industry report

A number of rice growers in the Murrumbidgee broke records last season achieving yields over 15 tonnes per hectare. Rice growers across the Riverina averaged 11 tonnes/ha. Favourable seasonal conditions helped with the great yields but rice growers are adopting new varieties, improved agronomic growing recommendations and new technology on farm at an amazing rate.

The variety Reiziq[Ⓛ] achieved an average yield of 12 tonnes per hectare, and other new varieties like the specialty fragrant variety Topaz[Ⓛ] performed well. New short season varieties have been trialled on farms with impressive yields and reduced water use. Two new varieties look to be available for limited release this season. Growers are applying nitrogen effectively and managing irrigation water efficiently which has produced impressive gross margins for rice growers even in a year of high water prices and makes the crop an attractive option for summer cropping.

Summary of rice yields (t/ha) - 2015/16 season compared to 5 year average

VARIETY	REGION									
	MIA		CIA		EMV		WMV		ALL REGIONS	
	5 yr Av	2015/16	5 yr Av	2015/16	5 yr Av	2015/16	5 yr Av	2015/16	5 yr Av	2015/16
Reiziq [Ⓛ]	11.7	12.4	10.2	10.9	9.6	9.3	10.1	11.6	10.8	12.0
Sherpa [Ⓛ]	11.1	11.5	10.7	10.7	10.7	11.4	10.1	10.4	10.6	11.1
Koshihikari	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.0	8.6	6.6	n/a	7.5	8.6
Opus [Ⓛ]	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	9.4	8.7	9.6	11.0	9.5	10.1
Illabong	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	10.4	10.1	n/a	n/a	10.4	10.1
Langi	9.5	9.7	9.0	9.2	9.1	10.6	n/a	n/a	9.3	9.7
Doongara	9.4	9.0	10.4	n/a	8.5	10.1	n/a	n/a	9.5	9.0
Kyeema	8.5	8.0	8.4	8.1	6.7	n/a	n/a	n/a	8.5	8.1
Topaz [Ⓛ]	9.3*	9.0	8.8*	9.4	8.3*	9.5	n/a	n/a	9.1*	9.1
All varieties	11.0	11.4	9.8	10.0	10.0	10.4	9.7	10.8	10.2	11.0

* less than 5 years of commercial data

** First year of commercial crop

Data from SunRice



NSW Department of Primary Industries primefact

YRM70 growing guidelines

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YRM70 is a semi-dwarf medium grain variety that has similar grain quality characteristics to Reiziq but is shorter in growth duration.

The recommendations presented in this document are based on field measurements obtained in the 2015/16 season and will be further developed as results covering a larger range of seasons are obtained. We have little growing data on aerial seeding of this variety but expect lodging may be more severe when the crop is aerial sown compared to drill sown.

Yield potential
The yield potential of YRM70 is around 90% of Reiziq when both are sown in their correct sowing window.

Seedling vigour
Preliminary experiments show YRM70 to have good seedling vigour, similar to Sherpa.

Sowing rate
It is recommended that YRM70 be sown at 150 kg/ha for all sowing methods.