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Ten steps to producing own good seeds

Good quality seeds can be produced if there are no available sources of certified seeds in the area. However, producing good seeds must be done carefully. Experts suggest the following steps to producing your own quality seeds:

1. Select a fertile field.
2. Use clean and good quality seeds.
3. Plow, puddle, and level the field well to control weeds and improve water management.
4. Transplant 21-25 days old seedlings from a healthy, weed-free nursery at 2 seedlings per hill and with 20 cm x 20 cm spacing.
5. Apply balanced nutrients (N, P, K, S, Zn) based on crop demand.
6. Keep the crop free from weeds, insect pests, and diseases.
7. At maximum tillering and flowering, rogue off-types (by plant height, appearance, flowering time, etc.). Remove diseased or insect-damaged plants and plants with discolored panicles.
8. Harvest if 80-85% of the grains are straw-colored.
9. Thresh, clean, dry (12-14% moisture content), grade, and label the harvested seeds.
10. Store the labeled seeds on sealed clean containers in a cool, dry, and clean area.

Source:

Alejar M, Arocena E, Ayos E, Padolina T, Elep J, & Pamplona A. 2010. *Seed Quality: Variety and Seed Selection*. Rice Self-Sufficiency Plan Rice Technology Updates Seminar.