

Title Physiological quality of rice seeds in relation to differential occurrence of *Drechslera oryzae*.
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Abstract

The present study aimed to evaluate the performance of rice seeds naturally infected with *Drechslera oryzae* [*Cochliobolus miyabeanus*], at different incidence levels, to exam the effect of inoculum position and to assess the efficiency of fungicidal treatment with iprodione plus thiram. Four lots of rice seeds with incidence levels of *C. miyabeanus* at 4, 7, 23 and 26% were utilized in this study. The parameters evaluated in the health testing were occurrence percentage and inoculum position. Seed performance was evaluated by germination and vigor tests. The fungicide treatment with the iprodione and thiram mixture proved to be effective in eradicating or decreasing the incidence of *C. miyabeanus* in rice seeds. In this study, seed performance was improved by fungicide treatment even at low levels of occurrence percentage of *C. miyabeanus*.