

Development of Taichung No. 189 Rice¹

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ABSTRACT

Taichung No. 189 is a Japonica variety of rice developed by crossing Tainung No. 67 (maternal parent) with Taichung No. 187 (paternal parent). With the characteristics of strong culm, blast resistance, good rice quality, and stability in grain yield, it was named and released to the farmers on June 17, 1983.

Since the variety showed strong resistance to both leaf and panicle blast, it is suitable for being grown in the area where blast is often very serious in the first crop. Due to its slightly lower tillering ability and panicle number, it is better to grow the variety in the fertile soil or adopt the close spacing and intensive fertilization program for growing the variety. Although the variety has strong culm and is resistant to lodging, it is taller than Tainung No. 67 for about 3-5 cm, and therefore some precaution must be taken in the fertilization technique. In order to get higher tiller number, the fertilizers should be applied as early as possible but it should be ceased on the 45th day after transplanting for the first crop, and on the 30th day after transplanting for the second crop, accompanied by proper draining to inhibit the growth of ineffective tiller and the elongation of rice plants. However, as the variety belongs to the heavy spike type, proper amount of panicle fertilizer should be applied to help get higher grain number in a panicle to reach the goal of high grain yield. As the variety is not resistant to bacterial leaf blight, it is better not to grow in the poorly drained or windy area where bacterial leaf blight is often serious. The brown plant hopper is also necessary to be controlled according to the methods recommended in the plant protection handbook. The irrigation should not be cut off too early before the harvest, especially at hot season, as to influence the rice quality.

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