

Growth of Rice

Germinate seeds in a 50/50 mix of “Garden Magic” Top Soil and Baccto High Porosity Soilless medium prepared as follows:

Premix three 40# bags of “Garden Magic” Top Soil (Michigan Peat Company, Houston Texas and available at the Greenhouse Shoppe on Route 3 just north of Mill Ave) with two 2cu’ bags of Baccto High Porosity Soilless medium, the same stuff we use for everything else in the lab). Including a slow release fertilizer might also be a good idea.

Place pots into trays without drainage holes and keep 2-3 inches of water in the tray when plants are ~5" tall (and/or flowering).

Fertilize with all-purpose fertilizer once a week. Maintain these conditions until after set seed begins, then start drying down.

Provide as much light and humidity as possible.

Grow under 14-16h days. Some rice varieties are daylight sensitive and won't flower unless provided with short day length.

Rice is a self-pollinated plant but outcrossing is not high in greenhouse. Maintaining different flowering genotypes 3m away from one another should be enough to avoid cross-pollination.

Guo-liang:

Growth at 26°C day/20°C night 12h photoperiod is fine

Growth at 28°C day/25°C night may promote earlier flowering