Embrapa

Arroz e Feijão

Rice and Beans

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply
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Introduction

Embrapa Rice and Beans is the research center of the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation in charge of coordinating research and development of rice and beans, two crops that are extensively grown in Brazil.

Our mission is to develop new technologies for achieving sustainable rice and bean production for the welfare of the Brazilian society. This mission is of particular importance in Brazil, since rice and beans are staple foods for the Brazilian people.

Since 1974, we have done research with the objectives of improving rice and bean production in environmentally sound agricultural systems, increasing profitability for farmers and guarantee the supply of high-quality food at affordable prices for Brazilian consumers.

To achieve these goals, we rely on a team of qualified scientists and well equipped laboratories, participating in national and international research networks. Additionally, we work on technology transfer in collaboration with public and private partners for the improvement of the technological level of the Brazilian agriculture.

As a result of our work, we provide farmers with highly productive cultivars and high quality grains, alternatives to rice and bean integration in more efficient cropping systems, new techniques for integrated pest and disease management, soil and water conservation, and alternative uses for rice and bean products and by-products. Consequently, we have been cooperating to turn Brazil into a reference on food production in tropical regions.

We at Embrapa Rice and Beans are proud of our contribution to the food security of the Brazilian population as well as the improvement of quality of life of farmers and the preservation of the Brazilian environment.

Assessoria de Comunicação Organizacional - 1.000 exemplares (2010)

Research and Development

Embrapa Rice and Beans pursue innovative technologies through research and development (R&D), for increasing crop production in a sustainable way, while preserving natural resources and protecting the biodiversity. Our R&D projects are planned and executed in collaboration with the National Agricultural Research System, according to demands of the production sector and arising opportunities in the rice and bean markets.

We offer to farmers high-yielding rice and beans varieties with superior grain quality. We also develop enhanced production systems, integrated disease and pest management and new alternatives for the use of rice and beans grains and by-products. With this, we contribute to make Brazil a leader in food production under tropical climate.

Researchers and staff are organized in eight research groups which promote discussions on technical themes, develop and conduct research projects and contribute to the strategic planning of the institution.

RESEARCH GROUPS AT EMBRAPA RICE AND BEANS ARE:

- » Sustainable Agricultural Systems
- » Agro-environmental Sciences
- » Plant Health
- » Biotechnology
- » Genetic Resources
- » Rice Breeding
- » Bean Breeding
- » Food Science

Technology Transfer

Technology transfer (TT) at Embrapa Rice and Beans consists of training field technicians, who, in turn, act as disseminators to farmers at field level with emphasis on the adoption and rational use of technologies. High yield with rational use of inputs is considered as the basis for a sustainable agriculture.

Technology transfer actions are strategically selected in partnership with public and private institutions working on technical assistance, with the objective of introducing better and safer technologies into existing rice and beans cropping systems. For this purpose, a structured training program has been created to promote capacity building for technicians of the Brazilian rural extension service network. Special programs are offered for technicians from other countries in Latin America and Africa.

Embrapa Rice and Beans also rely on other methods for communication and TT, like the Embrapa Information Agency, which hosts the "knowledge trees" of rice and beans, Pilot Units of TT, special projects for information management and capacity building, and participation in Technical Commissions for rice and beans.

Additionally, the process of TT is strategic for identifying new demands, generating information that contributes to priority setting in research and development focused on current problems and trends of the productive chains of rice and beans.

The results of projects developed by Embrapa Rice and Beans are presented in the Embrapa's Catalog of Products and Services.

International Relationship

Embrapa Rice and Beans works internationally in two main venues: collaboration with centers of excellence for cutting-edge research and cooperation with developing countries for transfer of the Brazilian experience in tropical agriculture.

We have a long history of collaboration in projects of research and development, carried out in partnership with advanced research institutes and foreign universities. This collaboration aims to combine the competitive advantages of each institution in order to achieve high-impact results of common interest.

We also participate in cooperative work coordinated by the Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for capacity building on the rice and beans crops for Africa, Latin America and Caribbean countries. Those activities involve training of foreign technicians in Brazil as well as in their country of origin, testing cultivars for adaptation to different environments, offering prototypes and blueprints of small farming machinery, helping in the elaboration of climate risk maps for rice and beans and production of technical publications for both crops.

Embrapa Rice and Beans in Numbers • 2010

Location

Latitude ..... 16°28'00" S
Longitude ..... 49°17'00" W
Altitude ..... 823 metros
Distances (km)
- Goiânia 20
- Brasília 210
- Closest airport (GYN) 15

Testing Fields

Capivara Farm (Santo Antônio de Goiás, GO)

Total area ..... 962 ha
Preserved forest area ..... 212,3 ha
Area for future expansion ..... 390,7 ha
Experimental fields ..... 359 ha
- With sprinkler irrigation ..... 174 ha

Palmital Farm (Goianira, GO)

Total area ..... 88 ha
Experimental fields
- Lowland ..... 25 ha

Facilities

Greenhouses 8
Screenhouses 15
Laboratories 10
(Biotechnology, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Seed Quality, Grains and By-products, Agro-environmental Analysis, Soil Biology, Agro-physiology, Rice Breeding, Bean Breeding)
Active Germplasm Bank (accessions) 45.234
(Rice: 28,787 accessions / Beans: 16,447 accessions)
Auditorium with 116 seats
Library with 29,178 volumes
Seed Processing Plant
Total of Employees 322
Researchers 55
Analysts 49
Assistants 228

• PRODUCTION INDICATORS

Cultivars released

Upland rice 42
Irrigated rice 43
Common beans 48

Publications

Scientific Papers 418
Books 32
R&D Bulletins 34
Technical Circulars 86
Technical Reports 186
Document Series 253

Assessoria de Comunicação Organizacional da Embrapa Arroz e Feijão. Ano: 2010 - Tiragem: 2.000 exemplares

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