



The Black Stuff

Demonstration of The Black Stuff™
in CR203 Rice
Wet Season Short Growing

Background

Rice demand has been increasing and farmers need to increase yields to satisfy demand. This crop is supplied to Lao Beer Co. for the production of its icon rice beer, Beer Lao. Grower is trialling The Black Stuff™ to test the product performance under commercial conditions to boost yields.

Objective

To demonstrate that The Black Stuff™ will boost crop yields in an economic way.

Grower: Keo Keomoungkhoun **Crop:** Wet season rice CR203

Location: Tha Ngon, Lao PDR

Method

The rice farm is roughly divided into irregular lots. Each lot is surrounded by walkways, and the farm is flood irrigated.

The Black Stuff™ was spread across three lots at the following rates:

Lot 1 462 m² 0.108/m²

Lot 2 714 m² 0.140/m²

Lot 3 1,056 m² 0.142/m²

Lot 4 control lot, no The Black Stuff™.

Crop planted July 2019. Usual local commercial practices for rice farming were followed and all lots treated the same except for The Black Stuff™ application. NPK was applied at planting and a month after planting.

Crop harvested October 2019. Rice from each lot was kept separate, weighed and assessed for quality.

Rainfall Average annual rainfall 2,200 mm
History Rice grown over the last 5 years. Dry & wet season.
Soil Type: Sandy loam PH: 4.4

Results

Lots	m	m ²	TBS litres	TBS L/m ²	Yield 70 kg bags	Yield kg	Yield/m ² kg	Incr %
1	11 x 42	462	50	0.108225108	1.5	105	0.2272727	45%
2	17 x 42	714	100	0.140056022	2.5	175	0.2450980	56%
3	24 x 44	1,056	150	0.142045455	4.0	280	0.2651515	69%

Gross yields (all lots)

2018	5 bags (70 kg/bag)	350 kg
2019	8 bags (70 kg/bag)	560 kg

Quality: Outstanding – Grade A

Conclusion

Clear correlation between increased The Black Stuff™¹ application and increased yield. At the application rate of 0.142 L/m² yield increase was 69%.

Test indicates higher yields may be achieved with even higher application rates.

2021 Update

No further Black Stuff was added after the 2019 trial.

Farmer reports wet and dry season yields increase 50% over baseline yields. Results affected by water shortages in 2020 seasons.

Persistency of The Black Stuff confirmed over 3 years.



¹ The product was called NSA Wilt Stop. The local farmers found that difficult to say and call it "Foon Dam", The Black Stuff™, so we renamed the product.