

## Farmers' Corner- A Knowledge Hub

### CARI Dhan 5

Out of total rice cultivated area, about 3000 ha has come under varying degree of salinity in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. As far as salinity is concerned, it is mostly moderate ( $EC_e < 4$  DS/m) owing



to high rainfall during rainy season. In salt affected lands normal rice varieties cannot be grown due to its susceptibility for salinity. In his regard ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair, has developed a salt tolerant rice variety "Dweep : CARI Dhan 5 which has been released by State Variety Release Committee, Andaman and Nicobar Islands in 2009 and notified by Government India for cultivation in Andaman and Nicobar Islands in 2017. CARI Dhan 5 is a long duration (150 days) variety for coastal saline soils with short stature (95.5 cm) and higher yield. It bears 9-10 tillers per plant with panicle length of 24 cm. Its grain yield ranges from 5.0 to 5.5 t/ha in normal soils and 3.2 to 3.7 t/ha in saline soil conditions. Due to its higher yield and other favourable characters, this variety has become popular among farmers in A & N Islands.

**Benefit:** It is salt tolerant rice variety which can be grown in moderate ( $EC_e < 4$  DS/m) saline soils. Medium bold grain and gives 18-20% more grain yield (3-3.2 t/ha) compared to other varieties.

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