

Category	: International Rice Research Conference
Select Theme	: Sustainable and equitable farming systems
Endorsement email	:
Keyword 1	: Water management
Keyword 2	: Yield gaps
Keyword 3	: Sustainable management practices
Title of Entry	: Can maize be a potential crop to intensify the production system in polders?
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Select only one type of presentation	: 15 minute oral presentation
Abstract	: Abstract Agriculture is the most important source of livelihood for the people of Bangladesh. The cropping intensity in the polders of the coastal region is low as most of the farmers of this region kept their lands fallow after Aman rice due to shortage of fresh water for irrigation in the dry season. Sometimes the farmers cultivate sesame during mid-February to mid-June which is often damaged by pre-monsoon rain and by cyclonic storm in May. Maize may be a promising crop that can be grown during the dry season for food and nutritional security of the community and feed for the livestock. Therefore, an experiment has been conducted at polder 30 (medium saline region) in the south-western part of Bangladesh to investigate the effect of variety and sowing date on the performance of maize. The experiment is comprised of four varieties viz. BARI Hybrid Maize 7, Pacific 139, Pacific 984, Don 111 and six sowing dates each having 10 days interval starting from December 20 to February 08. The experiment was laid out in a split plot design where sowing date was in the main plot and variety in the sub-plot with four dispersed replications. The experiment was done under rainfed environment without supplementary irrigation. The crop was established by dibbling. During the first sowing date, the soil was fully saturated. It was observed that the soil moisture gradually decreased in between the sowing dates. Similarly, crop emergence was also varied across the sowing dates and among the varieties. The percentage of emergence at 14 DAS varied from 51% to 90% across sowing dates and among the varieties. The growth and development of Don 111 was better than other varieties. Among the tested varieties, maximum plant viability was observed from the second sowing date (30 December) at 70 DAS and maximum survivability was obtained from Don 111(95%). The crops of the experiment will be harvested by June and the authors will be in

position to present other performance indicators of different treatments during the conference.

Key words: Polder, Maize and Sowing Date

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