

4. Management of Major Rice Diseases. Chang Kyu Kim. Plant Pathology Division, NIAST, RDA, 249 Seodoon Dong, Suwon, Korea 441-707.

Rice is still one of the most important food crops in Korea. Despite of numerous efforts, occurrence of diseases and insect pests are threatening the sustainable production. Among 40 rice diseases recorded in Korea, several major diseases including blast, sheath blight and bacterial blight, etc are occurring every year. Planting area affected by rice diseases as well as yield reduction is different year to year depending on the year's situation. Use of a disease-resistant variety is an environmentally friendly method to manage the disease problem. However, resistant varieties do not necessarily remain resistant indefinitely and we occasionally experienced blast epidemics and insect pest outbreaks. To reduce the damage due to rice diseases, an integrated approach of using resistant varieties, selection of healthy seeds, removal of primary inoculum, optimal use of nitrogen fertilizer, avoidance of dense planting and timely application of fungicide is necessary.