

Farming will never be a success unless the farmer
had more voice in the disposal of
his produce—P. Morrel.

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A Note on the Purple Pigment in some varieties
of Paddy.

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In many varieties or types of paddy, the different parts of the plant above ground are usually green, but in some, a kind of purple pigment occurs in certain parts of the stem, leaf and flower. † The part or parts in which the pigment exists vary in different varieties or types though, in some cases the presence of pigment in one part is correlated with its presence in certain other part or parts also. The intensity of the pigment also varies considerably.

† In some varieties e. g. Puttu, the pigment occurs over the whole plant including the entire leaf surface, so that a crop of this variety stands in striking contrast to that of other varieties.

It will be seen from the list that the pigment occurs in a single part of the plant or two as in Kakirekkalu 2, or Drohanapugada 2, or in several, as in the case of Konna, the list covering a large number of intermediate classes.

In some cases the presence of pigment in one part is, as stated above, correlated with its presence in certain other parts also. For example, the presence of pigment in the axil of the leaf-sheath indicates its presence in the stigma and apiculus also (see group 4). Similarly its presence in the pulvinus of leaf indicates its presence in the auricles also, though there may be some exceptions, eg. Nayakoti 5.

In some varieties, the pigment is very deep in the leaf-sheath, e.g., Konna, Nallakonamani, and Gudakutta, while as in others it is very light, eg. Mosapurulu and Kotthmallisamba. In the deeply pigmented varieties the pigment is generally present in a larger number of parts than in the light-pigmented ones. Similarly, the intensity varies much in that of the pulvinus, stigma, apiculus etc

The significance of the presence of the pigment in the various parts, or of the differences in its intensity is little understood. † Unless a very large number of varieties are studied under varied conditions, no correlation between the presence or absence of pigment and the other characters having an economic bearing can be deduced.

The presence of pigment in different parts, however, helps the identification of many varieties and strains which otherwise look similar.

Varieties of paddy without purple pigment in any part are :-

Alwarsannalu.

Baital-fakir; Balaramabhogam; Bangaruthigalu 1, 2, 3; Bangangi 27, 46, 61, 90; Bayyahunda; Bobbilbudama; Bobbiliganti; Boddumani; Budamavadlu; Burma 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

† A similar pigment occurs in some varieties of ragi, samai, coda bean, brinjal, knol khol, etc.

Chevitisompu; Chinnamundabolalo; Chipurubayyahunda;
Chulakanamahipali; Co. 1.

Dasaradhilu; Dhanyarasulu; Dusisannam.

Garudavahanalu; G. E. B. 24; Gudarisanalu; Gummasari;
Gunupuramrannalu.

Hemasannalu.

Kalahandisannalu; Kanakaratanalu; Kanakasompu, 9, 14;
Kevitochompa; Konamani, 14, 15, 16; Kondakurangi; Kosakad-
dilu; Kosisompu.

Maharajabhogam; Mahipali; Molakolakulu; Muttubayya-
hunda; Muthusamba; Mundlavari.

Naguthalisannalu.

Palagummasari 4, 7; Panianlu; Pedda akkullu; Pedda
atragada; Peshanam; Prayaga; Punasa akkullu, 3, 5, 9; Punasa-
konamani, 1, 2.

Radhaprayaga; Ramagarudamsamba; Ratnachudi 5, 7, 8, 9,
11, 15; Red sirumani.

Sanna atragada; Sanna bayyahunda; Sanna akkullu; Sanna-
vari; Sorimundabolalo; Srikrishabhogam; Sunkisannalu; Sunna-
puvvulu; Suvarnamuthilu.

Tellaradhaprayaga; Tobarasulu; Turpuranna akkullu.

Vankelu; Vavilapadusannalu; Vajjhanam.

Yerrabakkalu.

Fungus diseases of crops in the Madras Presidency.

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SUGAR-CANE (*Saccharum officinarum*.)

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|-------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Red-rot. | <i>Colletotrichum</i>
<i>falcatum</i> Went. | May & June
November. | Throughout
the Presidency |
|-------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------------|

Transversely elongated white patches with the reddening of pith are seen when a cane is split open. The cane rots and turns sour giving rotti pineapple smell.