**2.7 Seedling Vigor**

Seedling vigor is defined as the plant’s ability to emerge rapidly from soil or

water and cover the ground fast (Fukai, 2002).

Seedling vigor is the basic component of the transplanted rice, which depends on its growing environment and proper age. Influence of Nursery Management and Seedling Age on Growth and Economic Performance of Fine Rice

Success of transplanted rice directly correlate with the nursery seedlings as it plays major role for establishment in the main field (Padalia, 1980).

Transplanting of healthy seedlings grown at proper nitrogen application at nurserybedshowed better paddy yield (Panda et al., 1991 and TeKrony and Egli, 1991).

Healthy and vigorous seedlings from nursery-bed will give good results after transplanting in the main fiel

Increase in growth rate might be due to the better seedling vigor. Seedlings grown with high seeding density and without fertilizer appli- cation decreased vigor due to high seedling competition, which ultimately gave a weaker start to crop.

Influence of Nursery Management and Seedling Age on Growth and Economic Performance of Fine Rice

The optimum SA was identified as 12 days, but seedlings from 9 to 15 days can be also used without any yield decline

Impact of varieties, spacing and seedling management on growth and yield of mechanicaly transplanted rice

Early vigor is associated with rapid crop establishment which is important in increasing the ability of rice to compete against weeds. Rice competitiveness with weeds, as either the ability to suppress weeds or the ability to avoid being suppressed by weeds (Goldberg and Landa, 1991; Namuco, et al.,

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2009), o Early Vigor Traits in Selected Upland and Rainfed Lowland Rice ( Oryza sativa L .) Genotypes

Thus, dry weight could be used as a basis in defining early vigor

Good seedling vigor is also another trait that could increase yield of upland rice.

Early Vigor Traits in Selected Upland and Rainfed Lowland Rice ( Oryza sativa L .) Genotypes