# **Land leveling**

### Introduction

Level land and good bunds or levee management are the foundation for successful crop management. Level land improves the efficiency in use of all other production inputs needed for successful rice farming as it improves water coverage in the field. This results in:

- Improved crop establishment,
- Reduction in weed problems,
- Improved uniformity of crop maturity,
- Decreasing the time taken to complete tasks
- Reduces water requirement compared to undulated land

#### **Yield**

Land leveling will increased rice yields by up to 15-20 %. In rainfed environments for every 1 centimeter of variation in a rice field's levelness a reduction of 250-300kg of grain could be expected.

#### **Weed Control**

Improved water coverage through land leveling reduces weeds by up to 40% and reduces weeding time by 15-20days. .

#### **Farm Management**

Land leveling makes it possible to increase field sizes by combining a number of smaller fields. Larger fields increase the farming area by reducing land lost to levees and improve operational efficiency of machines.

## **Seeding Practices**

Leveling reduces the time taken and improves the efficiency of planting. Level fields require up to 50% less seed when direct seeding and also increase the opportunity to use other establishment techniques such as seed drills and mechanical transplanting.

#### **Water Use efficiency**

Leveling fields increase water use efficiency by up to 15% and also improves the timeliness of land preparation, sowing and harvesting through more even wetting and drying in the field

#### **Learn More**

Visit Rice Based Cropping Systems Knowledge Bank www.rkbodisha.in













