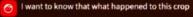
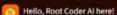
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Based on the image, your rice crop appears to be affected by Rice False Smut.

This disease is characterized by the formation of large, velvety, dark green to black galls (smut balls) that replace individual grains on the panicle. These galls are masses of fungal spores. The disease is caused by the fungus Ustilaginoidea virens.

Here are some remedies suitable for India's climate:

## Organic Remedies:

- 1. Field Sanitation: Manually remove and destroy infected panicles as soon as they are observed to prevent the spread of spores. Do not compost infected plant material.
- 2. Balanced Fertilization: Avoid excessive nitrogen application, especially during the



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booting and flowering stages, as high nitrogen can increase disease incidence. Use balanced NPK fertilizers.

- 3. Resistant Varieties: Choose and plant rice varieties known to have resistance or tolerance to false smut.
- 4. Crop Rotation: While spores can persist in the soil, rotating with non-host crops can help reduce inoculum over time.

Chemical Remedies: For chemical control, timely application of fungicides is crucial, ideally at the booting to early heading stage (when the panicle is still within the leaf sheath), as this is when the fungus infects the developing florets.

- 1. Propiconazole: Fungicides containing Propiconazole (e.g., 25% EC) can be effective. A common recommendation is 1-1.5 ml per liter of water.
- 2. Azoxystrobin + Difenoconazole: Combination products like Azoxystrobin 18.2% + Difenoconazole 11.4% SC are also highly effective against false smut. Follow manufacturer's recommended dosage, typically around 1 ml per liter of water.
- 3. Trifloxystrobin + Tebuconazole: Another effective combination fungicide often used for rice diseases, including false smut.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for dosage and safety precautions. Proper timing of application is key for successful control of Rice False Smut.