Prevention·

Remove grassy weeds in the field and nearby areas to remove alternate hosts that allow the fungus to survive and infect new rice crops.

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Plough fields after harvest to destroy stubbles that serve as food and shelter for the disease. However, if there are no major pests or diseases in your field, leave residues there to improve the soil.

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Use a tolerant rice variety. Check with your local extension agent or a nearby seed dealer.

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Use fertilizer according to recommendations. Make sure that adequate potassium is used.

Monitoring

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Narrow brown leaf spot is a fungal disease that spreads by fungal spores via wind or water.

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It appears during the late growth stages of rice, starting at heading stage.

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Scout once per week; but scout every day when weather is wet and hot.

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Look for lesions on leaves and upper leaf sheaths that are light to dark brown, linear, and parallel to the vein. They are usually 2-10 mm long and 1-1.5 mm wide.

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If you see symptoms of the disease on 5-10% of plants, consider direct control action.

Direct Control

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Remove infected/ diseased plants from field and destroy by burying or wheel-composting.

Restrictions

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Fungicides are usually of protective action (contact) and must be sprayed reaching good coverage. They can prevent spread of the disease but they CANNOT cure an already infected plant ! There are no effective curative chemical fungicides against leaf spot disease in rice.

- When using a pesticide or botanical, always wear protective clothing and follow the instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application, pre-harvest interval, max. number of sprays, restricted re-entry interval. Do not empty into drains and water sources.
- WHO toxicity class II products may not be allowed in local IPM schemes.
- Always consult recent list of registered pesticides of Cambodia.

Direct Control

Carbendazim –products. Broad spectrum systemic fungicide, FRAC group: B1. Refer to product label for dosage

WHO toxicity class U (unlikely to present acute health hazard in normal use). Spray on leaves reaching good coverage. Pre-harvest interval P.H.I. 14 days, restricted re-entry interval 1 day after spray. Harmful to earthworms.

Propiconazole –products. Systemic and protective action (FRAC group 3); Refer to product label for dosage

WHO toxicity class II (moderately acute hazardous); Spray on leaves. P.H.I. 14day, R.E.I. 2 days day after spray. Harmful to earthworms.