RICE is an important food crop in many parts of the world. Large acreages of rice are also grown in the southern U.S. and California. Rice is responsive to fertilization, especially nitrogen (N). But as with other crops, balanced fertility is also important.

**Deficiency Symptoms**

With the exception of development of purple pigments in the leaves, rice P deficiency symptoms are similar to other crops:

- stunted plants
- reduced tillering
- smaller leaves
- smaller stem diameter
- poor root growth
- delayed maturity
- reduced yields

Plots reported in Table 1 were located south of Bay City, TX on an Edna silty clay loam, pH 6.5 and very low extractable P soil test. The data show a significant increase in rice yields due to P fertilization. Even though the 120 lb/A P$_2$O$_5$ rate maximized yields in this study, higher rates of application might have increased yields beyond this point.

These studies will be continued in 1993.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fertilizer treatments, lb/A</th>
<th>Yield lb/A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>P$_2$O$_5$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dr. Turner is with Texas A&M University Agricultural Experiment Station at Beaumont, TX. Mr. Engbrock is with Texas A&M University Agricultural Extension Service, Matagorda County.
EFFECTS of various rates of P$_2$O$_5$ on rice growth are illustrated in this photo from June 1992, on the Mike Ottis farm. From left, the plants received P$_2$O$_5$ rates of 0, 40, 80, and 120 lb/A.

Journal of Production Agriculture Announces New Format for 1993

THE Journal of Production Agriculture, published by the American Society of Agronomy, will unveil a new format with the January 1993 issue. The key to the new format is the inclusion of a "Research Application Summary," which must be written in addition to the usual scientific manuscript. In order to meet this January 1993 deadline all manuscripts submitted for review after 1 May 1992 will have to include a research application summary. The purpose of the research application summary is to facilitate communication of the information in the scientific article to the "practicing professional" in the field.

Guidelines for preparation of the research application summary are now available. The format for the scientific paper will not change, except that the interpretive summary will be omitted. The research application summary will stand alone and will be printed at the front of each issue of the journal. The scientific papers will follow in a separate section.

For more information, contact: Dr. Dwayne G. Westfall, Editor, Journal of Production Agriculture, Department of Agronomy, Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO 80523, Phone: 303/491-6149, FAX: 303/491-0564.