

Diagnostic key for identifying nutrient deficiencies in rice

Localized on older leaves first		Localized on younger leaves first	
Light green, narrow, short leaves	Dark green, narrow, erect leaves	Orange-yellow interveinal chlorosis, patchy	Soft, droopy leaves and culms
	Green to dark green leaves	Pale overall color	
	Chlorotic-necrotic leaf margins	Green coloring remains patchy (no stripes)	Light green, pale leaves
	Rusty brown necrotic spots		Chlorotic upper leaves
	Green and yellow stripes running parallel		Whole plant affected, but upper leaves affected first
	Leaf rolling		
Stunted plants	Shorter plants		Stunted plants
Poor tillering	Stunted plants		Reduced tillering
Whole field appears yellowish	Poor tillering	Unhealthy root system	Delayed maturity
Early maturity	Delayed maturity		
	Early wilting and maturity		
	Unhealthy root system		
	Increased incidence of diseases		
N	P	Mg	Zn
			S

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Localized on younger leaves first					Not localized symptoms
Chlorotic-necrotic split or rolled leaf tips	Interveinal yellowing and chlorosis of emerging leaves	Pale grayish green interveinal chlorosis at the tip of young leaves	Chlorotic streaks	White, rolled leaf tips of young leaves	Soft, droopy leaves
Symptoms visible only under severe deficiency	Reduced chlorophyll content in leaves Later, entire leaves chlorotic or whitish	Necrotic spotting	Bluish green leaves Wilting young leaves	Death of growth point if severe	
		Shorter plants	Reduced tillering	Reduced plant height	
Unhealthy root system	Only on dry soil	Only on dry soil	Increased spikelet sterility	Panicle emergence fails	Lodging
Very rare in irrigated rice	Very rare in irrigated rice	Very rare in irrigated rice		Very rare in irrigated rice	Increased incidence of disease
Ca	Fe	Mn	Cu	B	Si