

## Tiller Production and Yield Improvement of T. Aman Rice Varieties Through Wider Spacing

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**Abstract:** Performance of three T. *aman* rice variety namely, Biroyn (Indigenous) ( $V_1$ ), BINA dhan7 ( $V_2$ ) and BRRI dhan34 ( $V_3$ ) were evaluated with three levels of plant population density *viz.* raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm ( $S_1$ ), leveled bed with plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm ( $S_2$ ) and leveled bed with plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm ( $S_3$ ). Variety exerted significant influence on yield of transplant *aman* rice. The highest grain yield (7.1 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) and straw yield (11.7 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was observed in Biroyn indigenous variety. The plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm showed the highest (6.8 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield and straw yield (9.6 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) among the plant population treatments. It was observed that in most of the cases, all the varieties performed better for their yield contributing characters with wider spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm. With attention to results of this experiment due to higher (9.2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield in  $V_1S_2$  treatment this level suggest for planting the indigenous Biroyn variety with 50 cm x 50 cm spacing in transplant *aman* season. Besides this, genotype presumes a promising one deserves extensive research onwards.

**Key words:** indigenous variety • Spacing • Growth and yield

### INTRODUCTION

Plant spacing has an important role on growth and yield of rice. The spatial distribution of plants in a crop community is an important factor determining yield [1]. Increase in yield can be ensured by maintaining appropriate plant population through different planting patterns [2]. Optimum plant spacing ensures the plants to grow properly both in their aerial and underground parts through different utilization of solar radiation and nutrients [3]. Wider spacing had linearly increasing effect on the performance of individual plants and performed better as individual plants [4]. Performance of individual hills was significantly improved with wider spacing compared with closer-spaced hills [5]. Planting practices have been shifting from close spacing to wider spacing in China especially for high yielding hybrid rice varieties [6]. This improves the canopy's photosynthesis, increases the percentage of productive tillers and the spikelet number per panicle. At same time, in combination with less irrigation water, pests may be better controlled and

lodging prevented [6]. If the plant population density falls below the optimum level, all inputs of production fail to produce any appreciable effect on yield [7]. Different varieties need specific agronomic and cultural practices to express their best potential in determining the yield responses to plant population. The response of cereals to increasing plant population is unique for each genotype. The establishment of healthy rice in the most suitable arrangement is the foundation of a successful crop production system.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The field experiment was conducted at the agricultural farm of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University, Dhaka-1207 during *aman* (July-December) season in 2013. The experiment was laid out in a Split plot design with three replications. Three rice variety *viz.* Biroyn (Indigenous variety) ( $V_1$ ), BINA dhan7 ( $V_2$ ) and BRRI dhan 34 ( $V_3$ ) and three spacing i.e. raised bed with 75 cm x 75 cm ( $S_1$ ), 50 cm x 50 cm ( $S_2$ ) and of 25 cm x 15 cm ( $S_3$ )

plant spacing. Recommended fertilizer dose for transplant *aman* rice i.e. Urea, TSP, MOP, Gypsum and Zinc Sulphate @ 120 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 90 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 40 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>, 60 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and 10 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> respectively were used. All fertilizers were applied during final land preparation except urea that applied in three equal splits at 7, 30 and 50 DAT. Seedlings of Biroyn (V<sub>1</sub>) was raised in one seedling per polybag and then finally planted one seedling hill<sup>-1</sup> in the main field when the seedlings age reached fifteen day. Seedlings of BINA dhan7 (V<sub>2</sub>) and BRRI dhan34 (V<sub>3</sub>) were raised in traditional seed bed. Thirty day old seedlings were uprooted and transplanted in the field on August 5, 2013. Two seedlings were transplanted in each hill for BINA dhan7 (V<sub>2</sub>) and BRRI dhan 34 (V<sub>3</sub>) according to plant spacing treatments. The harvesting was done on December 5, 2013 manually from each plot. The crop was harvested plot-wise at full maturity when 90% of the grains turned into golden yellow. Hills from central 5 m<sup>2</sup> area of each plot were harvested for collecting data on grain and straw yields. The harvested crop was then bundled separately, tagged properly and brought to the threshing floor and processed as usual. Prior to harvest five hills were selected at random from each plot and carefully uprooted to collect data on yield and yield contributing characters. All the collected data were analyzed following the analysis of variance (ANOVA) technique using MSTAT-C package and the mean differences among the treatments were compared by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) at 5% level of significance [8].

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

**Effect of Variety on Growth Attributes:** Different transplant *aman* variety showed significant variation in terms of *plant height, no. of total tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> and leaf area index*. It is observed that at 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT Biroyn rice produced the highest (112.7 cm, 141.0 cm, 168.4 cm, 186.6 cm and 194.1 cm respectively) *plant height, highest* (19.8, 30.7, 37.8, 48.6 and 58.6, accordingly) *no. of total tillers<sup>-1</sup>* and highest (4.7, 8.0, 9.2, 10.7 and 14.2, respectively) *leaf area index* (Fig. 1a-c). On the other hand Bina dhan7 produced lowest (92.8 cm, 111.6 cm, 125.8 cm, 134.6 cm and 143.7 cm) *plant height and BRRI dhan34 produced lowest* (13.0, 17.2, 22.3, 27.5 and 31.2) *total no. hill<sup>-1</sup>* and also lowest (2.4, 4.2, 4.8, 5.4 and 7.7) *leaf area index* at 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT, respectively. Abou-Khalifa [9] reported that significant variation of growth characters occurs due to different rice varieties.

**Effect of Plant Spacing on Growth Attributes:** Different planting spacing showed significant variation in terms of *plant height, no. of total tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> and leaf area index*. At 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT the highest (106.3 cm, 129.3 cm, 148.9 cm, 161.7 cm and 170.4 cm, respectively) *plant height* was observed in S<sub>1</sub>, however, the highest (17.7, 28.0, 36.3, 48.2 and 54.5) *no. of total tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>* and the highest (3.9, 6.3, 7.3, 8.3 and 10.8) *leaf area index* was observed in S<sub>2</sub> (50 x 50 cm) (Fig. 1d-f). At 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT the lowest (101.0 cm, 122.3 cm, 143.3 cm, 153.0 cm and 158.8 cm, respectively) *plant height* and lowest (2.9, 5.0, 5.7, 6.5 and 8.6, respectively) *leaf area index* was observed in S<sub>1</sub> however the lowest (11.4, 14.8, 16.7, 20.5 and 23.6) *no. of total tiller hill<sup>-1</sup>* was observed in S<sub>3</sub> (Figure 1d-f). Ayub *et al.* [10] and Nurujjaman [11] stated that the plant height increased with low plant density. Haque [12] and Mia [13] also found the same for plant height and number of tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>. Thakur *et al.* [5] found increased leaf number and leaf sizes in the wider spacing compared to closer spaced hills.

**Interaction Effect of Variety and Plant Spacing on Growth Attributes:** Different variety and planting spacing treatment combinations showed significant variation in terms of *plant height, no. of total tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> and leaf area index*. At 30 DAT the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> produced highest (115.5 cm) *plant height* which was statistically similar with V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>, V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>, V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> and V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. At 45, 60 and 75 DAT the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> produced the highest (144.8 cm, 171.5 cm and 190.4 cm) *plant height* which was statistically similar with V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> and V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub>. At 90 DAT the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub> produced the highest (202.5 cm) *plant height* which was statistically similar with the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. The treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> produced the highest (25.9, 46.2, 57.2, 77.2 and 88.4, accordingly) *number of total tillers per hill* at 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT. At 30 DAT V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> produced the highest (5.8) *leaf area index*. At 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAT the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> produced the highest (9.0, 10.3, 12.1 and 15.4, respectively) *leaf area index* which was statistically similar with the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

**Effect of Variety on Yield Attributes:** Different transplant *aman* rice variety varied significantly in terms of *effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>, panicle length, filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup>, unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> and 1000-grain weight* (Table 4). Soheli *et al.* [14] also found significant variation of yield attributes due to various rice varieties. The maximum (14.8) *effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>* was found from V<sub>3</sub> and the minimum (12.2)

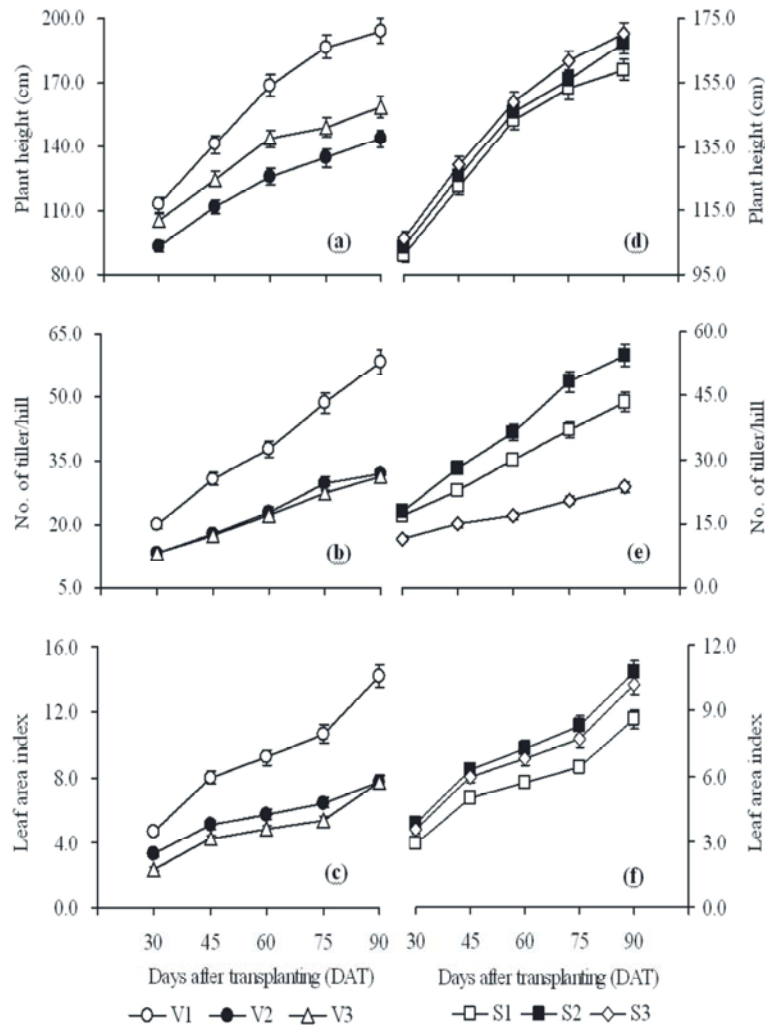


Fig. 1: Response of (a) variety on plant height, (b) variety on number of tiller/hill, (c) variety on leaf area index, (d) spacing on plant height, (e) spacing on number of tiller/hill and (f) spacing on leaf area index at different days after transplanting

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

effective tiller hill<sup>-1</sup> was found from V<sub>2</sub> which was statistically identical (12.9) with V<sub>1</sub>. This is due to varietal difference in the effective tiller production and the previous findings reported that variable effect of variety on the effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> [15]. Although the maximum (31.9 cm) panicle length was found from V<sub>3</sub> and the minimum (28.8 cm) from V<sub>2</sub>, the highest (218.4) number of filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was recorded from V<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (172.9) from V<sub>2</sub> which was statistically identical (186.1) with V<sub>3</sub>. In case of number of unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> the highest (50.7) was recorded from V<sub>3</sub> and lowest (40.2) from V<sub>2</sub> which was also statistically identical (50.6) with V<sub>1</sub>. Murthy *et al.* [16] recorded different

number of filled and unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> for different variety. The highest (28.9 g) 1000-grain weight was recorded from V<sub>1</sub> and lowest (12.0 g) from V<sub>3</sub>. This could be due to varietal differences between treatments and 1000-grain weight is mostly governed by genetic makeup of the variety.

**Effect of Planting Spacing on Yield Attributes:** Different planting spacing showed significant variation in terms of effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>; panicle length; filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup>; unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> and 1000-grain weight (Table 4). Sohel *et al.* [14] also found significant variation of all yield attributes except 1000-grain weight due to

Table 1: Interaction effect of variety and planting spacing on plant height

Treatments	Days after transplanting				
	30	45	60	75	90
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	109.3ab	135.8ab	165.5a	183.2 a	181.1b
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	113.4ab	142.4a	168.2a	186.2 a	198.6a
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	115.5a	144.8a	171.5a	190.4 a	202.5a
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	90.4d	109.0e	123.3c	131.1 e	141.3e
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	92.2d	110.6e	126.1c	134.0 de	143.8de
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	95.8cd	115.1de	128.1c	138.7 c-e	146.1de
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	103.2bc	122.0cd	141.0b	144.6 cd	154.1cd
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	104.6a-c	124.5cd	142.8b	147.3 bc	159.0c
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	107.4ab	127.8bc	147.1b	156.1 b	162.7c
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	10.0	9.9	10.5	10.4	10.3
SE	3.4	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.5
CV%	5.7	4.7	4.3	4.0	3.7

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

Table 2: Interaction effect of variety and planting spacing on no. of total tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>.

Treatments	Days after transplanting				
	30	45	60	75	90
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	21.9 b	32.7b	41.3 b	50.4b	61.7 b
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	25.9a	46.2a	57.2 a	77.2a	88.4 a
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	11.6 e	13.2f	14.9f	18.3g	25.8 f
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	14.4 c	16.8e	24.1 d	32.3d	35.8 d
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	14.4c	18.4cd	25.4cd	35.0c	38.3 c
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	10.7e	17.3de	19.3e	21.6f	21.3 g
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	14.5c	18.3c-e	24.4d	28.3e	33.0 e
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	12.9d	19.5c	26.4cd	32.5d	36.9 cd
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	11.8de	13.8f	16.1f	21.7f	23.8 d
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.2
SE	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8
CV%	4.6	3.9	2.9	3	3.2

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

Table 3: Interaction effect of variety and planting spacing on leaf area index

Treatments	Leaf area index				
	30	45	60	75	90
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	4.1b	6.8bc	8.0bc	9.1bc	12.4 b
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	5.8a	9.0a	10.3a	12.1a	15.4 a
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	4.2b	8.1ab	9.3ab	10.8ab	14.7 a
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	2.8c-e	4.2d	4.7d	5.3d	6.6 e
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	3.3b-d	5.3cd	6.0cd	6.7cd	8.3 cd
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	3.7bc	5.9cd	6.6cd	7.4cd	8.3 cd
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	1.9e	4.0d	4.5d	5.0d	6.8 de
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	2.5de	4.6d	5.5d	6.2d	8.6 c
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	2.8c-e	4.0d	4.5d	5.0d	7.7 c-e
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	1.1	1.7	2.0	2.3	1.5
SE	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.5
CV%	18.2	17.8	18.0	18.5	8.9

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

Table 4: Effect of variety and planting spacing and their interaction effect on yield contributing characters of rice

Treatments	Effective tiller hill <sup>-1</sup> (no.)	Panicle length (cm)	Filled Grains panicle <sup>-1</sup> (no.)	Unfilled grains panicle <sup>-1</sup> (no.)	1000-grain weight (g)
Effect of variety					
V <sub>1</sub>	12.9 b	30.7 b	218.4a	50.6 a	28.9 a
V <sub>2</sub>	12.2 b	28.8 c	172.9b	40.2b	21.8b
V <sub>3</sub>	14.8a	31.9a	186.1b	50.7a	12.0c
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	1.4	0.6	20.4	1.4	0.4
SE	0.5	0.2	6.6	0.5	0.1
Effect of planting spacing					
S <sub>1</sub>	14.0a	31.4a	215.7a	33.0c	21.4a
S <sub>2</sub>	15.3a	30.8a	187.7b	61.6a	20.4c
S <sub>3</sub>	10.7b	29.2b	174.0b	46.9b	21.0b
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	1.4	0.6	20.4	1.44	0.4
SE	0.5	0.2	6.6	0.47	0.1
Interaction effect of variety and planting spacing					
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	13.78bc	30.3de	288.0a	34.9e	29.3a
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	17.29a	30.5c-e	178.8bc	55.9c	28.4b
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	7.48d	31.3b-d	188.4bc	61.0b	29.1ab
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	15.30ab	31.5bc	157.8c	32.8ef	22.0c
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	12.01c	28.5f	209.8b	59.2b	21.0d
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	9.40d	26.4g	151.2c	28.6g	22.4c
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	12.76bc	32.3b	201.4b	31.3f	12.9e
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	16.58a	33.4a	174.4bc	69.6a	11.7f
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	15.14ab	30.0e	182.4bc	51.1d	11.5f
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	2.40	1.1	35.3	2.5	0.7
SE	0.78	0.3	11.5	0.8	0.2
CV%	0.10	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

Table 5: Effect of variety and planting spacing and their interaction effect on grain yield, straw yield, biological yield and harvest index.

Treatments	Grain yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Straw yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Biological yield (t ha <sup>-1</sup> )	Harvest index (%)
Effect of variety				
V <sub>1</sub>	7.1a	11.7a	18.8a	37.2b
V <sub>2</sub>	3.9c	6.4b	10.3c	37.1b
V <sub>3</sub>	5.0b	7.2b	12.1b	40.5a
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	0.5	1.0	1.2	3.2
SE	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.1
Effect of planting spacing				
S <sub>1</sub>	5.2b	8.6b	13.8b	37.9b
S <sub>2</sub>	6.8a	9.6a	16.3a	41.3a
S <sub>3</sub>	3.9c	7.1c	11.1c	35.6b-d
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	0.5	1.0	1.2	3.2
SE	0.2	0.3	0.4	1.05
Interaction effect of variety and planting spacing				
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	6.6b	11.9ab	18.5b	35.6b-d
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	9.2a	12.9a	22.2a	41.7ab
V <sub>1</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	5.3cd	10.3b	15.6c	34.1cd
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	3.8e	6.3de	10.1e	38.0a-d
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	5.0d	7.6cd	12.6d	39.7a-d
V <sub>2</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	2.9f	5.5e	8.4e	33.7d
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>1</sub>	5.2cd	7.7cd	12.9d	40.2a-c
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	6.1bc	8.2c	14.3cd	42.5a
V <sub>3</sub> S <sub>3</sub>	3.6ef	5.6e	9.2e	39.0a-d
LSD <sub>0.05</sub>	0.9	1.7	2.1	5.6
SE	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.8
CV%	0.1	0.1	0.1	8.2

Here; V<sub>1</sub> = Biroyn, V<sub>2</sub> = BINA dhan7, V<sub>3</sub> = BRRI dhan34; S<sub>1</sub> = Raised bed with plant spacing of 75 cm x 75 cm, S<sub>2</sub> = Plant spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm, S<sub>3</sub> = Plant spacing of 25 cm x 15 cm

different plant spacing. The highest (15.3) effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> was observed in S<sub>2</sub> which was statistically similar (14.0) with S<sub>1</sub> and lowest (10.7) from S<sub>3</sub>. The longest panicle (31.4 cm) was recorded from S<sub>1</sub> which was statistically identical (30.8 cm) with S<sub>2</sub> and shortest (29.2 cm) from S<sub>3</sub>. The highest (215.7) filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> and lowest (33.0) unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was recorded from S<sub>1</sub>. While S<sub>3</sub> treatment produced the lowest (174.0) filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup>, which was statistically identical (187.7) with S<sub>2</sub>. The highest (21.4 g) 1000-grain weight was observed in S<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (20.4 g) from S<sub>2</sub>. Increased effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup>, panicle length and 1000-grain weight mainly due to the wider spacing where performance of individual hill increased [5].

**Interaction Effect of Variety and Planting Spacing on Yield Attributes:** The highest (61.2) effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> was recorded in the treatment combination of V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (17.7) from V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. Panicle length was highest (33.4 cm) in the treatment of V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> and lowest (28.5 cm) in V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. The highest (288.0) filled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was recorded in the treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> and lowest (151.2) in the treatment combination of V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> which was statistically identical (157.8) with V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>. The highest (69.6) unfilled grains panicle<sup>-1</sup> was recorded in the treatment combination of V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>3</sub> and the lowest (28.6) in V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. The treatment combination of V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> recorded the highest (29.3 g) 1000-grain weight and lowest (11.5 g) was observed from V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>3</sub> which was statistically similar with V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub> (11.7 g).

**Effect of Variety on Yield:** Different transplant *aman* rice varieties showed significant variation in terms of grain yield, straw yield, biological yield and harvest index (Table 5). Soheli *et al.* [14] also found that the yield and yield contributing characters differed significantly due to varietal difference. The highest (7.06 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield was obtained from V<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (3.89 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from V<sub>2</sub>. In case of straw yield, the highest (11.7 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was obtained from V<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (6.4 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from V<sub>2</sub> which was statistically similar with BRRI dhan 34 (7.2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>). The highest (18.8 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) biological yield was obtained from V<sub>1</sub> and the lowest (10.3 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from V<sub>2</sub> which was statistically similar (12.13 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) with V<sub>3</sub>. Harvest index (%) varied significantly due to different variety, the highest (40.5%) harvest index was recorded in V<sub>3</sub> and the lowest (37.1%) harvest index was recorded from V<sub>2</sub> which was statistically similar with (37.2%). Xie *et al.* [17] and Dongarwar *et al.* [18] reported different yield for different genotypes of rice. Most of the growth and yield characters varied significantly by genetic materials [21, 22, 23, 24, 25].

**Effect of Planting Spacing on Yield:** Different planting spacing treatments showed significant variation in grain yield and biological yield (Table 5). The highest (6.8 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield was found from S<sub>2</sub> and the lowest (3.9 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from S<sub>3</sub>. Numerically the highest (9.6 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) straw yield was recorded in S<sub>2</sub> and the lowest (7.1 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from S<sub>3</sub>. The plant spacing treatment of S<sub>2</sub> gave the highest (16.3 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) biological yield and the lowest (11.1 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was observed from S<sub>3</sub>. However, the highest harvest index was recorded in S<sub>2</sub> (41.3%) while S<sub>1</sub> recorded the lowest (42.9%) harvest index. The highest grain is due to wider spacing which increases the tillers number thus increased number of effective tillers hill<sup>-1</sup> combined with higher panicle length, highest filled grain and 1000-grain weight [5]. From wider spacing, plant got more nutrient and moisture which eventually led to development of more grains comparing to closer spacing. Straw yield increased in case of wider spacing due to higher tillering pattern. This result is also consistent with that of Ghosh *et al.* [19] and Rao *et al.* [20]. Grain yield, straw yield, biological yield and harvest index of rice significantly influenced by planting geometry [26].

**Interaction Effect of Variety and Planting Spacing on Yield:** Combinations of variety and planting spacing varied significantly in grain yield, straw yield, biological yield and harvest index (Table 5). Soheli *et al.* [14] also found significant interaction between variety and plant spacing. V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> produced the highest (9.2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield and the lowest (2.9 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) grain yield was observed in the treatment combination of V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> which was statistically similar with V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. In case of straw yield, V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> produced the highest (12.9 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) straw yield which was statistically identical with V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> (11.9 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) and the lowest (5.5 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) straw yield was observed in V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> which was statistically similar with V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>1</sub> and V<sub>3</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. In case of biological yield, the highest (22.2 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) was recorded from V<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub> and the lowest (8.4 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) from V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>. The highest (42.5) harvest index was recorded from V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub> and the lowest (33.7) from V<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>.

## CONCLUSIONS

Based on the above result and discussion following conclusion can be drawn that cultivation of Biroyn rice with planting spacing of 50 cm x 50 cm can improved yield attributing parameters, straw and grain yield of rice for *aman* season. However, more research works are to be done to verify these findings in different agro-ecological zones of Bangladesh.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Authors are grateful to the Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University authority for their kind co-operation and support through this research work.

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