

Enhancing Paddy Yields with Advanced Nitrogen Fertilizers: A Study of Neem-Coated Urea, Agrotain Urea and Nano Nitrogen

ABSTRACT

Aims: To evaluate and compare the performance of Nano Nitrogen, Agrotain Urea, and Neem-Coated Urea in improving nitrogen use efficiency (NUE), crop yield, and sustainability in *Kharif* (Vanakalam) and *Rabi* (Yasangi) rice crops in the Southern Telangana Zone of India.

Study Design: A field experiment was conducted in a randomized block design with 11 treatments and three replications to assess the effects of various nitrogen sources and application rates on rice productivity.

Place and Duration of Study: Institute of Soil Health Management, Agricultural Research Institute, PJTSAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad, from 2021 to 2023.

Methodology: The experiment included treatments with varying nitrogen levels applied through Nano Nitrogen, Agrotain UG (urea granules), and Neem Coated Urea (NCU), including 100% Recommended Dose of Nitrogen (RDN), STCR (Soil Test Crop Response) based nitrogen, and reduced nitrogen doses (50% and 33% RDN). Dry matter yield, grain and straw yield were measured at key growth stages (tillering, panicle initiation, and harvest).

Results: In the *Kharif* season, the highest dry matter yield at panicle initiation was recorded with 100% RDN (Recommended Dose of Nitrogen) using STCR (Soil Test Crop Response)-based Neem Coated Urea (7007 kg ha⁻¹), followed by Agrotain UG (6199 kg ha⁻¹) and Neem Coated Urea (6019 kg ha⁻¹). Nano-Nitrogen sprays with reduced nitrogen doses (50% and 33% RDN) showed significantly lower yields, with 50% RDN-STCR-based NCU yielding 5826 kg ha⁻¹ and 33% RDN-STCR-based NCU yielding 4899 kg ha⁻¹. In the *Rabi* season, grain yields were highest with 100% RDN from STCR based N-NCU (7382 kg ha⁻¹), Agrotain Urea (6741 kg ha⁻¹) and NCU (6561 kg ha⁻¹), while reduced nitrogen doses resulted in lower yields, ranging from 5886 kg ha⁻¹ (50% RDN) to 5142 kg ha⁻¹ (33% RDN) with STCR based N-NCU. Straw yield during *Kharif* was highest with 100% RDN treatments (6540–7422 kg ha⁻¹), with reduced nitrogen doses and Nano-N sprays resulting in lower yields. The system straw yield showed the highest values with 100% RDN-STCR-based NCU (16277 kg ha⁻¹), followed by Agrotain Urea (14888 kg ha⁻¹) and NCU (14284 kg ha⁻¹). Nano-N sprays alone produced a system straw yield of 8119 kg ha⁻¹, higher than the control (7732 kg ha⁻¹), but significantly lower than 100% nitrogen treatments.

Conclusion: Full nitrogen applications (100% RDN) through innovative fertilizers like Agrotain Urea, and Neem-Coated Urea resulted in significantly higher crop yields and nutrient uptake compared to reduced nitrogen doses. The study highlights the critical role of adequate nitrogen in improving nitrogen use efficiency and sustaining rice production systems, with substantial yield gains observed at 100% RDN (up to 44% for grain yield and 37% for straw yield).

Keywords: Grain yield, Straw Yield, RDN levels, Paddy, Nano Nitrogen Spray

1. INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa*) is a staple food crop that sustains more than half of the global population, particularly in Asia, where it is a major source of nutrition and livelihood. The productivity of rice is highly dependent on the availability of essential nutrients, particularly nitrogen, which plays a crucial role in promoting vegetative growth, enhancing tillering, and improving grain formation. However, the effective use of nitrogen fertilizers is a complex challenge due to issues such as nutrient losses, environmental pollution, and inefficiency in traditional nitrogen application methods.

In India, since most of the urea is applied as surface broadcasting, there is a significant loss of N as ammonia volatilization as a result of rapid hydrolysis. Since, the hydrolysis of urea

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is catalyzed by urease enzyme, its regulation can help in reducing the volatilization losses and hence improving NUE. Agrotain urea (N-butyl thiophosphoric triamide) is one of the product which inhibits urease activity, helps to improve the nitrogen use efficiency in rice, maize, wheat and other crops in India. NH₃ volatilization from untreated urea (2.6% of applied N) exceeded urea + NBPT(AGR) (0.2%) throughout the 20-day study at the University of Arkansas Rice Research and Extension Center. (Rogers *et al.*, 2015).

In recent years, advanced nitrogen fertilizers have been developed to address these challenges and improve nutrient use efficiency in rice cultivation. Among these, Neem-Coated Urea (NCU), Agrotain Urea, and Nano Nitrogen (Nano-N) have gained significant attention for their potential to enhance nitrogen retention, reduce volatilization, and provide a more sustained release of nutrients during critical growth stages. Neem-coated urea and Agrotain urea are slow-release fertilizers that aim to minimize nitrogen losses, while Nano-N, a novel technology, is designed to optimize nitrogen uptake through foliar applications.

So, it is important to know the performance of innovative fertilizers which can increase crop yield, quality, use efficiency, saving of N and sustainability of agricultural systems. By keeping this back ground the present investigation was initiated with the following objectives to know the comparative performance of Nano nitrogen, Agrotain urea and Neem coated urea in *kharif* (Vanakalam) and *rabi* (Yasangi) rice crops of Southern Telangana Zone.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

A field experiment was carried out at Institute Of Soil Health Management, Agricultural Research Institute, PJTAU, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad during 2021-23 employed in a randomized block design with 11 treatments and three replications. The farm is geographically located at 17° 19' 29.21" North Latitude and 78° 23' 48.59" East Longitude. The soil was sandy loam in texture with 16% clay; 32% silt and 52% sand with a pH of 7.75 and EC of 0.831 dSm⁻¹, available nitrogen of 165 kg ha⁻¹, available P₂O₅ of 66 kg ha⁻¹ and available K₂O of 299 kg ha⁻¹. The experiment consists of eleven treatments in rice crop *i.e.*, T₁-100% RDN-NCU (1/3rd-B + 1/3rd-MT + 1/3rd-PI, T₂ -1/3rd of 100% RDN-NCU-B +1NS-MT+1NS-PI, T₃- 50% RDN-NCU -3 splits+1NS-MT+1NS-PI, T₄ -100%RDN-Agrotain UG -1/3rd-B+1/3rd-MT+1/3rd-PI, T₅ -1/3rd of 100% RDN Agrotain UG-B+1NS-MT+1NS-PI, T₆-50% RDN- Agrotain UG-3 splits+1NS-MT+1NS-PI, T₇ -100% STCR based N-NCU-1/3rd-B+1/3rd-MT+1/3rd- PI, T₈ -1/3rd of 100% N on STCR based-NCU+1NS equivalent to 1/3rd STCR based N-MT+1NS equivalent to 1/3rd STCR based N-PI, T₉-50% STCR based N-NCU - 3 splits+1NS-MT+1NS-PI, T₁₀ -3 NS - 15 DAT, MT & PI, T₁₁- Control (No N). The treatments aimed to evaluate the impact of reduced nitrogen rates combined with Nano N sprays on nutrient uptake and crop performance. Soil samples from the 0–15 cm depth were collected to assess baseline fertility and guide nitrogen application. Fertilizer application followed the recommended doses for *Kharif*, with nitrogen applied in three splits and phosphorus in two splits and potassium as basal. Grain and straw were recorded at harvest, dry matter production at maximum tillering, panicle initiation stages were recorded using standard method. The data obtained from the experimental trial in respect of various observations were statistically analyzed following the analysis of variance technique for randomized block design as suggested by Gomez and Gomez (1984).

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3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

DRY MATTER YIELD

The *Kharif* mean dry matter production of rice was significantly influenced by nitrogen levels and sources (Table 1). Nano-N applied as three sprays without additional nitrogen recorded lower dry matter yields at maximum tillering (964 kg ha⁻¹) and panicle initiation (3324 kg ha⁻¹), comparable to the control without nitrogen application (922 kg ha⁻¹ and 3136 kg ha⁻¹, respectively). In contrast, nitrogen applied at 100% RDN through NCU, STCR-based N, or Agrotain UG resulted in the highest dry matter yields, ranging from 1530–1738 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 6019–7007 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation. These findings align with Babu *et al.* (2013) and Meena *et al.* (2019).

Reduced nitrogen doses (50% and 33% RDN) supplemented with two nano-N sprays did not match the yields of 100% RDN treatments. At 50% RDN, STCR-based N with nano-N sprays produced 1498 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 5826 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation, while Agrotain UG recorded 1297 kg ha⁻¹ and 4925 kg ha⁻¹, respectively. At 33% RDN, basal STCR-based N with nano-N sprays yielded 1313 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 4899 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation, highlighting a progressive decline with reduced nitrogen levels.

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Table1 Effect of different levels of Nano nitrogen, Agrotain and Neem coated urea on dry matter yield (kg ha⁻¹) of rice at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages during Kharif, 2021&2022

| Trt. No | Treatments | Maximum tillering | | | Panicle initiation | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|------|-------------|--------------------|------|-------------|
| | | 2021 | 2022 | Pooled mean | 2021 | 2022 | Pooled mean |
| T ₁ | Control (No N) | 903 | 940 | 922 | 3064 | 3208 | 3136 |
| T ₂ | 3 Nano-N sprays (15DAT, MT&PI) | 950 | 978 | 964 | 3281 | 3367 | 3324 |
| T ₃ | 100% RDN-NCU | 1498 | 1563 | 1530 | 5880 | 6157 | 6019 |
| T ₄ | 100% RDN- STCR based N-NCU | 1688 | 1789 | 1738 | 6788 | 7226 | 7007 |
| T ₅ | 100% RDN- Agrotain UG | 1534 | 1584 | 1559 | 6091 | 6308 | 6199 |
| T ₆ | 50% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1261 | 1314 | 1287 | 4726 | 4947 | 4836 |
| T ₇ | 50% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1414 | 1582 | 1498 | 5468 | 6184 | 5826 |
| T ₈ | 50% RDN-Agrotain UG + 2 Nano sprays | 1274 | 1321 | 1297 | 4824 | 5025 | 4925 |
| T ₉ | 33% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1105 | 1120 | 1113 | 3923 | 3985 | 3954 |
| T ₁₀ | 33% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1221 | 1405 | 1313 | 4518 | 5280 | 4899 |
| T ₁₁ | 33% RDN-Agrotain UG +2 Nano N sprays | 1100 | 1121 | 1111 | 3960 | 4043 | 4002 |
| | Mean | 1268 | 1338 | 1303 | 4775 | 5066 | 4921 |
| | SEm± | 38 | 44 | 44 | 166 | 176 | 113 |
| | CD@5% | 111 | 128 | 129 | 489 | 581 | 333 |

Note: *100% and 50% RDN -3 equal splits (1/3rd basal,1/3rd MT&1/3rd PI) and 33% RDN as basal *2 Nano N sprays: 1 NS at maximum tillering and 1 NS at panicle initiation stage

Nitrogen levels and sources significantly influenced the *Rabi* dry matter yield of rice at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages (Table 2). The lowest yields were recorded with Nano-N applied as three sprays without additional nitrogen, comparable to the nitrogen-free control (1073 kg ha⁻¹ vs. 1058 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering). In contrast, the highest yields were achieved with 100% RDN using STCR-based urea, Agrotain urea or NCU, ranging from 1750 to 1944 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 6835 to 8152 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation, with STCR-based urea recording the maximum yield (8152 kg ha⁻¹). These findings align with Mondal et al. (2020).

Reducing nitrogen levels to 50% or 33% RDN supplemented with two Nano-N sprays resulted in significantly lower yields compared to 100% RDN treatments, underscoring the importance of adequate nitrogen. At 50% RDN, Agrotain urea recorded 1517 kg ha⁻¹ and 5600 kg ha⁻¹, while STCR-based nitrogen with Nano-N sprays yielded 1626 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 6259 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation. A marked decline was observed at 33% RDN, where STCR-based nitrogen with Nano-N sprays produced 1363 kg ha⁻¹ at tillering and 5221 kg ha⁻¹ at panicle initiation. These results does not match with findings by Midde et al. (2022) that 50% urea combined with 50% Nano urea improves grain and straw yield. Additionally, the superior performance of Agrotain urea over regular urea supports the observations of Liu et al. (2019).

These results emphasize that maintaining adequate nitrogen levels is critical for optimal biomass production. While nano-N sprays can partially supplement nitrogen, they cannot fully compensate for significant reductions in nitrogen application. The consistency in yields across seasons indicates minimal seasonal impact on dry matter production.

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Table 2. Effect of different levels of Nano nitrogen, Agrotain and Neem coated urea on dry matter yield (kg ha⁻¹) of rice at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages during Rabi, 2021-22&2022-23

| Trt. No | Treatments | Maximum tillering | | | Panicle initiation | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| | | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean |
| T ₁ | Control (No N) | 1055 | 1060 | 1058 | 3358 | 3739 | 3548 |
| T ₂ | 3 Nano-N sprays (15DAT, MT&PI) | 1068 | 1078 | 1073 | 3536 | 3908 | 3722 |
| T ₃ | 100% RDN-NCU | 1697 | 1803 | 1750 | 6520 | 7150 | 6835 |
| T ₄ | 100% RDN- STCR based N-NCU | 1905 | 1983 | 1944 | 7759 | 8545 | 8152 |
| T ₅ | 100% RDN- Agrotain UG | 1754 | 1849 | 1801 | 6747 | 7428 | 7087 |
| T ₆ | 50% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1363 | 1497 | 1430 | 5302 | 5801 | 5551 |
| T ₇ | 50% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1562 | 1690 | 1626 | 5975 | 6543 | 6259 |
| T ₈ | 50% RDN-Agrotain UG + 2 Nano sprays | 1460 | 1574 | 1517 | 5354 | 5846 | 5600 |
| T ₉ | 33% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1259 | 1287 | 1273 | 4360 | 4811 | 4586 |
| T ₁₀ | 33% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 1349 | 1376 | 1363 | 4970 | 5472 | 5221 |
| T ₁₁ | 33% RDN-Agrotain UG +2 Nano N sprays | 1268 | 1307 | 1287 | 4411 | 4907 | 4659 |
| | Mean | 1431 | 1500 | 1466 | 5299 | 5832 | 5565 |
| | SEm± | 29 | 34 | 42 | 185 | 190 | 159 |
| | CD@5% | 125 | 113 | 123 | 546 | 561 | 468 |

Note: *100% and 50% RDN -3 equal splits (1/3rd basal,1/3rd MT&1/3rd PI) and 33% RDN as basal *2 Nano N sprays: 1 NS at maximum tillering and 1 NS at panicle initiation stage

In the Rabi season, nitrogen sources and levels significantly influenced rice grain yields (Table 3). Nano-N sprays alone yielded 3883 kg ha⁻¹, comparable to the control (3684 kg ha⁻¹). Recommended nitrogen doses (100% RDN) applied via STCR-computed N, NCU, or Agrotain Urea produced the highest yields (6561–7382 kg ha⁻¹), with STCR-computed N outperforming Agrotain Urea and NCU, though the difference between NCU and Agrotain Urea was non-significant. Reduced nitrogen levels (50% and 33% RDN) with nano-N sprays resulted in significantly lower yields, ranging from 5588–5886 kg ha⁻¹ at 50% RDN and 5040–5142 kg ha⁻¹ at 33% RDN. These findings contrast with Lahari et al. (2021), emphasizing the need for adequate nitrogen. STCR-based N application increased yields by 12.5%, 5.3%, and 2.0% at 100%, 50%, and 33% RDN compared to NCU. Agrotain-UG improved yields by 9.5%, 2.8%, and 0.8% over NCU at the same RDN levels. Yield gains between 33% and 50% RDN were 11% (NCU), 14% (STCR-based NCU), and 12% (Agrotain-UG). Increasing nitrogen from 33% to 100% RDN improved yields by 30–44%, depending on the source.

Nano-N sprays increased yields by 5% over the control but were significantly outperformed by 100% RDN treatments, which enhanced yields by 69% (NCU), 90% (STCR-based NCU), and 74% (Agrotain-UG). System grain yields mirrored this trend. Nano-N sprays (7137 kg ha⁻¹) showed non-significant differences from the control (6768 kg ha⁻¹). The highest system yield (13570 kg ha⁻¹) was recorded with 100% RDN-STCR-based urea, followed by Agrotain-UG (12407 kg ha⁻¹). Reduced nitrogen levels (50% and 33% RDN) with nano-N sprays yielded 10238–10875 kg ha⁻¹ and 9181–9575 kg ha⁻¹, respectively. Similar yield declines with reduced nitrogen were reported by Mrudhula and Suneetha (2020) and Maurya et al. (2021), reinforcing the importance of full nitrogen applications for optimal rice productivity.

The straw yield of rice during Kharif (2021 and 2022) and Rabi (2021-22 and 2022-23), as well as the system straw yield across both seasons, was significantly influenced by nitrogen levels and sources (Table 4). Nano-N sprays alone, applied as three sprays without additional nitrogen, recorded straw yields ranging from 3702 to 4417 kg ha⁻¹, similar to the control treatment (3458–4274 kg ha⁻¹), indicating limited efficacy when used without supplementary

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nitrogen. The highest straw yields were achieved with the recommended nitrogen dose (100% RDN) applied through STCR-based NCU, Agrotain Urea, or NCU, ranging from 6540 to 7422 kg ha⁻¹ during *Kharif* and 7744 to 8855 kg ha⁻¹ during *Rabi*. Among these treatments, STCR-based NCU consistently produced the highest straw yields, with a 13.4% increase over NCU and 9.2% over *Agrotain Urea* during *Kharif*. During *Rabi*, STCR-based NCU was 10.5% and 9.5% higher than NCU and *Agrotain Urea*, respectively. The differences between NCU and *Agrotain Urea* were non-significant at 100% RDN, showing similar performance at full application rates. Reduced nitrogen doses (50% and 33% RDN) with Nano-N sprays resulted in significantly lower straw yields compared to 100% RDN treatments. Yields for these treatments ranged from 6179 to 6828 kg ha⁻¹ at 50% RDN and 4849 to 5579 kg ha⁻¹ at 33% RDN during *Rabi*, with similar reductions observed in *Kharif*. Straw yields under 33% RDN-STCR-based NCU increased by 15.7% and 12.9% over NCU and *Agrotain Urea*, respectively, and by 10.5% and 10.2% at 50% RDN. Compared to Nano-N sprays alone, 33% RDN treatments improved straw yields by 10–26%, and 50% RDN treatments resulted in improvements of 40–55%. These findings align with reports from Zaidi and Tripathi (2007), Khalil et al. (2019), Kandil et al. (2013), and Anushka et al. (2023).

The system straw yield, combining both *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons, was significantly affected by nitrogen levels and sources. The highest system straw yield was recorded with 100% RDN-STCR-based NCU (16277 kg ha⁻¹), followed by *Agrotain Urea* (14888 kg ha⁻¹) and NCU (14284 kg ha⁻¹). Nano-N sprays alone resulted in a system straw yield of 8119 kg ha⁻¹, slightly higher than the control (7732 kg ha⁻¹), but the difference was non-significant. Reduced nitrogen levels, even with Nano-N sprays, resulted in significantly lower system straw yields, ranging from 11322 to 12615 kg ha⁻¹ at 50% RDN and 8846 to 10202 kg ha⁻¹ at 33% RDN. Reductions were most pronounced when nitrogen was decreased from 100% to 33% RDN, with reductions of 37%, 37%, and 39% observed for NCU, STCR-based NCU, and *Agrotain Urea*, respectively, emphasizing the need for full nitrogen application for maximizing straw yields. Islam et al. (2010) demonstrated that reductions in nitrogen dosages resulted in decreased yield.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, nitrogen levels and sources played a crucial role in determining the yield and straw production of rice across both *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons. Full nitrogen application at the recommended dose (100% RDN), particularly through STCR-based NCU, *Agrotain Urea*, and NCU, resulted in the highest straw yields and grain production. The performance of STCR-based NCU was consistently superior, leading to significant yield improvements over other nitrogen sources, particularly during the *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons. In contrast, Nano-N sprays alone, without additional nitrogen, showed limited efficacy, with yields similar to the control treatments. Reduced nitrogen levels (50% and 33% RDN), even with Nano-N supplementation, resulted in significantly lower yields, underscoring the importance of adequate nitrogen supply for optimal rice growth. The results reinforce that precise nitrogen management, especially using STCR-based NCU, is essential for maximizing both seasonal and system straw yields, ensuring high rice productivity.

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Table 3. Effect of different levels of Nano nitrogen, Agrotain and Neem coated urea on grain yield (kg ha⁻¹) of rice during Kharif, 2021&2022 and Rabi, 2021-22&2022-23

| Trt. No | Treatments | Kharif | | | Rabi | | | System grain yield | | |
|-----------------|--|--------|--------|-------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| | | 2021 | 2022 | Pooled mean | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean |
| T ₁ | Control (No N) | 3023 | 3145 | 3084 | 3516 | 3853 | 3684 | 6539 | 6998 | 6768 |
| T ₂ | 3 Nano-N sprays (15DAT, MT&PI) | 3190 | 3318 | 3254 | 3729 | 4037 | 3883 | 6919 | 7355 | 7137 |
| T ₃ | 100% RDN-NCU | 5388 | 5695 | 5542 | 6353 | 6770 | 6561 | 11741 | 12465 | 12103 |
| T ₄ | 100% RDN- STCR based N-NCU | 5968 | 6408 | 6188 | 7120 | 7644 | 7382 | 13088 | 14052 | 13570 |
| T ₅ | 100% RDN- Agrotain UG | 5578 | 5753 | 5666 | 6504 | 6979 | 6741 | 12082 | 12732 | 12407 |
| T ₆ | 50% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4529 | 4773 | 4651 | 5413 | 5763 | 5588 | 9942 | 10535 | 10238 |
| T ₇ | 50% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4905 | 5073 | 4989 | 5701 | 6072 | 5886 | 10605 | 11146 | 10875 |
| T ₈ | 50% RDN-Agrotain UG + 2 Nano sprays | 4625 | 4829 | 4727 | 5560 | 5896 | 5728 | 10184 | 10725 | 10455 |
| T ₉ | 33% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4065 | 4216 | 4141 | 4840 | 5241 | 5040 | 8904 | 9457 | 9181 |
| T ₁₀ | 33% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4288 | 4577 | 4433 | 4946 | 5338 | 5142 | 9234 | 9916 | 9575 |
| T ₁₁ | 33% RDN-Agrotain UG +2 Nano N sprays | 4104 | 4288 | 4196 | 4865 | 5334 | 5099 | 8969 | 9622 | 9295 |
| | Mean | 4515 | 4734 | 4624 | 5322 | 5721 | 5521 | 9837 | 10455 | 10146 |
| | SEm± | 143.82 | 147.11 | 142.92 | 167.96 | 177.88 | 170.87 | 255.958 | 255.589 | 253.28 |
| | CD@5% | 424.19 | 433.91 | 421.56 | 495.41 | 524.66 | 503.98 | 760.393 | 759.296 | 752.437 |

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Note: *100% and 50% RDN -3 equal splits (1/3rd basal, 1/3rd MT&1/3rd PI) and 33% RDN as basal
*2 Nano N sprays: 1 NS at maximum tillering and 1 NS at panicle initiation stag

Table 4 Effect of different levels of Nano nitrogen, Agrotain and Neem coated urea on straw yield (kg ha⁻¹) of rice during *Kharif*, 2021&2022 and *Rabi*, 2021-22&2022-23

| Trt. No | Treatments | <i>Kharif</i> | | | <i>Rabi</i> | | | System straw yield | | |
|-----------------|--|---------------|------|-------------|-------------|---------|-------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| | | 2021 | 2022 | Pooled mean | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | Pooled mean |
| T ₁ | Control (No N) | 3320 | 3596 | 3458 | 4101 | 4446 | 4274 | 7421 | 8042 | 7732 |
| T ₂ | 3 Nano-N sprays (15DAT, MT&PI) | 3547 | 3856 | 3702 | 4238 | 4597 | 4417 | 7785 | 8453 | 8119 |
| T ₃ | 100% RDN-NCU | 6226 | 6854 | 6540 | 7370 | 8118 | 7744 | 13596 | 14972 | 14284 |
| T ₄ | 100% RDN- STCR based N-NCU | 7053 | 7791 | 7422 | 8412 | 9297 | 8855 | 15465 | 17089 | 16277 |
| T ₅ | 100% RDN- Agrotain UG | 6464 | 7134 | 6799 | 7695 | 8483 | 8089 | 14159 | 15618 | 14888 |
| T ₆ | 50% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4909 | 5376 | 5143 | 5899 | 6459 | 6179 | 10808 | 11835 | 11322 |
| T ₇ | 50% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 5515 | 6059 | 5787 | 6509 | 7146 | 6828 | 12024 | 13206 | 12615 |
| T ₈ | 50% RDN-Agrotain UG + 2 Nano sprays | 5007 | 5487 | 5247 | 5914 | 6482 | 6198 | 10922 | 11969 | 11445 |
| T ₉ | 33% RDN-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 3830 | 4164 | 3997 | 4644 | 5055 | 4849 | 8474 | 9218 | 8846 |
| T ₁₀ | 33% RDN-STCR based N-NCU+2 Nano N sprays | 4420 | 4826 | 4623 | 5335 | 5823 | 5579 | 9755 | 10649 | 10202 |
| T ₁₁ | 33% RDN-Agrotain UG +2 Nano N sprays | 3902 | 4290 | 4096 | 4727 | 5156 | 4942 | 8630 | 9446 | 9038 |
| Mean | | 4927 | 5403 | 5165 | 5895 | 6460 | 6178 | 10822 | 11863 | 11343 |
| SEm± | | 166 | 182 | 174 | 200 | 224 | 212 | 291 | 276 | 283 |
| CD@5% | | 492 | 534 | 515 | 590 | 662 | 626 | 865 | 821 | 837 |

Note: *100% and 50% RDN -3 equal splits (1/3rd basal,1/3rd MT&1/3rd PI) and 33% RDN as basal
 *2 Nano N sprays: 1 NS at maximum tillering and 1 NS at panicle initiation stage

Commented [AS71]: Effect of nano nitrogen, agrotain and neem coated urea on grain yield (kg ha⁻¹) of rice at maximum tillering and panicle initiation stages during *rabi*, 2021 -22 and 2022-23

Commented [AS72]: CD(0.05%)

Commented [AS73]: As in all tables

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