

Mowing Rice Crop as Ratoon and Applying *Chromolaena odorata* Compost to Support Food Security

Jamilah Munir^{1*}, Juniarti², And Srimulyani³

¹Agrotechnology Department, ²Soil Science Department, ³Animal Husbandry Department Agriculture
^{1,2,3} Agriculture Faculty in Universitas Tamansiswa, Indonesia; Jl. Tamansiswa No. 9 Padang, Post Code 25138; Indonesia.

¹Orcid: 0000-0002-2153-9596

Abstract

Ratooning rice 45 days after planting is an effective means of forage production that allows a good rice harvest in addition. The objectives of this study were to determine the effect of mowing rice crops and applying composted *Chromolaena odorata* or *C. odorata* + NPK fertilizers application on days to harvest and yield of 'Red Cempo' brown rice. The experiment was conducted in Sungai Lareh, at Padang City, West Sumatra, Indonesia, from May 2015 to August 2015, on Ultisol soils. The experiment was arranged in a split-plot design, where the main plots were either unmown (P0) or mown at 15 cm above ground at the flag leaf fully emerged stage of growth (P1). Subplots were fertilized with varying levels of combinations of composted *C. odorata* + NPK fertilizer applications. These combinations consisted of: B1) 5 Mg ha⁻¹ *C. odorata* compost (CC) + 100% fertilizer recommendation (FR); B2) 7.5 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 75% FR; and B3) 10 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 50% FR. Treatments were replicated three times. All data were tested by using Analysis of variance (ANOVA) $p < 5\%$, and the real test LSD $p < 5\%$. The parameters tested were soil analysis, analysis of the forage nutrient content, the harvest age. Results of the experiments showed that Harvesting forage is feasible if it doesn't lengthen the harvest age nor lower the yield of Red Cempo. The yields of ratoon forage from 'Red Cempo' rice averaged 2.80 Mg ha⁻¹. Amending soils with various combinations of doses of *C. odorata* compost and artificial fertilizer significantly affected to plant height, the number of tillers, and unfilled spikelet percentages. The good treatment was 5 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 100% FR, and reached dry grain harvested an average of 4,18 Mg ha⁻¹ from rice in the plots mown for forage crops at the beginning of the primordial phase.

Keywords: *C. odorata* Compost, forage, Red Cempo Brown Rice.

INTRODUCTION

Rice is a staple food crop in Indonesia and is constantly being developed and intensively cultivated both in paddy fields as well as on dry land fields. Indonesian national dependence on rice is very high, but the carrying capacity to meet the food needs is still low in the tropical soils of the country. In 2012, Indonesia's rice imports amounted to 1.8 million tons with a value of US \$ 945.6 million (BPS, 2013). Indonesia's rice cultivation is done on rain-fed tropical soils. Recently, brown rice cultivation has increased. Brown rice is very popular with the public, and the market price is more than double the price of white rice. Some of the reasons people like brown rice are that it contains a low sugar content, but it has high levels of B vitamins and fiber. The high fiber content in brown rice is preferred by people interested in losing weight, those with heart problems, and diabetics.

Farmers who are also ranchers and keep cattle often face difficulty procuring forages because there is limited land available for cropping grass. Elephant grass is the typical forage grass grown for cattle and is grown on dry land. If the Sawah is planted to cropped forage grass, it would be detrimental to farmers because they wouldn't be able to use the land for raising the more valuable rice crop, so farmers are reluctant to raise grass. Therefore, procuring forage becomes increasingly difficult. Rice straw can also be used as animal feed but must be supplemented if used as forage. Rice straw is low in protein and high in crude fiber, so the quality is low, therefore only 20 -30% of the nation's straw production is used for forage, and the rest is composted or burned (Jamilah, Fadhlila, and Mulyani, 2017); (Hynes, Stergiadis, Gordon, and Yan, 2016); (Harrell, Bond, and Blanche, 2009).

Much work is being done to increase the quality of rice production, but more work needs to be done to study how to improve overall food self-sufficiency. Research suggests that rice crops can grow well if the soil is amended by providing compost and fertilizers. Rice, being a member of the grass

family, has growth characteristics similar to forage grasses. The nature of grass allows it to be able to be mown repeatedly in a given period. Mowing rice crops at a young age (early to fully emerged flag leaf stage) allows rice crops to provide both grain and a new source of forage rather than using grasses grown solely for forage. Some constraints of this system are that mowing the forage as ratoon from the rice crop can reduce rice yields and delay the harvest age. It is still not known how much brown rice grain yield is reduced due to a cutting of green rice crops. To solve the above problems, it will be necessary to provide soil nutrients to protect the quality of the crops. Organic fertilizer from composted *Chromolaena odorata* (*C.odorata*) was shown to increase maize yields on marginal lands in West Sumatra Sijunjung (Jamilah et al., 2009); (Jamilah, 2011); (Jamilah, 2010).

This project was undertaken to provide information on the effects on the rice crops when ratooned, a practice that is not commonly done by farmers. The research objective was to determine the effect of mowing forage as ratoon in conjunction with applying various rates of composted *C.odorata* + artificial fertilizers application on growth and yield of rice grain grown on this tropical soil.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The experiments were conducted in paddy fields where farmers cultivated rice crops in Sungai Lareh, Padang City, on Ultisol soils. The variety of rice used was 'Red Cempo' brown rice. The experiment was arranged in a split-plot design, with the main plots divided between unmown areas (P0) and those mown at 15cm above ground at the beginning of flower primordia (P1). The subplots consisted of three treatments using various combinations of composted *C.odorata* (CC) and Fertilizer Recommendation (FR): B1) 5 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 100% FR; B2) 7.5 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 75% FR; and B3) 10 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 50% FR. The treatments were replicated three times, so there were 2 x 3 x 3 = 18 experimental plots. The artificial fertilizer recommendation included 100 kg ha⁻¹ urea, 50 kg ha⁻¹ ammonium sulfate, 150 kg ha⁻¹ superphosphate 36, and 100 kg ha⁻¹ KCl.

The parameters measured in the experiment included soil analysis before and after treatment, including pH, organic C, total-N, exchangeable K, and available P. Forage nutrient content was measured using Van Soest Analysis on material collected during the mowing as ratoon and the straw harvested at the end of the growth phase. Parameters measured included protein content, ash, forage dry matter weight, organic matter, crude fiber content, crude protein, and C-N ratio. Agronomic factors studied included plant height,

the maximum number of tillers, age at 75% rice flower emergence, rice yield, the average weight of 1000 spikelets, panicle length, number of spikelets per panicle, the percentage of empty spikelets, and dry grain production per plot and per hectare. All rice data were analyzed using Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) $p < 0.05$, and LSD $p < 0.05$. The soil analysis data and data on the analysis of the nutrient content of animal feed are displayed in tabular form only. The results of chemical analysis of soil were not analyzed statistically, only tabulated.

The forage analysis was carried out by the micro-Kjeldahl method for N, elemental P, and organic-C-spectrophotometry. Analysis for K, Ca, Na and several microelements (Fe, Zn, Co, Cu, B and Mn) were determined using Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (Perkin-Elmer 3110; J and W Scientific, Folsom, CA, USA). Determination of pH (soil and water) 1:10 (v/v) using a pH electrode. According to (Hynes et al., 2016); (Goering & Soest, 1970) the acid-detergent fiber (ADF) procedure provides a rapid method for lignocellulose determination in feedstuffs. The residue also includes silica.

The difference between the cell walls and acid-detergent fiber is an estimate of hemicellulose; however, this difference does include some protein attached to cell walls. The acid-detergent fiber is used as a preparatory step for lignin determination. Weigh 1-g. air-dry sample ground to pass 20- to 30-mesh (1-mm.) screen or the approximate equivalent of wet material into a beaker suitable for refluxing. Add 100 ml. cold (room temperature) acid- detergent solution and 2 ml. decahydronaphthalene. Heat to boiling in 5 to 10 minutes. Reduce heat as boiling begins, to avoid foaming. Reflux 60 minutes from the onset of boiling; adjust boiling to a slow, even level. 3. Filter on a previously tared Gooch crucible, which is set on the filter manifold; use light suction. Break up the filtered mat with a rod and wash twice with hot water (90°-100° C). Rinse sides of the crucible in the same manner. 4. Repeat wash with acetone until it removes no more color; break up all lumps so that the solvent comes into contact with all particles of fiber. 5. Optional wash with hexane. Hexane should be added while crucible still contains some acetone. (Hexane can be omitted if lumping is not a problem in lignin analysis.) Suck the acid-detergent fiber free of hexane and dry at 100° C. for 8 hours or overnight and weigh. 6. Calculate acid-detergent fiber: $(W_o - W_t) (100) / S = ADF$; where: W_o = weight of oven dry crucible including fiber ; W_t = tared weight of oven-dry crucible; S = oven dry sample weight.

Determine of Acid-detergent lignin (ADF), in the acid-detergent lignin procedure is used as a preparatory step. The detergent removes the protein and another acid soluble

material that would interfere with the lignin determination. The ADF residue consists of cellulose, lignin, cutin, and acid-insoluble ash (mainly silica). Treatment with 72 percent sulfuric acid dissolves cellulose. Ashing of the residue will determine the crude lignin fraction including cutin. For silica determination and separation of cutin and lignin, see the Permanganate and Acid Detergent Cutin Procedures. Add to the crucible containing the acid-detergent fiber an amount of asbestos about equal to the volume of fiber. Cover the contents of the crucible with cooled (15° C). 72 percent H₂SO₄ and stir with a glass rod to a smooth paste, breaking all lumps. Fill crucible about half full with acid and stir. Let glass rod remain in a crucible; refill with 72 percent H₂SO₄ and stir at hourly intervals as acid drains away. Crucibles do not need to be kept full at all times. Three additions suffice. Keep crucible at 20° to 23° C. After 3 hours, filter off as much acid as possible with the vacuum; then wash contents with hot water until free from acid. Rinse and remove stirring rod.

3. Dry crucible at 100° C. and weighed. 4. Ignite crucible in a muffle furnace at 500° to 550° C. for 3 hours, and then cool to 100° C and weight. (Lx100)/S = ADL; where: L = loss upon ignition after 72 percent H₂SO₄ treatment ; S = oven-dry sample weight.

THE RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The soil chemical properties before and after being given C.odorata compost + fertilizers are presented in Table 1. In general, untreated wetland paddy fields on these soils have pHs ranging from very acidic to acidic, very high levels of exchangeable K, low available P, high organic C, low total N, and a high C-N ratio. The higher the rate of C.odorata compost, the more acidic the soil became. In uncultivated land, it can be seen that the pH is generally higher than that cropped to rice. In general, the exchangeable K in these soils ranges from high to very high. The treatments also showed that the higher the dose of C.odorata compost given, the higher the exchangeable K became in the soil.

The effect of the KCl that was applied along with C.odorata compost is unclear. It's possible that virtually all of the artificial K fertilizers were absorbed by the crop. Other possibilities include strong fixation by clay minerals or leaching with irrigation water, as explained by Soetedjo and Kartasapoetra (1988). Buckman and Brady (1984) state that leaching in wet areas such as paddies can cause high K losses, creating the need for potassium fertilizers if K demand in the desired crops is moderate or high. Available P levels and organic C increased with higher rates of compost (Table 1).

Table 1: Soil chemical exchanged applied fertilizer as treatment

CC + RF	pH	Exchangeable K	Available P	Organic C	Total Nitrogen	C/N
		Cmol kg ⁻¹	ppm	%		
(B1)	5,03 a	0,638 h	8,96 m	4,30 h	0,34 m	12,65 m
(B2)	4,96 a	1,114 vh	16,69 m	4,62 h	0,46 m	10,11 l
(B3)	4,82 a	1,326 vh	20,62 h	4,80 h	0,26 m	18,46 h
CON TROL	5,23 a	1,263 vh	7,18 l	3,70	0,17	21,76 h
Soil chemical properties	pH < 4,5 (very acid); 4,5 – 5,5 (acid); 5,6- 6,5 (moderate); P-chemical available ; 4,9-8,8 (low); 9,2-17,5 (medium); 17,9-26,2 (high); >26,2 (very high); K-exchangeable; 0,6- 1,0 (high); >1,0 (very high); C N ratio; 5 – 10 (low); 11 – 15 (medium); 16- 25 (high)					

Notes ; l (low), a (acid); m (moderate); h (high) and vh (very high). Determined by soil chemical criteria (Hardjowigeno, 1983).

Available P increased with higher rates of the organic fertilizers, reaching moderate to high levels in the treated plots. Artificial fertilizer was not as effective at increasing available P as the compost. We think the available P increased because the CEC of the soil would have increased as the organic fertilizer rate increased. This would allow some of the soluble Fe ions that adsorb P to be taken out of the soil solution. The organic matter could also create carboxylic and phenolic groups to form organometallic complex sorption complexes or chelates, allowing the increase in soluble P. The physical characteristic of the rice fields in the study site suggest high levels of soluble Fe. These results suggest that it is very important to apply compost as an organic fertilizer to the soil of rice fields, where rice cultivation is done by SRI (the System Rice Intensively). According to Buckman and Brady (1984), soluble ionic forms of P in acid soils such as H₂PO₄⁻ and HPO₄²⁻ are both very easily absorbed by crops and fixed by Fe.

Levels of total N and the C-N ratio the soils were affected by fertilizer applications. In general, soil fertilizers increased the N content over that in the land which was not given fertilizer.

The C-N ratio was higher on land that was not given fertilizer. Based on the interpretation of chemical properties of the soil, the concentration of total N in the amended plots increased to moderate levels, while the N level on the uncultivated land was low.

The B3 treatment resulted in the lowest total N-content among the amended plots, but it had the highest C-organic content and produced the highest C: N ratio among the amended treatments, although still lower than the control. This is because the nitrogen elements undergo immobilization in the soil so that the N elements are often found in the bound form, the form of amino acid compounds or proteins. This may occur, of course, due to the highest dose of compost treatment without the introduction of artificial fertilizers. As already explained by Gami et al. (2009); Ghmire et al. (2009);

Ghmire et al. (2016) and Kader et al. (2017); the application of organic manure to paddy fields in an anaerobic environment will slow the release of N, as result in a high C-N ratio.

The content of crude fiber and phosphate content in forage and rice straw are presented in Table 2. In general, crude fiber percent was lower and phosphorus percent was higher in the forage from the mown crop than in straw. The percent of crude fiber was higher in crops fertilized with lower rates of artificial fertilizer (B2 and B3), compared to crops that received higher rates of artificial fertilizer (B1). Increasing organic matter or the decrease in phosphate fertilizer higher happened in early primordial phase and decreased after entering the mature phase of physiological.

Table 2. Crude fiber and P percentages of the forage and rice straw

CC + RF	crude fiber content			P content		
	Early primordial	Harvesting phase		early primordial	Harvesting Phase	
		Un mown	mown		Un mown	mown
	----- % -----					
	B1	13,623	nm	nm	0,48	0,20
B2	18,624	24,12	19,716	0,50	0,19	0,20
B3	16,693	nm	nm	0,57	0,24	0,22
Averages	16,300	nm	nm	0,52	0,20	0,21

Notes: nm = not measured

Table 3. The C-N ratio and crude protein in forage and rice straw

CC + RF	C-N ratio			crude protein in forage content (%)		
	Primordi al early	Physiological phase		Primordia early	Physiological phase	
		Un mown	Mown		Un mown	Mown
B1	24,43	41,96	57,15	12,00	2,81	5,44
B2	17,34	36,76	59,36	13,13	3,50	5,25
B3	17,64	45,30	52,92	11,63	3,69	5,00
Averages	19,81	41,34	56,48	12,26	3,33	5,23

Phosphorus percentages in the mature rice straw were less than 50% those of the forages harvested at the beginning of primordial flowering. Winugroho *et al.*, (1983) also reported low available phosphorus content in rice straw. In addition to the low protein content, rice straw also has a low dry matter digestibility value and low organic matter content, between 34-52% and 42-59% respectively (Winugroho *et al.*, 1983). This low digestibility also causes low dry matter intake, ie only 2% of body weight.

The C-N ratio was lower in the forage harvested at the initial phase of primordia than in the straw from mature rice. The C-N ratio value could reach up to a two fold increase or more when the crop has entered the mature phase of physiology. The lower value of C-N ratio in the forage harvested at the initial primordial phase low shows that this forage is more easily digested by ruminants than rice straw. The straw harvested from the mown plots also had higher protein content than that found in the straw from the unmown plots (Table 3).

Lower C/N values correspond to greater digestibility in cattle compared to materials with high C/N values. When

compared with forage from elephant grass, Zubaidah (2008) reported ash content in the elephant grass crops ranging from 8.24 to 12.48% and Zulfardi (2000) reported ash at 10.29%, so the ash content of the immature rice forage is similar to the level of elephant grass. In Indonesia, waste straw is not fully utilized. Research results from Duong Ngo (2009) showed that combustion of 1 Mg of a straw causes a loss of 91.3% of the carbon (C), equivalent to 291.2 kg C and also releases 1,068 kg of CO₂, and 12.6 kg N.

As reported earlier by (Sutardi *et al.*, 1982; Zulfardi *et al.*, 1983; Sitorus, 1989; Jackson, 1977) rice straw is characterized by low protein content, minerals, and energy. As a consequence, it has a low nutritional value for feeding livestock. The protein content of rice straw varies between 3-5%. Therefore, we recommend that before being fed to livestock, it should be fermented for a few days to increase the availability of P and K. Mandal *et al.* (2004) reported rice straw yields at 7-10 Mg ha⁻¹. However, rice straw consists mainly of cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin, with low levels of a protein that makes the C/N values high (Table 4 and 5). Gaur (1981) reported C-N ratios from fresh mature rice straw from 80-130.

Table 4: The effect of mowing and CC + FR to the nutrient quality of rice plant as forage

CC + RF	Dry matter (kg ha ⁻¹)	Organic matter weight (kg ha ⁻¹)	Ash (g kg ⁻¹ DM)	NDF (g ha ⁻¹)	ADF (g kg ⁻¹ DM)	CP (g kg ⁻¹ DM)	CF (g kg ⁻¹ DM)
	. Nutrient quality of forage at 45 days ratoon						
B1	638.4	573.60	101.51	344.93	168.47	107.82	122.40
B2	533.4	475.05	109.40	287.45	197.62	116.94	165.87
B3	592.2	529.13	106.50	339.51	194.64	103.91	149.15
	Nutrient quality of straw at 97 days after planting						
	Mg ha ⁻¹	Mg ha ⁻¹	unmown				
B1	4.64	3.74	194.10	nm	nm	30.71	nm
B2	4.26	3.67	139.10	nm	nm	30.15	nm
B3	4.10	3.63	114.4	2.571.11	273.16	32.67	213.59

			mown				
B1	2.42	2.10	133.3	nm	nm	47.14	nm
B2	2.35	2.04	130.7	nm	nm	45.64	nm
B3	1.23	1.08	120.5	804.54	272.89	43.98	173.12
CV P	14,81						
CV B	20,73						

Notes: nm= not measured

Table 5: the Effect of mowing and CC + FR to the nutrient quality of rice plant as forage and straw

CC + RF	ADF (%)	NDF (%)	Cellulose (%)	Hemicellulose (%)	Lignin (%)	Silica (%)
	Ratooned at 45 days after planting					
B1	31.18	54.03	18.68	22.85	6.88	10.66
B2	36.67	53.89	21.28	17.22	6.88	5.45
B3	33.95	57.33	22.85	23.38	4.91	6.19
Averages	33.93	55.08	20.94	21.15	6.20	7.43
	At mature physiology phase (97 days after planting)					
	Unmown					
B3	43.56	62.71	29.33	19.15	4.45	9.85
	mown					
B3	41.72	65.41	27.25	23.69	4.50	9.47

There was an influence of *C.odorata* compost on rice crop height. Crop height decreased as artificial fertilizer rates were reduced and the rates of *C.odorata* compost were increased. Plots that received artificial fertilizers at 100% and 75% of

the recommended rates were taller than those receiving the artificial fertilizer at 50% of the recommended rate, despite the B3 treatment receiving twice as much *C.odorata* compost (Table 6).

Table 6: The effect of mowing and CC + FR to Rice crop growth component

CC + RF	Plant height (cm)	Maximum tiller number per clump	Weight of forage ratoon	Weight of rice straw Mg ha ⁻¹		Days of 75% Flowering		Number of Harvest age days	
		unmown	Mg ha ⁻¹	unmown	mown	unmown	mown	unmown	mown
B1	75.33 A	28.67 A	3.04	15.45	8.08	51.33	56.33	92.33	98.67
B2	72.33 A	22.33 B	2.54	14.20	7.83	50.33	57.67	90.33	97.67
B3	60.50 B	27.83 A	2.82	13.68	7.93b	52.00	56.33	90.33	97.33
Averages	69.39		2.80	14.44a	7.94b	51.22	56.78	91.00	97.89
CV P (%)				11.79		3.73		0.49	
CV B (%)				14.27		2.79		0.66	

Figures followed by the same small letter on the same line or capital letters followed by the same column are not significantly according to LSD 0.05.

Mowing the rice crop as fodder significant effected day to flowering and harvesting of the brown rice crop (Figure 1). Harvesting age is determined by the age at flowering. It takes 40 days for the crop to grow from the 75% of the flowering stage until harvest. This data shows that the 'Red Cempo' brown rice crops that were mown at the early primordial growth stage took an additional 5- 8 days to reach flowering and harvest compared to crops that were not mown.

Mowing at the beginning of floral primordia yielded an average of 2.8 Mg ha⁻¹ of forage as fresh stover. Forage quality of the rice crop was very good for ruminants due to its higher nutrient content and lower fiber content compared to the straw that was harvested with the mature crops. Rice straw can also be used as animal feed, but it has lower quality than the mown forage. Rice straw is typically used as fermented animal feed to improve its quality as ruminant feed. Antonius (2009) reports dry matter content of physiologically mature straw of 44.88%; with 4.5% crude protein 30.31% crude fiber.

Yields of rice straw can reach 12-15 Mg ha⁻¹ crop⁻¹, depending on the location and type of crop varieties of rice used. This is a large amount of material that could be used for various purposes such as animal feed, organic fertilizer, or as mulch for melon crops. However, most rice straw is lost because too many farmers burn the straw after harvest on the field. Rice straw takes a long time to decompose. Speeding up

the decomposition process of straw often requires the addition of decomposers, such as bacteria or fungi that are able to produce the enzyme cellulase (Meryandini et al. 2009). When compared to the crude protein content (CP) between the Rice crops were produce new shoots and the formation of generative parts (Table 6).

The mown plots bloomed 6 days later than the unmown plots. Mowing inhibits vegetative growth because it removes energy that had been stored in the stems and demands more energy to be taken from the roots in order to restore growth. Comparing the forage from rice mown at 47 days after planting with a superior elephant grass crops, the rice forage is superior quality with P and K content 30% higher.

Comparing the crude protein content (CP) of the rice crops mown at 47 days after planting with a superior elephant grass crop, the rice crops are superior quality with phosphorus and potassium content of 30% higher. According to Jamilah et al (2011), Basmati rice varieties could reach 17.69%, crude protein higher than the crude protein of rice crop at paddy soil.

Table 6 shows the effect of fertilization on plant height, a maximum number of tillers, forage weight, strawweight, flowering age and harvest age of rice plants. The lower rates of compost accompanied by higher rates of artificial fertilizers resulted in taller plants. The treatments also influenced the forage yield, but they aren't significantly different. According to Jamilah et al. (2009), compost applications affect the soil chemical properties in more ways than simply providing enough nutrients to meet the needs of

plants. Applying compost can increase the cation exchange capacity of the soils and reduce the effect of metals that endanger the growth of plants such as Fe, which is quite high in Ultisol soils. Furthermore, Ghimire, R., Lamichhane, S., Acharya, BS; Bista, and P. Sainju (2016) stated that the compost that enriches soil organic matter is more dynamic in influencing the soil pH, decreasing levels of C, N, and S.

It turns out that the yield of paddy straw is strongly influenced by the effects of mowing. In general, mowing for ratoon can reduce the yield of mature straw by nearly 50%. Similarly, the age at flowering and harvesting is greater in mown plants than unmown by up to 7 days, although these are not significantly different. Dong et al. (2017) also explain that mowing a rice crop will produce a shortened node or segment that will affect the weight of the straw it produces.

The average number panicles per clump and the number of spikelets per panicle did not differ between the mown and unmown crops, but mowing did affect panicle length (Table 7). In general, the mown crops tassels are shorter compared to the unmown crops. The combination of fertilizer treatments from various sources did not affect productive tillers, panicle length or the number of spikelets per panicle.

Mowing greatly affected average panicle length in 'Red

Cempo' brown rice. Crops that were mown produced panicles that were shorter. This was due to decreased energy produced by crops through photosynthesis in the crops that were harvested for green cattle feed. There is less energy left in the mown crops after harvesting for ratoon, so crops need more time to form a panicle and the resulting panicles are shorter.

Even though immature rice crops recover from harvesting as ratoon, more research is needed to determine if there is a better mowing height so crop yield does not decline. High or low levels of mows will determine the extent of food reserves lost by harvesting as forage. As reported by Jamilah (2015), mowing at a height of only 5 cm from the surface of the soil delayed flowering and harvest up to 10 days. High and low levels of mowing also affected the age of the rice crops at harvest. In this study, mowing along with applying 5 Mg ha⁻¹ of composted *C.odorata* + artificial fertilizer at 100% of the recommended rate resulted in the least amount of unfilled spikelets (Table 7), but the unmown treatments averaged higher numbers of unfilled spikelets.

Artificial fertilizers contain high amounts of nutrients in a given weight of material and the availability of those nutrients to the crop is also high. Furthermore, crops more easily absorb nutrients from artificial fertilizers than from most organic fertilizers. It was also shown by Barus (2011) that applying organic fertilizer derived from rice straw compost at rates up to 10 Mg ha⁻¹ resulted in unfilled spikelets of 10 - 13,7%.

Table 7: The Effect of mowing and CC + FR to the panicles component

CC + RF	Number of panicles per clump		Length of panicles		Number of spikelets in each panicle		Unfilled spikelets	
	mown	unmown	mown	unmown	mown	unmown	mown	unmown
	--panicles---		-----cm-----		--- spikelets--		-----(%)-----	
B1	26.00	27.33	20,40	22,51	110,0	149,81	8,44 A	6,93 A
B2	24.33	28.55	20,49	23,19	104,5	109,33	10,60 B	15,80 C
B3	28.89	27.55	21,06	25,96	107,5	105,00	8,63 A	10,82 B
Averages	26.41 a	27.81 a	20,65 b	23,89 a	107,4 a	121,38 a	9,22 a	11,18 a

Figures followed by the same small letter on the same line or capital letters followed by the same column are not significantly according to LSD 0.05.

Table 8. The Effect of mowing and CC + RF to the grain component

CC + RF	Weight of 1000 grains		Weight of grains per clump		Yield of rice	
	mown	unmown	mown	unmown	mown	unmown
	-----g-----				-----Mg ha ⁻¹ -----	
					-	
B1	22.43	23.65	25,68	44,94	4,18	5,33
B2	20.62	22.84	24,67	37,53	3,92	5,13
B3	21.99	23.55	26,91	38,78	3,88	5,43
Averages	21.68 a	23.34 a	25,75 b	40,42 a	3,98	5,30
CV P (%)	7,31		9,8		20,65	
CV B (%)	6,93		10,9		6,89	

Figures followed by the same small letter on the same line are not significantly according to LSD 0.05.

As already described by Mengel and Kirkby (1982),

nutrients that the crops absorb are a strong influence on the development and age to harvest the crop. Cempo Red rice varieties are red rather than white rice, a result of genes that produce an aleurone that contains anthocyanin, which is a source of red or purple color. The effect of various combinations of fertilizer among the mown plot treatment did not significantly affect the weight of grain per hectare (Table 8), although there was an average yield increase of 1.3 Mg ha⁻¹ in crops that were not mown compared to crops that were mown.

If viewed from the perspective of a farming business, the difference between income derived from the sale of an additional 1.3 Mg of grain from unmown rice would raise revenue from Rp 6600 kg⁻¹, to Rp. 8.500.000, This is a pretty big number. A decrease in grain yield caused due to mowing also decreases panicle length, the number of grains per panicle and, the weight per 1000 grains.

CONCLUSIONS

Results of the experiments showed that Harvesting forage is feasible if it doesn't lengthen the harvest age nor lower the yield of Red Cempo. The yields of ratoon forage from 'Red Cempo' rice averaged 2.80 Mg ha⁻¹. Amending soils with various combinations of doses of C.odorata compost and artificial fertilizer significantly affected to plant height, the number of tillers, and unfilled spikelet percentages. The good treatment was 5 Mg ha⁻¹ CC + 100% FR and reached

dry grain harvested an average of 4,18 Mg ha⁻¹ from rice in the plots mown for forage crops at the beginning of the primordial phase.

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