

Rice Selection Important in Improving Yields

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Beginning in October 2009, CEDAC extended its dissemination activities by contributing to a regular monthly broadcast show with CTN TV that airs every second Monday of the month.

Speaking this month on the live CTN TV show, "Internet Talk", Dr. Yang Saing Koma, CEDAC's president, talked about the benefits of good rice seed selection, emphasizing that yields can increase up to 20% because of good rice seed selection and planting.

He pointed out that now is a good time for farmers to practice rice seed selection while they are harvesting. The selection process is easy and does not take much time, he added.

"Before or after harvest, farmers can select the rice plants with good branches and many clusters and grains, and then preserve it by handpicking the seeds or hanging it in a free space", Dr. Koma said.

During the show, there were many questions besides seed selection and storage techniques that were raised by the presenter to Dr. Koma. The other issues that were discussed included the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) production in Cambodia, agricultural dissemination, irrigation system development and rice land fertilizer.

Finally, Dr. Koma called for farmers to seriously consider rice seed selection and storage and not to burn their rice stubble after harvesting.