

### **Khush Rice Varieties**

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## Gurdev Singh Khush: The Rice Man of India



#### KHUSH'S TEAM

at International Rice Research Institute bred 328 lines released as 643 varieties in 75 countries between 1967 and 2002

#### **ABOUT 60%**

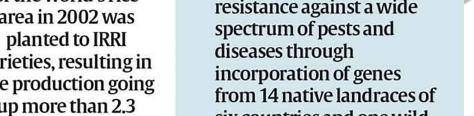
of the world's rice area in 2002 was planted to IRRI varieties, resulting in rice production going up more than 2.3 times

# THE MIRACLE KHUSH **RICE VARIETIES**



### **IR36** RELEASED IN 1976

- Planted in about 11 million hectares annually worldwide during the 1980s, the highest area occupied by any food crop in history
- Could yield 9-10 tonnes grain per hectare and mature in 110-115 days, as against 1-3 tonnes over 160-180 days of traditional varieties. High yields with short duration could enable farmers to grow two rice crops a year
- First ever variety bred for resistance against a wide six countries and one wild rice species.



### **IR64**



- Released in 1985 and planted in over 10 million hectares during the late-1990s
- Higher yields with resistance to even more pests and diseases than
- IR36. Incorporating genes from 20 genes of eight countries
- Scored in grain quality in terms of texture and palatability and also higher rice milling recovery





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