

### Mark III: The IRRI low-cost moisture tester for paddy

Although the resistance type moisture meters are not too expensive, farmers still can not afford them. The IRRI low-cost moisture tester is a decision making tool for postharvest operations that costs half of the price of a more advanced moisture tester. It is designed as a decision making tool in postharvest operations of paddy and is not intended for trade.



Typical applications are:

- Checking whether paddy in a dryer or in sun drying is dry enough to stop the drying process
- Checking whether paddy intended for milling can be stored safely
- Checking whether rice seeds are dry enough to be stored safely. Especially when storing seeds in the hermetic storage systems it is recommended to use either this or any other moisture tester to determine the seed moisture content before sealing the storage container.

The IRRI moisture tester Mark II is used as any other resistance type moisture meters by crushing a small sample of grains.

Three light emitting diodes (LED's) and a beeper visualize the results.

**Red** - paddy is wet and needs to be dried (above 14%)

Green - paddy is dry enough for safe storage and at optimum MC for milling (12-14%)

Yellow - paddy is safe for seed storage (12% or below)

Within the range of 10-16% the moisture content can be determined in 1% increments by observing the lighting patterns of the LEDs. For details see the photo

The moisture tester is calibrated for paddy. Calibration functions for maize and other crops can be produced on request.

#### Availability

Single units of the moisture meter are available at the Souvenir shop at IRRI headquarters.

For large quantity orders, please contact: Nanodevice Technologies Inc. (Manila)

#### Learn More

Visit Rice Based Cropping Systems Knowledge Bank [www.rkbodisha.in](http://www.rkbodisha.in)