



## Evaluation of Newly Developed Advanced Rice Genotypes at Reproductive Stage Under Salinity Conditions

M. F. Ikbāl<sup>1,2\*</sup>, M. Y. Rafii<sup>3</sup>, S. I. Ramlee<sup>3</sup>, M. N. Yaapar<sup>3</sup>, M. M. Islam<sup>2</sup>, M. M. Rahman<sup>2</sup>, S. M. A. Alim<sup>2</sup>, M. E. Hossain<sup>2</sup>, Md. Mohimenul Islam<sup>2</sup> and Md. Shahed Hossain<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Tropical Agriculture and Food Security, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia

<sup>2</sup>Bangladesh Institute of Nuclear Agriculture, BAU Campus, Mymensingh-2202, Bangladesh

<sup>3</sup>Department of Crop Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang 43400, Selangor, Malaysia;

\*Correspondence: [binaikbal@gmail.com](mailto:binaikbal@gmail.com); Phone: +8801717840065

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**Abstract:** Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is a staple food for more than half of the world's population, its growth and productivity are continually threatened by several biotic and abiotic stresses among which salinity is one of the major hindrances. Hence, cultivating salt-tolerant rice varieties is the most effective approach to reducing the salinity problem. The rice plants were challenged against salinity at BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub> populations and the selected lines proved to be tolerant to salinity up to 8 and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, at reproductive screening. Salt stress reduced plant height, panicle length, tiller and panicle number per plant, filled grains, 1000 seeds weight, and ultimately the yield per hill. From the reproductive screening against salinity, 12 and four progenies of BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17 were tolerant up to 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, and 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. From this study, finally 14 Binadhan-17-*Saltol* advanced lines with high-yielding and salt tolerance were selected for further evaluation in the salinity-affected field. Furthermore, the developed lines are recommended for commercial cultivation in Malaysia and other rice-growing regions, especially for salt-affected rice fields.

**Keywords:** Rice; Salinity; Reproductive; Salt-tolerant; Varieties; Cultivation.

### INTRODUCTION

Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is considered as a significant food for the people, and in Malaysia, the self-sufficiency level is only around 75% with an average yield of 4.5 t/ha per season. To counter the ever-increasing demand, rice production needs to be increased by approximately 7 t/ha per season (Tan et al., 2015). However, it is often endangered by abiotic and biotic factors that diminish rice yield. Soil salinity is one of the predominant abiotic stresses that impede crop growth, development, and subsequently yield (Chen et al., 2021). Approximately one-third of cultivable land worldwide is impacted by salt, and by 2050, half of all arable land might be salinized; thus, salinity is becoming an increasing challenge to sustainable agriculture (Shrivastava & Kumar, 2015). Rice is typically sensitive to salinity (Moradi & Ismail, 2007) yet rice types vary considerably in their salinity tolerance (Kamyab-Talesh et al., 2014). Additionally, it disrupts the physical and chemical qualities of soil and has a greater impact on crop development (Singh, 2016). For the forecast of rice production, the panicle weight, tiller number per plant, and

harvest index are vital agronomic characteristics. These yield elements are significantly impacted by salt (Mojakkir et al., 2015). There are many reports on research for the salinity tolerance at the seedling stage in rice (Sabouri & Sabouri, 2008) but very little attention has been given to the reproductive stage salinity tolerance in terms of both technical feasibility and time consumed for screening (Sabouri & Biabani, 2009). These screened salt tolerant advanced lines will be cultivated in the coastal area in Malaysia which will help in food safety in Malaysia.

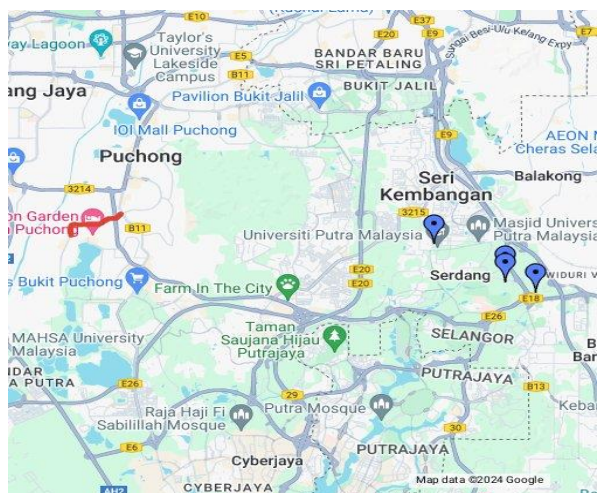
So, the objectives of the present investigation were to find out and established suitable selection criteria for the screening of newly developed advanced rice genotypes under salinized and nonsalinized condition at reproductive stage with the agronomic performances.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### Experimental Location and required materials

At the glass house of field 15, and that's 55 meters above sea level and located at latitude 2°59' north and longitude 101°43' east, the Faculty of Agriculture, Universiti Putra

Malaysia, Malaysia, screened advanced rice lines for salt tolerance.



**Figure. 1.** Study area map of the experiment

Three replications and a randomized complete block design were used to set up the studies. Four salinity treatments were used in the two-factor experiment: control (non-salinized water solution, 0.3 dSm<sup>-1</sup>), 6 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. In plastic pots with perforations, plants are grown. The pots were put in a bucket that was functioning as a water bath. One seedling was allowed to grow per pot (experimental unit). Binadhan-10, FL479 were used as tolerant checks and IR29, Binadhan-17, MR297 were used as susceptible checks (Islam et al., 2008). 14 developed NILs of Binadhan-17 were used in this experiment. EC meter, pH meter, NaOH and HCL, NaCl (analytical grade), perforated plastic bags, plastic trays (85 × 65 × 28 cm), Cylindrical plastic containers for mixing (50 L and 100 L capacity), N, P, and K fertilizers, Beaker (1000 ml), Volumetric flasks (100 and 200 ml capacity) were required for establishing the screening procedure at the vegetative and reproductive stages.

#### Seedling raising, pot preparations and salinization

Two setups were maintained: normal and salinized. The pots were placed in a plastic tray which serves as a water bath. Perforated plastic pots were filled with paddy filled fertile soil. 50 N, 25 P, 25 K mg/kg were added into the plastic pots. The initial soil level should be about 1 cm higher than the uppermost circle of holes. Place pots with levelled soil in a plastic tray loaded with tap water. This is the water bath. During this soil settling procedure, pregerminated seeds of rice genotypes were sowed on the soil surface of perforated plastic pots (three or four seeds pot<sup>-1</sup>). Thinning was done after 2 weeks to maintain one seedling per pot and water level of the tray was raised up to 1 cm above the soil surface.

When the seedlings are 28 d old, siphon out all water from the water bath. Allow a 12-h break after siphoning out water that drains out from pots. The pots were salinized at

EC 6 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> by dissolving analytical grade sodium chloride after 4 weeks of seed sowing. The EC of the solution was monitored every week until maturity, and if necessary, additional salt or tap water was added to adjust the EC. Approximately 5-6 weeks after seeding, roots may be seen growing into the water bath via the holes in the plastic container. Therefore, the pots should not be moved, since any damages to the roots would interfere with the salt tolerance mechanism of the plant.

#### Data recorded

Data of plant height, panicle length, panicle number hill<sup>-1</sup>, number of tiller hill<sup>-1</sup>, days of flowering, filled grain hill<sup>-1</sup>, unfilled grain hill<sup>-1</sup>, 1000 seed weight, yield plant<sup>-1</sup>, dry weight plant<sup>-1</sup>, and biological yield were recorded. From each replication five plants/genotypes were collected. The plant height was measured from the ground to leaf tips, panicle length (cm) from the neck node to the tip of the panicle. To calculate filled and unfilled grains/panicle, panicles were then threshed, then the panicles were oven dried to reduce moisture content (14%) for the measurement of grain yield/plant. Individual plant shoots were oven dried at 70 °C for 70 hours to determine shoot dry weight/plant.

The reduction (%) of plant character was calculated with the following equation,

$$\text{Reduction (\%)} = \frac{\text{Plant character at control} - \text{Plant character at saline condition}}{\text{Plant character at control condition}}$$

#### Statistical analysis

The collected data were analysed for each parameter using SAS software (version 9.4). Means were separated by least significant difference (LSD).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Plant height reduction

The most essential factor of morpho-physiology, which also serves as a determinant of shoot yield and total biomass production, is plant height. Plant height decreased when salt levels rose for all of the advanced lines and check types.

The NILs-BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17, the lowest and maximum plant height reductions were reported in Binadhan-10 and IR29, respectively, at salinity levels of 8 and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. The highest plant height across all treatments was discovered in Binadhan-10 (114.37 cm) from the control, while the lowest plant height was observed in IR29 (75.34 cm) from 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. (Table 1).

According to reports, plants' height gradually reduced as saline levels increased (Falah, 2010). Salinity stress may hinder cell growth or division, which would restrict plant height. The plant height and root length of crop plants under saline conditions decrease due to salt accumulation in cell walls; this phenomenon limits cell wall growth, springiness, and elongation (Taghipour & Salehi, 2008). The results are also supported by the past findings of Zhao et al. (2009), and Bagues et al. (2018), who observed

similar observations in M<sub>1</sub> rice populations treated with different salinity levels.

**Table 1.** Decreased plant height of advanced rice lines at different levels of salinity

| Advanced lines                      | Plant height (cm) of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                        |       |                         |       |                        |       |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
|                                     | Control (0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                                     | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>    | % R   | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>     | % R   | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 104.91 b <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 97.45 b-e <sup>B</sup> | 7.11  | 94.17 c-f <sup>C</sup>  | 10.24 | 91.49 bcd <sup>D</sup> | 12.80 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 102.16 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                               | 95.55 d-g <sup>B</sup> | 6.47  | 93.56 d-g <sup>C</sup>  | 8.42  | 90.34 de <sup>D</sup>  | 11.57 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 99.44 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                 | 95.52 d-g <sup>B</sup> | 3.94  | 92.72 fgh <sup>C</sup>  | 6.76  | 89.30 ef <sup>D</sup>  | 10.20 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 103.03bcd <sup>A</sup>                                                               | 97.29 cde <sup>B</sup> | 5.57  | 95.25 bcd <sup>C</sup>  | 7.55  | 92.46 b <sup>D</sup>   | 10.26 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 104.34 b <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 100.25 b <sup>AB</sup> | 3.92  | 94.63 b-e <sup>BC</sup> | 9.31  | 92.21 bc <sup>C</sup>  | 11.62 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 98.84 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 93.72 f-I <sup>B</sup> | 5.17  | 92.19 ghi <sup>B</sup>  | 6.73  | 89.32 ef <sup>C</sup>  | 9.63  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 101.74 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                               | 94.71 e-h <sup>B</sup> | 6.91  | 91.46 hij <sup>C</sup>  | 10.11 | 88.37 fg <sup>D</sup>  | 13.14 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 98.22 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 91.79 i <sup>B</sup>   | 6.55  | 89.16 kl <sup>C</sup>   | 9.22  | 84.29 i <sup>D</sup>   | 14.19 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 104.26 b <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 94.65 e-i <sup>B</sup> | 9.22  | 92.18 ghi <sup>C</sup>  | 11.59 | 90.68 cde <sup>C</sup> | 13.02 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 103.43 bc <sup>A</sup>                                                               | 97.75 bcd <sup>B</sup> | 5.49  | 95.65 bc <sup>C</sup>   | 7.52  | 91.33 bcd <sup>D</sup> | 11.69 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 97.74 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 93.55 ghi <sup>B</sup> | 4.28  | 90.33 jkl <sup>C</sup>  | 7.58  | 87.22 gh <sup>D</sup>  | 10.76 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 97.23 g <sup>A</sup>                                                                 | 92.60 hi <sup>B</sup>  | 4.76  | 88.68 l <sup>C</sup>    | 8.79  | 85.64 hi <sup>D</sup>  | 11.92 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 104.60 b <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 98.64 bc <sup>B</sup>  | 5.70  | 96.46 b <sup>C</sup>    | 7.78  | 92.35 b <sup>D</sup>   | 11.71 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 101.34 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 95.20 d-h <sup>B</sup> | 6.06  | 90.80 ijk <sup>C</sup>  | 10.41 | 91.39 bcd <sup>C</sup> | 9.82  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 114.37 a <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 110.35 a <sup>B</sup>  | 3.52  | 108.49 a <sup>C</sup>   | 5.14  | 105.98 a <sup>D</sup>  | 7.34  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 101.75 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                               | 94.56 e-i <sup>B</sup> | 7.06  | 89.31 kl <sup>C</sup>   | 12.22 | 85.76 hi <sup>D</sup>  | 15.71 |
| FL478                               | 98.67 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                                | 96.56 c-f <sup>A</sup> | 2.14  | 93.41 gef <sup>B</sup>  | 5.33  | 91.35 bcd <sup>B</sup> | 7.41  |
| IR29                                | 94.48 h <sup>A</sup>                                                                 | 82.88 j <sup>B</sup>   | 12.28 | 78.36 m <sup>C</sup>    | 17.06 | 75.34 j <sup>D</sup>   | 20.26 |
| CV (%)                              | 1.19                                                                                 | 1.84                   |       | 1.20                    |       | 1.09                   |       |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 2.01                                                                                 | 2.92                   |       | 1.84                    |       | 1.63                   |       |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

### Panicle length and panicle length reduction

Varying salt levels had a considerable impact on the duration of different rice genotypes' panicles, however the amount of reduction varied by genotype (Table 2). As longer panicles could result in more grains, it is also a significant yield-contributing characteristic. The control condition had the longest panicles of all genotypes, whereas the salinity level of 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> had the shortest panicles. These results showed that a decrease in salt shortens rice panicle length. In the situation of NILs- BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17, the longest panicle measured 25.62 cm (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-172) under control conditions, while with 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity, the

lowest panicle measured 17.38 cm (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-163), a drop of 25.32% from control treatment. Other than the check variety, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45 had the lowest panicle length reduction (10.06%) and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84 had the largest (27.69) at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity. In accordance with our observations about the length of the panicle of rice under salt stress, Sultana et al. (2014), Aslam et al. (2003) and Alam et al. (2001) found that salinity significantly affects the panicle length, seed setting percentage, and panicle weight, thereby reducing the grain yield. Several researchers have observed that salt has a major impact on the length of the rice panicle (Ali et al., 2004).

**Table 2.** Decreased panicle length of advanced rice lines at different levels of salinity

| Advanced lines                      | Panicle length (cm) of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                         |        |                        |        |                        |        |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                                    | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>     | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>    | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 24.25 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 22.54 d-g <sup>B</sup>  | 7.03   | 21.07 cde <sup>C</sup> | 13.09  | 19.54 de <sup>D</sup>  | 19.40  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 24.17 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 21.77 ghi <sup>B</sup>  | 9.93   | 20.24 ef <sup>C</sup>  | 16.27  | 18.81 d-g <sup>D</sup> | 22.19  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 23.11 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 21.58 hij <sup>B</sup>  | 6.61   | 19.47 fg <sup>C</sup>  | 15.77  | 17.73 hi <sup>D</sup>  | 23.29  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 25.31 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 24.21 a <sup>A</sup>    | 4.35   | 22.85 a <sup>B</sup>   | 9.73   | 19.65 cd <sup>C</sup>  | 22.36  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 24.59 bc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 22.86 ed <sup>B</sup>   | 7.04   | 20.79 de <sup>C</sup>  | 15.45  | 18.56 fgh <sup>D</sup> | 24.51  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 23.21 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 21.15 ij <sup>B</sup>   | 8.88   | 19.27 gh <sup>C</sup>  | 16.96  | 18.22 f-i <sup>C</sup> | 21.47  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 23.68 de <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 22.01 fgh <sup>B</sup>  | 7.04   | 20.33 e <sup>C</sup>   | 14.13  | 19.15 def <sup>D</sup> | 19.13  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 25.62 a <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 24.46 a <sup>B</sup>    | 4.52   | 18.54 h <sup>C</sup>   | 27.64  | 0.00 j <sup>D</sup>    | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 24.66 bc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 23.17 cde <sup>B</sup>  | 6.04   | 20.58 de <sup>C</sup>  | 16.54  | 17.83 ghi <sup>D</sup> | 27.69  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 23.24 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 20.76 jk <sup>B</sup>   | 10.70  | 19.28 gh <sup>C</sup>  | 17.07  | 18.60 e-h <sup>C</sup> | 19.99  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 25.18 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 24.09 ab <sup>B</sup>   | 4.32   | 23.25 a <sup>C</sup>   | 7.65   | 21.68 a <sup>C</sup>   | 13.90  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 24.16 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 22.70 def <sup>B</sup>  | 6.03   | 20.29 ef <sup>C</sup>  | 16.02  | 0.00 j <sup>D</sup>    | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 23.28 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 20.23 k <sup>B</sup>    | 13.09  | 18.50 h <sup>C</sup>   | 20.54  | 17.38 i <sup>D</sup>   | 25.32  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 24.25 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 23.71 abc <sup>AB</sup> | 2.21   | 22.59 ab <sup>BC</sup> | 6.85   | 21.81 a <sup>C</sup>   | 10.06  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 25.20 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                                  | 23.35 bcd <sup>B</sup>  | 7.34   | 21.39 cd <sup>C</sup>  | 15.12  | 20.53 bc <sup>C</sup>  | 18.53  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 23.29 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 0.00 l <sup>B</sup>     | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 23.24 e <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 22.40 e-h <sup>AB</sup> | 3.63   | 21.75 bc <sup>B</sup>  | 6.40   | 21.30 ab <sup>B</sup>  | 8.36   |
| IR29                                | 21.33 f <sup>A</sup>                                                                   | 0.00 l <sup>B</sup>     | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 2.17                                                                                   | 2.52                    |        | 2.77                   |        | 3.91                   |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.86                                                                                   | 0.84                    |        | 0.84                   |        | 0.98                   |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

### Number of panicle/hill

That is seen from the fact that rice plants' number of panicles per hill diminishes as saline levels rise (Table 3). The amount of panicles per hill varied significantly according to salinity levels. The control condition had the most spikelets per hill of all genotypes, while the salinity level with the fewest panicles per hill was 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. The highest number of panicles per hill was 14.79, 11.01, 9.99, and 8.30 in IR29, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-106, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45, and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-78, respectively, at control, 6, 8, and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity levels. Panicle number reduction ranged from 10.03 to 100% in these tested lines. All advanced lines with the exception of BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-172 and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81 had the lowest panicle number decrease percent at all salinity levels. All stages of the growth and development of the rice plant are impacted by salinity, and the crop's reactions to salinity vary depending on the stage of growth, the concentration, and the length of exposure to salt (Joseph et al., 2010a). Grattan et al. (2002), and Hasanuzzaman et al. (2009) also reported that salinity stress reduces the number of panicles in rice that support our results. The lower panicle yield in high salinity can be due to lower accumulation of photosynthate to the reproductive parts. When the plants are continuously exposed to saline media, salinity affects the panicle initiation (Islam & Hossain, 2020).

### Number of tiller per hill and total tiller reduction

The total number of tillers per hill was significantly affected by varying saline levels. Due to the higher saline level, fewer tillers were used overall per hill across all genotypes (Table 4). In control conditions, there were the most total tillers per hill of all genotypes, while at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity levels, there were the fewest. The maximum number of total tiller per hill were 17.07 (IR29), 14.51 (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84), 11.90 (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45), and 10.12 (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45) at control, 6 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> respectively. Due to salinity stress total tiller reduction was varied from 0.57 to 70.49%. Other than check variety, the minimum total tiller reduction were 0.57% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84), 13.74% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-163) and 17.77% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-140) and the maximum were 23.79% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81), 45.04% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-172), and 52.93% (BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81) found at 6, 8 and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> respectively.

According to (Munns, 2002) salinity reduces the growth of plant through osmotic effects, reduces the ability of plants to take up water and this causes reduction in growth. In addition, if excessive amount of salt enters the plant, the concentration of salt eventually rises to a toxic level which hampers the photosynthesis of a plant to a level that cannot sustain growth. Our results agree with the findings of other researchers (Mahmood et al., 2009; Zeng & Shannon, 2005) who stated decreasing trend of tillers number plant<sup>-1</sup> in rice with increasing salinity level.

**Table 3.** Decreased panicle/hill of advanced rice lines at different levels of salinity

| Advanced lines                      | Panicle/hill of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                      |        |                      |        |                       |        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                             | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 13.12 e <sup>fA</sup>                                                           | 11.01 a <sup>B</sup> | 16.06  | 8.43 fg <sup>C</sup> | 35.77  | 6.67 bc <sup>D</sup>  | 49.19  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 12.12 k <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 9.94 b <sup>B</sup>  | 17.98  | 8.18 fg <sup>C</sup> | 32.55  | 6.41 bcd <sup>D</sup> | 47.15  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 14.29 b <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 10.92 a <sup>B</sup> | 23.54  | 9.40 bc <sup>C</sup> | 34.23  | 8.30 a <sup>D</sup>   | 41.93  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 12.48 hi <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 9.01 c <sup>B</sup>  | 27.78  | 7.72 hi <sup>C</sup> | 38.17  | 5.79 de <sup>D</sup>  | 53.58  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 11.21 m <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 9.05 c <sup>B</sup>  | 19.24  | 8.91 de <sup>B</sup> | 20.52  | 7.70 a <sup>C</sup>   | 31.28  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 13.86 c <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 10.10 b <sup>B</sup> | 27.12  | 7.51 i <sup>C</sup>  | 45.83  | 5.04 ef <sup>D</sup>  | 63.62  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 12.94 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 9.05 c <sup>B</sup>  | 30.02  | 8.60 ef <sup>B</sup> | 33.52  | 5.92 cd <sup>C</sup>  | 54.24  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 11.77 l <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 8.16 d <sup>B</sup>  | 30.68  | 5.83 k <sup>C</sup>  | 50.45  | 0.00 g <sup>D</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 13.48 dA                                                                        | 10.09 b <sup>B</sup> | 25.15  | 8.11 gh <sup>C</sup> | 39.85  | 6.83 b <sup>D</sup>   | 49.34  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 13.21 def <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 9.69 bc <sup>B</sup> | 26.63  | 7.08 j <sup>C</sup>  | 46.42  | 5.94 cd <sup>D</sup>  | 55.05  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 12.71 gh <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 9.75 bc <sup>B</sup> | 23.24  | 9.75 ab <sup>B</sup> | 23.27  | 8.07 a <sup>C</sup>   | 36.49  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 10.50 n <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 6.46 e <sup>B</sup>  | 38.49  | 5.94 k <sup>B</sup>  | 43.41  | 0.00 g <sup>C</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 12.23 ijk <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 11.00 a <sup>B</sup> | 10.03  | 9.31 cd <sup>C</sup> | 23.85  | 6.82 b <sup>D</sup>   | 44.26  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 14.40 b <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 10.05 b <sup>B</sup> | 30.22  | 9.99 a <sup>B</sup>  | 30.61  | 7.83 a <sup>C</sup>   | 45.59  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 12.20 jk <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 10.02 b <sup>B</sup> | 17.89  | 9.38 bc <sup>C</sup> | 23.14  | 7.91 a <sup>D</sup>   | 35.15  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 13.39 de <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 0.00 f <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 g <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 12.43 ij <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 9.62 bc <sup>B</sup> | 22.56  | 8.57 ef <sup>C</sup> | 31.04  | 6.72 bc <sup>D</sup>  | 45.92  |
| IR29                                | 14.79 a <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 0.00 f <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 g <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 1.29                                                                            | 5.29                 |        | 3.51                 |        | 8.39                  |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.27                                                                            | 0.75                 |        | 0.43                 |        | 0.82                  |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

**Table 4.** Decreased Tiller/hill of advanced rice lines at different levels of salinity

| Advanced lines                      | Tiller/hill of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                       |       |                       |       |                      |       |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                            | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R   | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R   | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup> | % R   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 14.12 de <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 12.12 de <sup>B</sup> | 14.21 | 10.40 d <sup>C</sup>  | 26.39 | 7.97 c <sup>D</sup>  | 43.55 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 13.13 fgh <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 11.14 fg <sup>B</sup> | 15.18 | 10.18 de <sup>C</sup> | 22.49 | 9.02 b <sup>D</sup>  | 31.32 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 15.36 b <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 13.35 b <sup>B</sup>  | 13.11 | 11.40 b <sup>C</sup>  | 25.80 | 10.00 a <sup>D</sup> | 34.92 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 14.49 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 12.49 cd <sup>B</sup> | 13.76 | 8.71 gh <sup>C</sup>  | 39.90 | 7.01 de <sup>D</sup> | 51.61 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 12.18 i <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 10.22 i <sup>B</sup>  | 16.10 | 9.90 e <sup>B</sup>   | 18.72 | 10.01 a <sup>B</sup> | 17.77 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 14.84 bc <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 13.83 b <sup>B</sup>  | 6.83  | 8.29 h <sup>C</sup>   | 44.13 | 6.99 de <sup>D</sup> | 52.89 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 13.95 de <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 12.77 c <sup>B</sup>  | 8.48  | 11.12 bc <sup>C</sup> | 20.31 | 9.03 b <sup>D</sup>  | 35.28 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 12.76 ghi <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 10.79 gh <sup>B</sup> | 15.44 | 7.01 i <sup>C</sup>   | 45.04 | 6.01 fg <sup>D</sup> | 52.90 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 14.59 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 14.51 a <sup>A</sup>  | 0.57  | 8.54 h <sup>B</sup>   | 41.47 | 6.91 ef <sup>C</sup> | 52.66 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 14.49 cd <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 11.60 ef <sup>B</sup> | 19.95 | 9.24 f <sup>C</sup>   | 36.22 | 7.96 c <sup>D</sup>  | 45.08 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 13.55 ef <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 11.31 fg <sup>B</sup> | 16.51 | 10.88 c <sup>B</sup>  | 19.69 | 8.92 b <sup>C</sup>  | 34.18 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 12.51 hi <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 9.54 j <sup>B</sup>   | 23.79 | 7.02 i <sup>C</sup>   | 43.90 | 5.89 gh <sup>D</sup> | 52.93 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 13.25 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 12.70 c <sup>A</sup>  | 4.15  | 11.43 ab <sup>B</sup> | 13.74 | 7.97 c <sup>C</sup>  | 39.85 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 15.52 b <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 13.58 b <sup>B</sup>  | 12.52 | 11.90 a <sup>C</sup>  | 23.30 | 10.12 a <sup>D</sup> | 34.77 |
| Binadhan-10                         | 13.05 fgh <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 11.24 fg <sup>B</sup> | 13.89 | 10.03 de <sup>C</sup> | 23.19 | 8.99 b <sup>D</sup>  | 31.15 |
| Binadhan-17                         | 14.07 de <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 11.94 e <sup>B</sup>  | 15.18 | 9.23 f <sup>C</sup>   | 34.44 | 6.97 e <sup>D</sup>  | 50.50 |
| FL478                               | 13.24 fg <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 10.94 gh <sup>B</sup> | 17.40 | 9.02 fg <sup>C</sup>  | 31.85 | 7.91 cd <sup>C</sup> | 40.26 |
| IR29                                | 17.07 a <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 10.44 hi <sup>B</sup> | 38.83 | 6.86 i <sup>C</sup>   | 59.82 | 5.04 h <sup>D</sup>  | 70.49 |
| CV (%)                              | 3.03                                                                           | 2.66                  |       | 3.02                  |       | 7.13                 |       |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.70                                                                           | 0.53                  |       | 0.48                  |       | 0.94                 |       |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

### Days to 50% flowering

Being an important character to assess early maturity, days to flowering was taken to an account for the genotypes. The genotypes' varying days to 50% flowering varied from 73.94 to 86.76 days. If treatment is effective, it is hoped that the control treatment will provide the most

days for 50% flowering. The control treatment, followed by treatments 6 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, and 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, had the maximum number of days to 50% flowering (Table 5). Tiwari et al. (2011) also observed significant variation among genotypes for days to 50% flowering.

**Table 5.** Effect on 50% flowering of advanced rice lines under different salinity level

| Advanced lines                      | 50% flowering of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                      |        |                      |        |                       |        |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control (0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                                 | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 79.09 i <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 78.05 f <sup>B</sup> | 1.32   | 77.08 e <sup>C</sup> | 2.55   | 76.76 ef <sup>C</sup> | 2.95   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 81.15 g <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 79.08 e <sup>B</sup> | 2.55   | 77.10 e <sup>C</sup> | 4.99   | 75.99 g <sup>D</sup>  | 6.37   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 78.08 j <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 77.00 g <sup>B</sup> | 1.37   | 75.23 g <sup>C</sup> | 3.65   | 74.90 h <sup>C</sup>  | 4.07   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 82.08 f <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 81.14 c <sup>B</sup> | 1.15   | 79.49 c <sup>C</sup> | 3.16   | 79.03 c <sup>C</sup>  | 3.72   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 79.06 i <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 77.32 g <sup>B</sup> | 2.19   | 76.08 f <sup>C</sup> | 3.77   | 74.15 ij <sup>D</sup> | 6.21   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 83.13 e <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 81.25 c <sup>B</sup> | 2.26   | 80.21 b <sup>C</sup> | 3.51   | 78.15 d <sup>D</sup>  | 5.99   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 77.01 k <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 75.95 h <sup>B</sup> | 1.38   | 74.46 h <sup>C</sup> | 3.32   | 73.94 j <sup>C</sup>  | 3.99   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 80.02 h <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 79.07 e <sup>B</sup> | 1.19   | 78.16 d <sup>C</sup> | 2.32   | 0.00 k <sup>D</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 82.10 f <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 80.20 d <sup>B</sup> | 2.32   | 79.15 c <sup>C</sup> | 3.59   | 77.17 e <sup>D</sup>  | 6.00   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 79.99 h <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 79.37 e <sup>B</sup> | 0.78   | 77.31 e <sup>C</sup> | 3.35   | 76.15 g <sup>D</sup>  | 4.80   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 77.75 j <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 76.93 g <sup>B</sup> | 1.05   | 76.03 f <sup>C</sup> | 2.21   | 74.54 hi <sup>D</sup> | 4.12   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 83.98 d <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 82.29 b <sup>B</sup> | 2.01   | 80.22 b <sup>C</sup> | 4.48   | 0.00 k <sup>D</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 78.98 i <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 78.05 f <sup>B</sup> | 1.18   | 77.11 e <sup>C</sup> | 2.37   | 76.23 fg <sup>D</sup> | 3.48   |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 80.03 h <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 79.25 e <sup>B</sup> | 0.97   | 78.12 d <sup>C</sup> | 2.38   | 75.70 g <sup>D</sup>  | 5.41   |
| Binadhan-10                         | 86.76 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 84.50 a <sup>B</sup> | 2.60   | 83.07 a <sup>C</sup> | 4.25   | 83.39 a <sup>C</sup>  | 3.89   |
| Binadhan-17                         | 84.79 c <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 k <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 82.54 f <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 81.04 c <sup>B</sup> | 1.82   | 80.05 b <sup>C</sup> | 3.02   | 80.14 b <sup>C</sup>  | 2.91   |
| IR29                                | 85.37 b <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 | 0.00 k <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 0.41                                                                             | 0.36                 |        | 0.35                 |        | 0.58                  |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.56                                                                             | 0.42                 |        | 0.41                 |        | 0.58                  |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

### No of filled grain/panicle and filled grain reduction

The quantity of filled grains per panicle determines the plant's yield, which varied dramatically amongst the lines. The most important aspect of yield is the amount of filled grain per panicle, which is also most closely connected to seed output. Statistics regarding rice grain packed per panicle as influenced by various salt levels are displayed in (Table 6). NILs-BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17 results showed that the lowest number of filled grains per panicle (55.66) was discovered in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84 at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity, which has a 63.89% decrease in comparison to control treatment, and the maximum number (164.77) was found in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-98 at control. At 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity, FL478 had the lowest filled grain reduction (11.48%) and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84 had the highest filled grain reduction (63.89%) when compared to the check variety. These findings suggest that high salinity reduced the number of filled rice grains per panicle. These numbers show that greater salt levels decreased the amount of loaded grains in each rice panicle. Hence, as salt

increased, there were more empty grains overall each panicle, which decreased yield. The main causes of sterility and decreased seed set in growing rice grains were impaired translocation of soluble carbohydrates to primary and secondary spikelets, accumulation of more salt and less potassium in all floral areas, and reduction of the specific activity of starch synthetase (Aref & Rad, 2012).

### Thousand seeds weight reduction

Salinity stress had significant negative effect on 1000 grain weight of different rice genotypes depending on the size and shape of grains (Table 7). Seed weight is an important quality attribute of crop. On the other hand, in case of NILs-BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17, 1000 seed weight ranged from 15.46 g to 25.66 g and the highest 1000 seed weight was recorded in Binadhan-10 and lowest one was recorded in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-140. At 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup>, the highest 1000 seeds weight reduction (29.90%) was found in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-163 and the lowest (13.37%) was found in FL478.

**Table 6.** Effect on filled grain of advanced rice lines under different salinity level

| Advanced lines                      | Filled grain of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                        |        |                        |        |                        |        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                             | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>    | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>    | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 161.65 cde <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 135.59 b <sup>B</sup>  | 16.12  | 116.78 bc <sup>C</sup> | 27.76  | 102.08 b <sup>D</sup>  | 36.85  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 157.99 e <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 128.57 d <sup>B</sup>  | 18.62  | 115.21 c <sup>C</sup>  | 27.08  | 104.54 a <sup>D</sup>  | 33.83  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 163.24 abc <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 142.15 a <sup>B</sup>  | 12.92  | 124.83 a <sup>C</sup>  | 23.53  | 101.60 b <sup>D</sup>  | 37.76  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 160.48 d <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 124.49 ef <sup>B</sup> | 22.42  | 106.76 d <sup>C</sup>  | 33.47  | 97.07 d <sup>D</sup>   | 39.51  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 157.69 e <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 123.35 fg <sup>B</sup> | 21.78  | 101.51 f <sup>C</sup>  | 35.63  | 93.17 e <sup>D</sup>   | 40.92  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 164.77 a <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 130.28 cd <sup>B</sup> | 20.93  | 114.15 c <sup>C</sup>  | 30.72  | 100.21 bc <sup>D</sup> | 39.18  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 163.30 abc <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 134.03 bc <sup>B</sup> | 17.92  | 118.80 b <sup>C</sup>  | 27.25  | 97.78 d <sup>D</sup>   | 40.12  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 161.05 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 108.63 i <sup>B</sup>  | 32.55  | 60.45 i <sup>C</sup>   | 62.46  | 0.00 g <sup>D</sup>    | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 154.12 gh <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 110.14 gh <sup>B</sup> | 28.54  | 73.55 h <sup>C</sup>   | 52.28  | 55.66 g <sup>D</sup>   | 63.89  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 160.73 d <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 128.20 de <sup>B</sup> | 20.24  | 114.03 c <sup>C</sup>  | 29.06  | 104.95 a <sup>D</sup>  | 34.70  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 156.49 ef <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 118.60 h <sup>B</sup>  | 24.21  | 106.28 de <sup>C</sup> | 32.09  | 97.13 d <sup>D</sup>   | 37.93  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 154.00 h <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 103.60 j <sup>B</sup>  | 32.73  | 57.63 i <sup>C</sup>   | 62.58  | 0.00 h <sup>D</sup>    | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 155.06 fgh <sup>A</sup>                                                         | 128.47 d <sup>B</sup>  | 17.15  | 115.56 c <sup>C</sup>  | 25.47  | 101.56 b <sup>D</sup>  | 34.50  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 163.83 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 134.70 b <sup>B</sup>  | 17.78  | 119.55 b <sup>C</sup>  | 27.03  | 106.51 a <sup>D</sup>  | 34.99  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 128.46 i <sup>A</sup>                                                           | 117.30 h <sup>B</sup>  | 8.69   | 103.59 ef <sup>C</sup> | 19.36  | 98.25 cd <sup>C</sup>  | 23.52  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 156.43efg <sup>A</sup>                                                          | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 h <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 98.65 j <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 94.42 k <sup>B</sup>   | 4.29   | 91.48 g <sup>C</sup>   | 7.27   | 87.33 f <sup>D</sup>   | 11.48  |
| IR29                                | 84.14 k <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 h <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 0.95                                                                            | 2.09                   |        | 2.03                   |        | 1.76                   |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 2.36                                                                            | 3.80                   |        | 3.13                   |        | 2.25                   |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

**Table 7.** Effect on 1000 grain weight of advanced rice lines under different salinity level

| Advanced lines                      | 1000 grain weight/panicle of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                       |        |                        |        |                       |        |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|------------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                                          | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>    | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup>  | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 22.70 c <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 19.41 cd <sup>B</sup> | 14.51  | 18.56 ef <sup>BC</sup> | 18.26  | 17.40 d <sup>C</sup>  | 23.36  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 22.64 c <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 19.55 cd <sup>B</sup> | 13.66  | 19.47 de <sup>B</sup>  | 14.00  | 18.54 c <sup>B</sup>  | 18.11  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 21.67 de <sup>A</sup>                                                                        | 18.43 d <sup>B</sup>  | 14.95  | 18.26 fg <sup>B</sup>  | 15.75  | 16.52 ef <sup>C</sup> | 23.77  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 20.67 fgh <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 19.26 cd <sup>B</sup> | 6.84   | 18.11 fg <sup>C</sup>  | 12.37  | 16.49 ef <sup>D</sup> | 20.22  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 21.31 efg <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 18.43 d <sup>B</sup>  | 13.49  | 16.34 h <sup>C</sup>   | 23.33  | 15.46 g <sup>C</sup>  | 27.43  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 22.32 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                                        | 20.06 bc <sup>B</sup> | 10.13  | 18.47 efg <sup>C</sup> | 17.24  | 17.10 de <sup>C</sup> | 23.39  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 23.03 c <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 19.27 cd <sup>B</sup> | 16.34  | 19.55 de <sup>B</sup>  | 15.11  | 16.98 de <sup>C</sup> | 26.27  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 20.63 gh <sup>A</sup>                                                                        | 14.72 e <sup>B</sup>  | 28.65  | 7.36 i <sup>C</sup>    | 64.32  | 0.00 h <sup>D</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 21.53 def <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 19.73 cd <sup>A</sup> | 8.35   | 16.33 h <sup>B</sup>   | 24.13  | 15.65 g <sup>B</sup>  | 27.28  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 21.08 efg <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 20.16 bc <sup>B</sup> | 4.36   | 17.98 fg <sup>C</sup>  | 14.70  | 16.77 de <sup>D</sup> | 20.44  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 21.38 efg <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 19.50 cd <sup>B</sup> | 8.79   | 19.75 cd <sup>B</sup>  | 7.61   | 15.76 fg <sup>C</sup> | 26.26  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 20.93 efg <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 14.25 e <sup>B</sup>  | 31.90  | 8.26 i <sup>C</sup>    | 60.55  | 0.00 h <sup>D</sup>   | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 22.67 c <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 19.49 cd <sup>B</sup> | 14.05  | 17.41 gh <sup>C</sup>  | 23.23  | 15.89 fg <sup>C</sup> | 29.90  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 22.72 c <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 21.33 b <sup>B</sup>  | 6.10   | 20.70 bc <sup>B</sup>  | 8.89   | 19.42 b <sup>C</sup>  | 14.54  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 25.66 a <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 24.25 a <sup>B</sup>  | 5.51   | 22.57 a <sup>C</sup>   | 12.03  | 21.08 a <sup>D</sup>  | 17.85  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 21.23 efg <sup>A</sup>                                                                       | 0.00 f <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 h <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 24.61 b <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 23.06 a <sup>B</sup>  | 6.30   | 21.80 ab <sup>C</sup>  | 11.42  | 21.32 a <sup>C</sup>  | 13.37  |
| IR29                                | 19.98 h <sup>A</sup>                                                                         | 0.00 f <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>    | 100.00 | 0.00 h <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 2.43                                                                                         | 5.05                  |        | 4.24                   |        | 3.49                  |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.89                                                                                         | 1.44                  |        | 1.10                   |        | 0.79                  |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

**Table 8.** Effect on yield/panicle of advanced rice lines under different salinity level

| Advanced lines                      | Yield/Panicle of BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -Binadhan-17 <i>Saltol</i> lines |                       |        |                       |        |                      |        |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|----------------------|--------|
|                                     | Control<br>(0.3 dSm <sup>-1</sup> )                                              | 6 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R    | 8 dSm <sup>-1</sup>   | % R    | 10 dSm <sup>-1</sup> | % R    |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -106 | 30.21 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 21.70 d <sup>B</sup>  | 28.18  | 18.14 bc <sup>C</sup> | 39.96  | 15.14 b <sup>D</sup> | 49.87  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -23  | 29.26 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 19.73 fg <sup>B</sup> | 32.55  | 14.26 fg <sup>C</sup> | 51.27  | 9.30 g <sup>D</sup>  | 68.21  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -78  | 30.68 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 25.54 a <sup>B</sup>  | 16.76  | 17.55 c <sup>C</sup>  | 42.78  | 10.15 f <sup>D</sup> | 66.90  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -69  | 26.21 e <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 19.18 g <sup>B</sup>  | 26.83  | 13.83 g <sup>C</sup>  | 47.23  | 9.12 g <sup>D</sup>  | 65.21  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -140 | 30.72 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 22.18 d <sup>B</sup>  | 27.82  | 16.34 de <sup>C</sup> | 46.83  | 10.16 f <sup>D</sup> | 66.94  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -98  | 30.14 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 20.73 e <sup>B</sup>  | 31.23  | 14.53 fg <sup>C</sup> | 51.78  | 8.03 h <sup>D</sup>  | 73.36  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -11  | 28.97 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 20.31 ef <sup>B</sup> | 29.88  | 14.25 fg <sup>C</sup> | 50.81  | 9.05 g <sup>D</sup>  | 68.76  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -172 | 30.11 ab <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 16.28 i <sup>B</sup>  | 45.92  | 8.21 i <sup>C</sup>   | 72.74  | 0.00 i <sup>D</sup>  | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -84  | 28.96 dc <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 21.70 d <sup>B</sup>  | 25.06  | 15.77 e <sup>C</sup>  | 45.55  | 11.22 e <sup>D</sup> | 61.27  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -117 | 30.68 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 24.57 b <sup>B</sup>  | 19.91  | 16.66 d <sup>C</sup>  | 45.69  | 12.25 d <sup>D</sup> | 60.08  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -60  | 29.73 bc <sup>A</sup>                                                            | 23.35 c <sup>B</sup>  | 21.44  | 14.80 f <sup>C</sup>  | 50.20  | 8.75 gh <sup>D</sup> | 70.58  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -81  | 30.95 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 17.30 h <sup>B</sup>  | 44.11  | 9.07 h <sup>C</sup>   | 70.68  | 0.00 i <sup>D</sup>  | 100.00 |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -163 | 28.83 d <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 23.62 c <sup>B</sup>  | 18.06  | 17.67 c <sup>C</sup>  | 38.70  | 12.04 d <sup>D</sup> | 58.24  |
| BC <sub>2</sub> F <sub>2</sub> -45  | 30.77 a <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 25.23 ab <sup>B</sup> | 18.02  | 19.22 a <sup>C</sup>  | 37.53  | 13.43 c <sup>D</sup> | 56.36  |
| Binadhan-10                         | 26.94 e <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 23.43 c <sup>B</sup>  | 13.04  | 18.70 ab <sup>C</sup> | 30.60  | 17.53 a <sup>D</sup> | 34.94  |
| Binadhan-17                         | 25.06 f <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 |
| FL478                               | 19.42 g <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 16.61 hi <sup>B</sup> | 14.47  | 13.76 g <sup>C</sup>  | 29.12  | 11.08 e <sup>D</sup> | 42.92  |
| IR29                                | 26.67 e <sup>A</sup>                                                             | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 j <sup>B</sup>   | 100.00 | 0.00 i <sup>B</sup>  | 100.00 |
| CV (%)                              | 1.78                                                                             | 2.89                  |        | 3.71                  |        | 5.04                 |        |
| LSD (0.05)                          | 0.84                                                                             | 0.91                  |        | 0.83                  |        | 0.73                 |        |

At the 5% level of significance, the means with the same small letter(s) in the same column and superscript capital letter(s) in the same row are not statistically different.

### Seed yield and seed yield reduction

Salinity stress reduced the grain weight in all rice varieties but the degree of reduction was not similar for all varieties as well as for salinity levels (Table 8). The results indicated that seed yield of rice was significantly influenced by different salinity level. The maximum seed yields of all genotypes were found in control and the minimum were at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity. At control, the maximum seed yield (30.95 g/pot) was found in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81 followed by BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45 (30.77 g/pot) while at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity, the maximum seed yield (17.53 g/pot) was found in Binadhan-10 followed by BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-106 (15.14 g/pot). All advanced lines accept BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-172, and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81 were also showed better seed yield at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity. The minimum seed yield reduction (34.94%) was found in Binadhan-10 and the maximum (73.36%) was found in BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-98 at 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity level. It has long been recognized that a crop's sensitivity to salinity varies from one developmental growth stage to the next (Läuchli & Grattan (2007). Rice has been reported as being salt-sensitive in both its vegetative and reproductive stages (Moradi & Ismail, 2007), leading to a reduction in productivity of more than 50% when exposed to 6.65 dSm<sup>-1</sup> salinity (Cha-um & Kirdmanee, 2010). Yaqoob et al. (2012) and Tiwari et al. (2011) also observed that there is a significant variation among genotypes for yield plant<sup>-1</sup>. The loss of grain yield hill<sup>-1</sup> may result from a combination of reduction in tillering capacity, lower panicle initiation,

reduced panicle length and reduction in grain formation as well as in grain size due to salinity stress. Grain yield reduction of rice varieties due to salt stress is also reported by Purnendu (2004). A significant effect of salinity on the weight of one thousand seeds was observed by (Rad et al., 2011). Consequently, salinity depletes the ovaries of photosynthetic pigments and soluble proteins. This alteration might lead to a reduction in ovarian photosynthesis, resulting in inadequate sugar generation in the ovaries.

The decrease in 1000-grain weight may be attributable to a decrease in grain size caused by a decrease in the deposition of carbohydrates and other food elements into grain as a consequence of salt stress. Zubaer et al. (2007) observed that salinity reduced the 1000-grain weight in rice and degree of reduction was different in different genotypes which supports the results of our study.

### CONCLUSION

In brief, our study revealed that, maximum advanced lines showed a significant degree of tolerances against salinity. Salt stress reduced plant height, panicle length, tiller and panicle number/plant, filled grains, 1000 seeds weight, and ultimately the yield/hill. In this experiment, the result provided clear evidence that the tolerant genotypes displayed least reduction of growth related parameters. The

performance of all the genotypes with respect to yield and yield contributing traits differed from each other under different salinity level. According to the experiment, NILs-BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-Binadhan-17 rice genotypes, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-106, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-23, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-78, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-69, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-140, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-98, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-11, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-84, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-117, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-60, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-163, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-45 were able to tolerate salt levels up to 10 dSm<sup>-1</sup> and BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-172, BC<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>-81 were able to tolerate salt levels up to 8 dSm<sup>-1</sup>. These selected screened genotypes could also be used in marker-assisted backcrossing for the development of salt-tolerant high-yielding rice genotypes and these methods can be further used for a reliable and efficient reproductive screening of salt-tolerant rice. Finally, we recommend further detailed study on the field of these identified salt-tolerant rice genotypes.

### Conflict of Interest

There are no conflicts of interest declared by the authors.

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