A three-way cross hybrid rice variety is the first generation progeny from a cross involving an inbred A line and a restorer population originated from an unique heterozygous S₀ plant. Three-way cross hybrid breeding is linked to nuclear male sterility facilitated recurrent selection procedure.

Three-way cross hybrid strategies are implanted in Latin America by Cirad and its partners (EMBRAPA for Brazil, ASPAR for Bolivia and LE ACEITUNO for Colombia, Equator and Central America).

### THREE-WAY CROSS HYBRID ADVANTAGES

- **Intra-variety genetic variability to get better homeostatic effect (possibility of multiline like effect for diseases control).**

- **Faster economical use of genetic progress accumulated through the recurrent selection procedure.** Three-way cross hybrids from second recurrent cycle are commercially available before simple cross hybrids of first recurrent cycle.

- **Less ressources (half trial area and half A seeds) are needed to breed a three-way cross hybrid rice.**

- The same recurrent breeding procedure and the same population are used for three-way cross and simple cross hybrid breeding.

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