Seedling Stage

This stage is from Germination to the time when the plant begins to produce the first tiller. The seed provides food for the seedlings.

It last for about four (4) to five (5) weeks.

The Germinating seed produces two growth structures. The Radicle and the Plumule.

The Radicle grows downward and anchors itself to the soil.

The Plumule is attracted to the light and grows upward.

The seminal roots are formed from the Radicle while the permanent roots are formed from the base of the stem.

The shoot is formed from the Plumule. Leaves are produced from the growing point at the tip of the Plumule.

Management Consideration

When crop is grown under flooded conditions, protect seedlings from water bourne pests.

When crop is grown under non flooded conditions, ensure that field is drained completely soon after sowing.

Check for incidence of Heart-worm at about two weeks

Apply T.S.P to crop early to ensure vigorous root development.

Adequate water in the field assists in weed suppression.

Notes

