

# RICE



Bhadrak, located in the eastern coastal region of India, has favorable climatic and soil conditions for rice cultivation, making it an ideal region for this crop. The district's fertile soil, abundant water resources, and tropical climate contribute to the production of high-quality rice varieties, which are grown extensively in the area.

**Varieties of Rice:** Bhadrak is known for producing a variety of high-yielding and aromatic rice varieties based on the climate, rainfall, and availability of varieties from Seed Corporation, Agril Dept, OUAT, CRR. Some prominent varieties include Lalat, Surendra, Naveen, DRR 42 Swarna, Tanmayee, Hasanta, Pratikhya, Pradhan dhan, Ranidhan, Upahar Savitri, Gayatri, Padmini, Moti, Mahalaxmi, RGL 2537, Lalat, Konark, Surendra, Savitri, Gayatri, Padmini, Moti, Mahalaxmi, Mahanadi, Pooja, Varshadhan, Tulasi, Jagabandhu, etc.

**Agricultural Practices:** Rice in Odisha is classified into seven different ecosystems: irrigated kharif (27.4%), rainfed upland (19.1%), medium land (12.4%), shallow lowland (22.5%), semi-deep (7.9%), deep (3.4%), and irrigated rabi (7.4%). Farmers have their own system of classification of rice environments such as uplands, medium lands, and lowlands, primarily based on land topography and water regime. The rice cultivation in Bhadrak mainly follows traditional farming methods, with a mix of modern and organic techniques. The region practices both wetland rice farming and lowland paddy cultivation, taking advantage of the abundant rainfall during the monsoon season. Farmers also employ advanced irrigation systems and crop management techniques to enhance yields.

**Economic Impact:** Rice is the primary crop grown in Bhadrak, and it supports the livelihood of a large portion of the rural population. The district's rice production not only caters to the local demand but also plays a vital role in the state's rice supply. Additionally, the surplus rice is often used for trading in nearby markets, further boosting the local economy.

**Cultural Significance:** Age-old social customs and festivals in Odisha have strong relevance to different phases of rice cultivation: Akhyatrutiya in April-May marks the seeding of rice, Rajasankranti in mid-June marks the completion of sowing, Garbhanasankranti in October symbolizes the reproductive phase of rice, while Nuakhaee and Laxmipuja coincide with the harvesting of upland and lowland rice, respectively. Makarsankranti in mid-January is celebrated as Chaita Parab by the tribal people as by this time rice is threshed and brought to the granary. Rice holds a deep cultural significance in Bhadrak and is an essential part of the local cuisine. The district celebrates various festivals and rituals where rice is used in offerings and traditional food preparations. The cultivation and consumption of rice are integral to the social and cultural fabric of Bhadrak.

# FISH



Bhadrak, being an agromaritime district of northeast Odisha, has vast aquatic resources of fisheries that exist in the form of rivers, canals, reservoirs, lakes, and low-lying rice fields. Generally, fish farmers are of two types: caste-based and capital-based. The former class (Majhi, Behera, Dalai, Tarei, Das, Mallick, and Mandal) is traditional and struggling for survival whereas the latter class is modern and dominating in the competition.

**Dhamara Fishing Harbour** is an international standard Harbour located in the North Bank of Dhamra River in the revenue village Dhamara, Dist. Bhadrak. The major species landing in the jetties are Pomfret, Shrimps, Hilsha, Mackerel, Johnius, Ribbon fish, Megalops, Borei etc. These species have high demand both in National and International market. All these fish landings are maintained with proper [cold chain](#) and processed hygienically for value addition to fetch good price in the market which are regularly checked by the Harbour Authorities for maintenance of the quality.

**Varieties of Fish:** The district is known for producing a wide variety of fish species, both marine and freshwater. In the context of species composition, an enormous diversity of fish fauna and prawns is collected by local fisherfolk. Prominent among them are *Amblypharyngodon mola* (Mahurali), *Anabas testudineus* (Kau), *Channa striata* (Seula), *Cirrhinus reba* (Pohala), *Glossogobius giuris* (balikira), *Labeo rohita* (Rohi), *Macrobrachium rosenbergii* (Tatara Chingudi), *Mystus gulio* (kuji Kantia), *Punitus amphibius* (Kerandi), *Salmostoma bacaila* (Buansapatri), *Wallago attu* (Baliala) and *Xenentodon cancila* (Todi).

**Fish Farming and Aquaculture:** Bhadrak is renowned for its vibrant fish farming practices, especially in brackish water aquaculture, which takes advantage of the district's coastal geography. The region is home to several fish farms where farmers cultivate both freshwater and saltwater fish. Shrimp farming is also an important activity in the region due to the availability of brackish water. The production of fish and seafood generates employment and has led to the development of local fish markets. Fish is also a major export commodity, which boosts the local economy and enhances the state's trade profile. The district is involved in both domestic supply and export to national and international markets.

**Cultural and Culinary Importance:** Fish is a vital part of the local diet in Bhadrak, as well as in many coastal regions of Odisha. It holds cultural significance and is often central to festivals, social gatherings, and traditional rituals. The local cuisine is rich in seafood dishes, with various preparations of fish such as fried fish, fish curry, and other traditional Odia recipes being commonly consumed. Fish plays a crucial role in the daily nutrition of the people in the region.