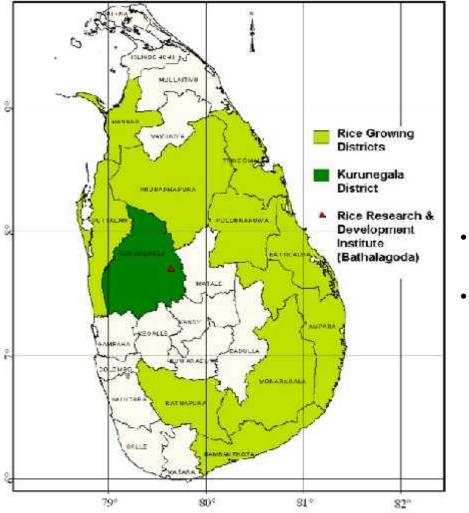
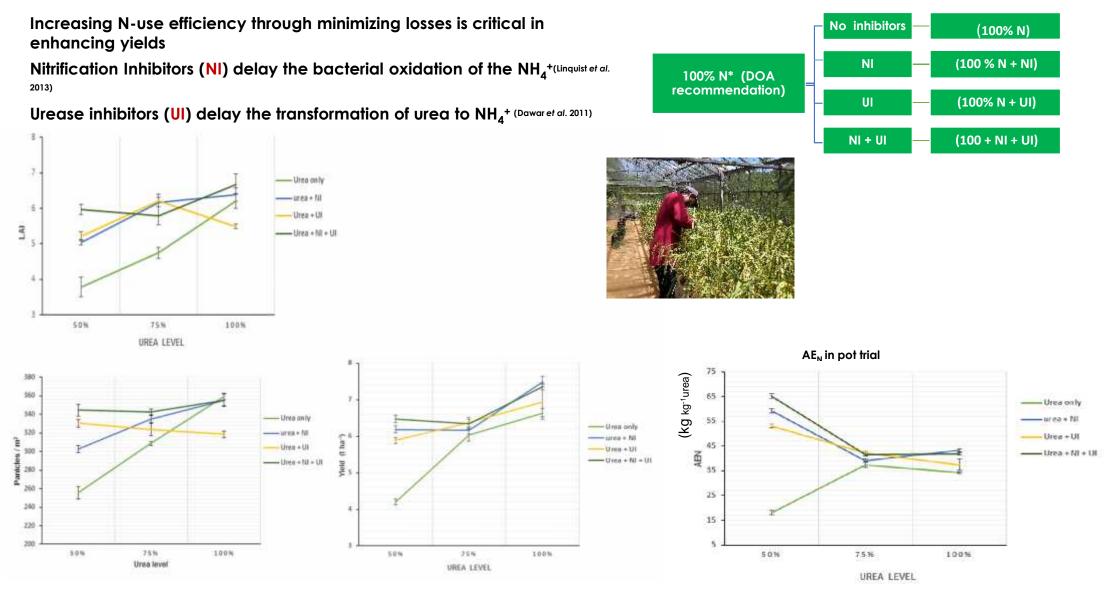
## Improving nitrogen-use efficiency in irrigated rice (Oryza sativa L.); use of stabilized urea

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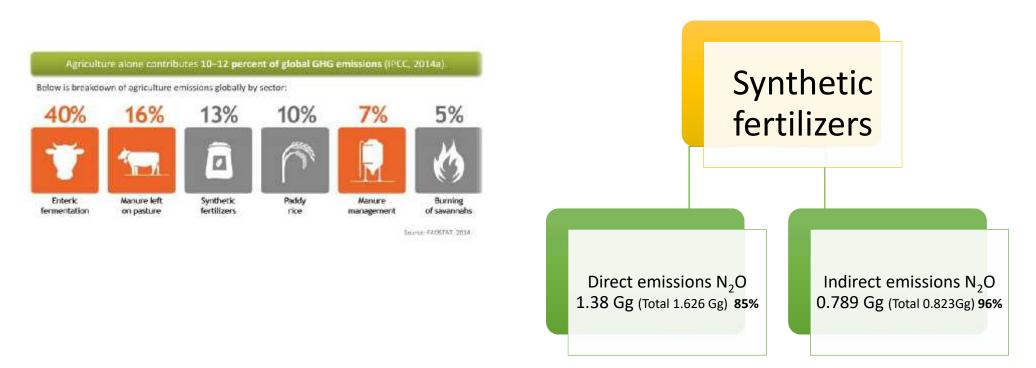




- Net extent harvested in 2013 was 1.07 million ha and production 4.62 million mt (Central Bank, 2014)
- Rice accounts for more than 40% calorie intake (VIec et al., 1986)
  - Sri Lanka has imported 0.6 mn Mt of solid fertilizer in 2012, urea ~50% (National Fertilizer Secretariat, 2013)
  - Around 64% of the imported urea used in paddy cultivation (Sirisena et al., 2001)
  - Recovery of applied N 15-30% (Sirisena et al., 2001)



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 $AE_N$  and yield in rice could be significantly increased by reducing N losses through treating urea with inhibitor/s (DCD and/or NBPT) when 50% of the recommended urea rate is applied.



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