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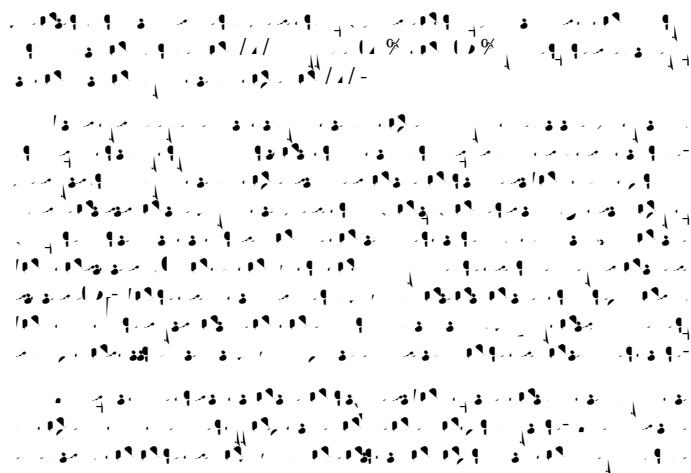
Introduction

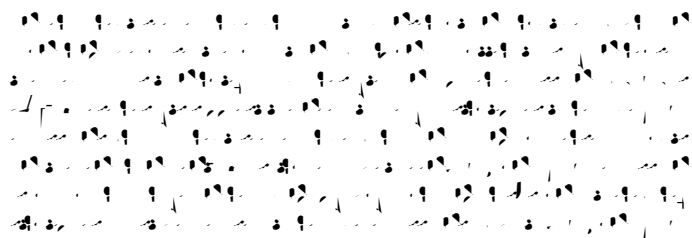
The rice industry is a global economic and social pillar. It provides a staple food for billions of people and is a major source of income for many farmers. However, the industry faces many challenges, such as climate change, soil degradation, and pest outbreaks. To address these challenges, researchers have developed various technologies and strategies. This commentary discusses the importance of open access in rice research and how it can benefit the industry and society.

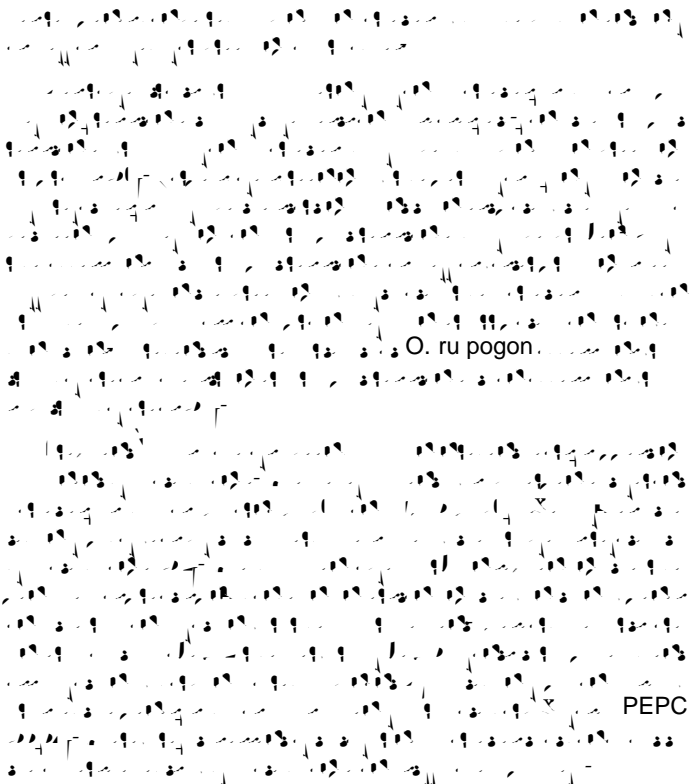
Open access is a model of knowledge distribution that allows anyone to read, download, and share research articles without any financial or legal barriers. This model has become increasingly popular in many fields, including rice research. Open access research articles are available to anyone with an internet connection, which makes them more accessible and visible. This can lead to faster dissemination of knowledge and more collaboration between researchers.

There are several benefits of open access in rice research. First, it allows researchers to share their findings with a wider audience, which can lead to more citations and impact. Second, it reduces the cost of research, as researchers do not have to pay for expensive journal subscriptions. Third, it promotes transparency and accountability in research, as all data and methods are available for scrutiny.

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