

## Storage How to use the IRRI Super bag

### What is the Super bag?

The IRRI Super bag is a storage bag which can be used to store cereal grains and other crops (e.g., coffee) safely for extended periods. It is made from special plastic and fits as a liner inside existing storage bags.

### How does it work?

The Super bags block the flow of both oxygen and water from the outside air to the grain. When properly sealed, respiration of grain and insects inside the bag reduces oxygen levels inside the bag from 21% to 5%. As a result, most insects inside the bag die. By using the super bag, you will:

- ✓ Approximately double the germination life of seeds,
- ✓ Control insects without using chemicals, and
- ✓ Improve the head rice recovery of stored grain by around 10%.

### How to use the Superbag



1. Place Super bag inside existing storage bag.



2. Fill the super bag with seeds or grain.



3. Remove air above the grain by twisting the upper portion of the bag.



4. Seal and make sure it is airtight. Fold in two ties with band or tape.

5. Close the outer bag.

### Make sure that you

- ✗ do not overfill,
- ✗ do not puncture or damage,
- ✗ never carry the grain by holding on to the Super bag; always use the outer bag for carrying,
- ✓ seal properly,
- ✓ inspect the SuperBag (do not open!). If there are insects crawling inside, check sealing.

### Re-using the Super Bag

You can re-use the super bag as long as it is airtight. To check for holes:

1. Fill the super bag with air.
2. Seal it.
3. Compress the bag and observe for air loss.

Prepared by M. Gummert with inputs from Joe Rickman (2004); updated by M. Gummert (2010).

For more information: visit the Rice Knowledge Bank Web Site (<http://www.knowledgebank.irri.org>), email [postharvest@irri.org](mailto:postharvest@irri.org); or call +63 2 580 5600

Produced by the Postharvest Unit of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) • July 2014