

Evaluation of the IPHT Rice Flaking Machine

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A rice flaking machine designed by the Institute of Post Harvest Technology, with the aim of improving the existing traditional production process and the quality of conventional rice flakes, was evaluated for its flaking efficiency, capacity, husk separation efficiency, power consumption and the adjustments for the optimum operating conditions. Based on the results obtained modifications such as increasing the length of the outlet duct, construction of a sieve for husk separation and reducing the area of the outflow path of the discharge chute were done to improve the husk separation efficiency. With these modifications and a roller clearance of 0.66mm the machine gave an output of 4kg of rice flakes per hour with flaking efficiency of 0.66% and a feed rate of 6 kg/hr. At this roller clearance, the flake recovery and the unflaked kernels were 97.9% and 3.6% respectively. The operating cost of the machine was Rs.7.00/kg of rice flakes. The husk separation efficiency of the machine was increased up to 97%.