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# Phospholipids in rice: significance in grain quality and health benefits: a review

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1 **Title**

2 Phospholipids in rice: Significance in grain quality and health benefits: A review

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21 **Abstract**

22       Phospholipids (PLs) are a major class of lipid in rice grain. Although PLs are only a  
23 minor nutrient compared to starch and protein, they may have both nutritional and  
24 functional significance. We have systemically reviewed the literature on the class,  
25 distribution and variation of PLs in rice, their relation to rice end-use quality and human  
26 health, as well as available methods for analytical profiling. Phosphatidylcholine (PC),  
27 phosphatidylethanolamine (PE), phosphatidylinositol (PI) and their lyso forms are the  
28 major PLs in rice. The deterioration of PC in rice bran during storage was considered as a  
29 trigger for the degradation of rice lipids with associated rancid flavour in paddy and  
30 brown rice. The lyso forms in rice endosperm represent the major starch lipid, and may  
31 form inclusion complexes with amylose, affecting the physicochemical properties and  
32 digestibility of starch, and hence the cooking and eating quality of rice. Dietary PLs have  
33 a positive impact on several human diseases and reduce the side-effects of some drugs.  
34 As rice has long been consumed as a staple food in many Asian countries, rice PLs may  
35 have significant health benefits for those populations. Rice PLs may be influenced both  
36 by genetic (G) and environmental (E) factors, and resolving G x E interactions may allow  
37 future exploitation of PL composition and content, thus boosting rice eating quality and  
38 health benefits for consumers. We have identified and summarised the different methods  
39 used for rice PL analysis, and discussed the consequences of variation in reported PL  
40 values due to inconsistencies between methods. This review enhances the understanding  
41 of the nature and importance of PLs in rice and outlines potential approaches for  
42 manipulating PLs to improve the quality of rice grain and other cereals.

43 **Keywords:**

44 Rice, phospholipid, lysophospholipid, lecithin, starch lipid, amylose-lipid complex,  
45 rice quality, glycaemic index, health benefit.

46 **1. Introduction**

47 Rice has been consumed for almost 5000 years and currently feeds almost half the  
48 human population. Botanically, cultivated rice belongs to the Poaceae family and  
49 includes two species: *Oryza sativa* L. (commonly known as Asian rice) and *O.*  
50 *glaberrima* Steud. (commonly known as African rice) (Linares, 2002). Since *O. sativa*  
51 accounts for the majority of world rice production, and hence research effort, rice in this  
52 review and many other papers refers to *O. sativa* only, unless otherwise specified. *O.*  
53 *sativa* is comprised of two subspecies, *indica* and *japonica*.

54 Rice grains are mainly composed of starch, including amylose and amylopectin.  
55 According to starch composition, rice is often classified into waxy and non-waxy  
56 varieties. Compared with non-waxy rice, waxy rice is especially sticky when cooked and  
57 contains no, or negligible amounts of, amylose. Rice grains contain a much smaller  
58 proportion of lipids than starch, however, these lipids may make a significant  
59 contribution to processing and nutritional properties (Moazzami, Lampi & Kamal-Eldin,  
60 2011). For instance, rice bran oil is a popular cooking oil in several Asian countries  
61 which has a direct impact on human nutrition and health (Ghosh, 2007)

62 Phospholipids (PLs), consisting of covalently bound phosphate and lipid, are a major  
63 class of lipid in rice, comprising up to 10% of total grain lipid content (Table 1 and 2).  
64 These amphiphilic lipids, found in plant and animal cell membranes, are critically  
65 important to all cellular organisms. Dietary PLs have beneficial effects on a range of

66 human diseases and conditions, such as coronary heart disease, cancer or inflammation  
67 (Kullenberg, Taylor, Schneider & Massing, 2012). Since rice is the single most important  
68 staple food in the world, it is likely to represent a significant source of dietary PLs for a  
69 large proportion of the world's human population. Although there have been a large  
70 number of isolated reports describing the nature and importance of these compounds,  
71 much of the information, such as the amount and distribution of PLs in different rice  
72 varieties, their effects on rice storage and eating quality, and implications for human  
73 health, is dispersed, with little consensus.

74 Natural PLs can be classified into two major categories, glycerophospholipids (GPLs,  
75 e.g. phosphatidylcholine or lecithin in egg yolk) (Table 1) and sphingophospholipids  
76 (SPLs, e.g. sphingomyelin, in brain and neural tissue). To date, only GPLs have been  
77 identified in rice grain. GPLs consist of fatty acids (FAs) esterified to a glycerol  
78 backbone, a phosphate group and a hydrophilic residue (such as the amino acid choline).  
79 PLs are a major component of lipids in the oil rich rice embryo (includes scutellum,  
80 plumule, radicle, epiblast) and bran (includes pericarp, seed coat, nucellus, aleurone layer)  
81 (Fig. 1) (Yoshida, Tanigawa, Yoshida, Kuriyama, Tomiyama & Mizushina, 2011b).  
82 Lysophospholipids (LPLs) are an important subcategory of GPLs with a free alcohol in  
83 the *sn*-2 position, and are the major (~50%) starch lipids in the rice endosperm  
84 (Choudhury & Juliano, 1980a). The PLs in rice bran and endosperm make a significant  
85 contribution to the quality of rice, affecting properties such as the rancidity of paddy or  
86 brown rice (Aibara, Ismail, Yamashita, Ohta, Sekiyama & Morita, 1986) and the  
87 physicochemical properties of starch (Pérez & Bertoft, 2010), each of which requires  
88 careful evaluation.

89 Previously, different extraction and analytical methods have been employed for the  
90 analysis of PLs in rice and other cereals, which can result in significant apparent variation  
91 for similar samples. We have also experienced unexpected incomplete extraction when  
92 extracting cereal lipids in our recent research (Liu, 2009). The incomplete extraction may  
93 arise from the natural starch-lipid complex in cereal grains. This starch-lipid complex  
94 may also decrease the efficiency of human digestive enzymes *in vivo* and hence  
95 contribute to strategies for controlling glycaemia and reducing the risk of Type 2 diabetes  
96 mellitus (Liu, Deseo, Morris, Winter & Leach, 2011). There is scope to improve the  
97 content and composition of beneficial PLs in cereal grains, by modification of component  
98 genetic and agro-environmental factors. As rice has a smaller and less complex genome  
99 than other cereals such as wheat and maize, it provides an excellent research model to  
100 explore and attribute genetic and environmental contributions to PL variation. Our  
101 objective in preparing this review was to enhance the understanding of the variation and  
102 distribution of PLs in rice and their contribution to rice quality and human health, and so  
103 provide a context for prioritising future research directions for crop improvement and  
104 utilisation of rice and other cereals.

## 105 **2. Phospholipids in rice grain**

106 Rice lipids are classified according to their chemical structure into acylglycerols, free  
107 fatty acids, wax esters (such as policosanols), PLs, glycolipids and unsaponifiables (such  
108 as  $\gamma$ -oryzanols, tocopherols/ tocotrienols and squalene) (Moazzami et al., 2011). Lipids  
109 are primarily concentrated in the rice bran (19.4-25.5%) and germ (34.1-36.5%) fractions  
110 rather than in the milled rice which is around 0.8% of the endosperm fraction (Table 2)  
111 (Juliano, 1983). Among these lipids, PLs (~10% of total lipids in brown rice) are

112 considered to be polar compared to the neutral lipids such as triacylglycerols (TAG)  
113 (Mano, Kawaminami, Kojima, Ohnishi & Ito, 1999). Rice PLs have diverse hydrophilic  
114 heads, comprised of fatty acids distributed in the rice grain, which may reflect their  
115 different biosynthetic pathways and biological functions.

## 116 2.1 Class, composition, location and concentration of PLs in rice grain

117 As with PLs in many other organisms, rice PLs contain components such as fatty acid  
118 ester(s), glycerol(s), phosphate(s), and choline, ethanolamine, inositol or serine. The PLs  
119 found in rice include phosphatidylcholine (lecithin) (PC), phosphatidylethanolamine  
120 (cephalin) (PE) and phosphatidylinositol (PI), phosphatidylserine (PS),  
121 lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC), lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE), lysophosphatidyl-  
122 inositol (LPI), N-acyl phosphatidylethanolamine (NAPE), N-acyl lysophosphatidyl-  
123 ethanolamine (NALPE), phosphatidylglycerol (PG), diphosphatidylglycerol (DPG,  
124 cardiolipin) and phosphatidic acid (PA) (Table 1) (Choi, Takahashi, Inatsu, Mano &  
125 Ohnishi, 2005; Glushenkova, Ul'chenko, Talipova, Mukhamedova, Bekker & Tolibaev,  
126 1998; Lam & Proctor, 2004; Yoshida, Tanigawa, Kuriyama, Yoshida, Tomiyama &  
127 Mizushina, 2011a). Among them, PI, PG, DPG, NAPE, NALPE are considered to be the  
128 acidic glycerophospholipids (Choi et al., 2005).

129 Generally, PC, PE and PI are the principal PLs in the oil rich rice bran and germ and  
130 constitute ~80% of total PLs (Yoshida et al., 2011b). Besides the PLs within the cell  
131 membranes, it is believed that PLs also form a single layer membrane bounding the  
132 spherosomes or subcellular lipid bodies, which are mainly composed of TAGs (Fig. 1)  
133 (~98.6%) (Huang, 1996). Spherosomes are prominent within the cells of oil storage  
134 tissues such as the aleurone layer (Bechtel & Pomeranz, 1977; Bechtel & Pomeranz,

135 1978a). PLs are also important components of organelle membranes such as the  
136 mitochondrial and endoplasmic reticulum (He, Wang, Li & Liu, 2007). However, to the  
137 best of our knowledge, there has been no targeted research on these PLs within rice grain.

138 It is important to note that the lipids in the endosperm are present in different forms  
139 compared to those in the bran and germ. Based on their relative association with starch  
140 (stabilised with van der Waals contacts), rice lipids are often classified as starch and non-  
141 starch lipids (Morrison, 1995). Non-starch lipids such as TAGs are primarily located in  
142 the lipid bodies of rice bran (aleurone layer) and germ (embryo) fractions, while starch  
143 lipids are associated with starch granules in the rice endosperm (Fig. 1). Apart from free  
144 fatty acids, the major starch lipids are LPC and LPE, which account for about 50% of the  
145 starch lipid in non-waxy rice (Table 2) (Juliano, 1985).

146 With the exception of the sub-aleurone layer, no distinct lipid bodies have been found  
147 in the starchy endosperm (Bechtel & Pomeranz, 1978b). Lipids in the endosperm are  
148 composed of (a) non-starch lipid, present outside of starch granules, and (b) internal  
149 starch lipid (as 'true' starch lipid), forming inclusion complexes with amylose in starch  
150 granules (Fig. 1) (Moazzami et al., 2011; Morrison, 1981; Tester, Karkalas & Qi, 2004).  
151 Compared to other cereals such as maize and triticale, rice has small starch granules.  
152 Recent research has also shown that in the former, non-starch PLs may also be found in  
153 the channels within the starch granules (Naguleswaran, Li, Vasanthan & Bressler, 2011).  
154 However, this has not been investigated for rice starch granules which could be too small  
155 to have the 'channels' such as those found in the larger starch granules.

156 Internal (or integral) starch lipids, including LPLs (Azudin & Morrison, 1986), can  
157 only be extracted under rigorous conditions such as hot aqueous alcohol (Morrison &



158 Coventry, 1985). The amylose-lipid complex was initially suspected to be an artefact  
159 formed during starch isolation. However,  $^{13}\text{C}$ -cross-polarisation/magic angle spinning  
160 nuclear magnetic resonance ( $^{13}\text{C}$  CP/MAS-NMR) analysis has confirmed the amylose-  
161 lipid inclusion complexes exist *in vivo* in native rice starch granules (Morrison, Law &  
162 Snape, 1993). It is believed that the cavity of amylose in single-helical (V) conformation  
163 is a hydrophobic tube, and the hydrocarbon chain of the lysophospholipids lies stably  
164 within the amylose helix, leaving the polar ends of the lipids outside of the helix cavity  
165 (Fig. 2) (Godet, Tran, Delage & Buléon, 1993).

166 As each of the PLs may contain a different combination and distribution of fatty acid  
167 esters, this could result in a large number of distinct PLs in rice. In general, rice bran PLs  
168 contain palmitic (16:0, ~20%), oleic (18:1n-9, ~35%) and linoleic (18:2n-6, ~35%) acids  
169 as the principal fatty acid components. The unsaturated fatty acids predominantly locate  
170 at the *sn*-2 position and saturated fatty acids primarily occupy the *sn*-1 or *sn*-3 position  
171 (Yoshida et al., 2011b). For the starch PLs in the endosperm, palmitic (48-63%) and  
172 linoleic (25-42%) acids are predominant, with minor contributions from oleic (~5%) and  
173 myristic (14:0, ~5%) acids (Maniñgat & Juliano, 1980).

174 The variety of different methods used for rice PL analysis is reflected in the  
175 considerable degree of variance found amongst the reported values. Some reports also  
176 suggest that PLs and other rice lipids may be associated with proteins such as oleosin or  
177 nonspecific lipid transfer proteins in their native state, but this information is still limited  
178 (Cheng, Cheng, Peng, Lyu & Sun, 2004; Chuang, Chen, Chu & Tzen, 1996; Huang, 1996;  
179 Noda & Ikegami, 1966).

## 180 2.2 Phospholipid biosynthesis

181 Although understanding relevant biosynthetic and modification pathways and their  
182 regulation is critically important in order to modulate PL content, this has only been  
183 extensively studied in animal and yeasts, and we are far from having a clear  
184 understanding in plants including the model species *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Bessoule &  
185 Moreau, 2004; Eastmond, Quettier, Kroon, Craddock, Adams & Slabas, 2010). In rice,  
186 only a limited number of enzymes involved in PL biosynthesis pathways have been  
187 purified, or their corresponding genes cloned (Suzuki, 2011; Suzuki, Takeuchi &  
188 Shirasawa, 2011). The PLs in rice grain discussed here are primarily based in the context  
189 of the biosynthetic pathways summarised by Kinney (1993) (Fig. 3).

190 Rice PLs may be synthesised via two pathways: (a) cytidine diphosphate (CDP)-  
191 diacylglycerol and (b) 1,2-diacylglycerol (DAG) pathways (Fig. 3) (Kinney, 1993). Both  
192 CDP-DAG and DAG are derived from phosphatidic acid (PA), which are synthesised by  
193 the sequential acylation of glycerol-3-phosphate by acyltransferases.

194 Within the CDP-DAG pathway, CDP-DAG is produced from the reaction between  
195 PA and CTP. Sequentially, PS and PI are yielded by displacement of cytidine  
196 monophosphate (CMP) from the CDP-DAG with the hydroxyl group of serine or inositol.  
197 PS may be decarboxylated to PE by PS decarboxylase, and the PE may later be  
198 methylated to PC by the action of *N*-methyltransferases. PG is synthesised by a two-step  
199 reaction. Firstly, CDP-DAG reacts with glycerol phosphate to yield  
200 phosphatidylglycerolphosphate (PGP) and CMP. Secondly, the PGP is dephosphorylated  
201 to produce PG. The PG then reacts with CDP-DAG to yield DPG.

202 Within the DAG pathway, DAG is produced by dephosphorylation of PA catalysed  
203 by phosphatidate phosphohydrolase. PE and PC are produced by displacement of CMP  
204 from CDP-ethanolamine or CDP-choline with the hydroxyl group of DAG. In addition,  
205 PLs may also derive from head group exchange reaction with other PLs (Kinney, 1993).

206 The minor PL, N-acyl phosphatidyl ethanolamine (N-acyl-PE) may be yielded by  
207 reaction of PE with free fatty acid or acyl-CoA (Coulon, Faure, Salmon, Wattelet &  
208 Bessoule, 2012). As the main starch lipids, lysophospholipids (LPLs) are likely the  
209 hydrolysis products (by phospholipase A2, Fig 3) of diacylphospholipids. Another minor  
210 rice PL, phosphatidic acid (PA) is the precursors of other PLs and, at the same time, may  
211 also be a degraded product of PLs by the action of phospholipase D (PLD, Fig 3)  
212 (D'Arrigo & Servi, 2010).

213 During rice grain development, the level of total non-starch PLs plateaus (about  
214 5mg/100grains) at 8 days after flowering (DAF) (Choudhury & Juliano, 1980b), which is  
215 likely due to the early synthesis of membrane lipids. Interestingly, the content of non-  
216 starch LPE and LPC increases up to 8 DAF, but subsequently decreases to the point that  
217 non-starch LPC is not detected beyond 16 DAF. In contrast, within the mature rice grain,  
218 the major internal starch lipids, LPLs (29 µg/grain), are significantly more abundant than  
219 their non-starch counterparts (4 µg/grain) (Choudhury et al., 1980b). This indicates that  
220 LPLs might be transferred from the amyloplast membrane (non-starch lipids) to the sites  
221 of starch synthesis, and so become starch lipids (Morrison, 1988). It has also been  
222 suggested that LPLs may form inclusion complexes with amylose which protect amylose  
223 from branching, perhaps by inhibiting branching enzymes, or breakdown, but not prevent  
224 its elongation (Morrison, 1988; Vieweg & Fekete, 1976). Therefore, starch LPLs and

225 their relationship with starch synthesis during rice grain development warrants further  
226 research.

### 227 2.3 Genetic and environmental influence on rice PLs

228 It is difficult to make meaningful comparisons of the values for PL composition and  
229 content presented in different reports, since there is no standardisation in terms of tissue  
230 sample, storage, pre-processing, and degree of milling. In order to identify and  
231 understand genotype by environment interactions (G×E) for rice PLs, a concerted  
232 research effort is required to assign components of variance to either genotype or  
233 environment.

234 Generally, non-starch PL content appears to be less variable between rice varieties  
235 than starch LPL content. Genetic differences between waxy and non-waxy varieties may  
236 dictate the level of starch LPLs in the grain (Azudin et al., 1986; Choudhury et al., 1980a;  
237 Morrison, Milligan & Azudin, 1984). Starch lipids and LPLs in particular, are  
238 consistently found to be significantly higher (10 times) in non-waxy rice varieties than  
239 waxy varieties, where on occasion these are hardly detectable (Azudin et al., 1986;  
240 Choudhury et al., 1980a; Morrison et al., 1984). The low content of starch LPLs in waxy  
241 rices could be attributed to the absence of amylose content. However, there is no clear  
242 correlation between amylose and starch LPL content in the non-waxy varieties (Morrison  
243 et al., 1984). A similar trend is also observed in other cereals such as maize, barley,  
244 sorghum and millet (Morrison et al., 1984). Environmental factors such as climate or soil,  
245 may also affect starch LPL content of non-waxy rice, but those factors have not been  
246 identified and evaluated (Morrison, 1988; Morrison & Azudin, 1987). The observed  
247 variation in starch LPL content could be attributable to the genetic composition of waxy

248 and non-waxy varieties, and closely associated with the pattern of *waxy* gene allelic  
249 variation.

250 Although non-starch PL content is relatively uniform (Mano et al., 1999; Yoshida et  
251 al., 2011a) *japonica* rice cultivars appear to contain PLs with higher polyunsaturated fatty  
252 acid (PUFA) content than *indica* cultivars (Mano et al., 1999). The PLs of *japonica* rice  
253 harvested from a cold growing environment have higher PUFA contents compared to a  
254 mild environment (Mano et al., 1999), suggesting that temperature during grain ripening  
255 may affect PUFA content. Similar environmental effects on the degree of unsaturation  
256 have also been identified for rice acidic glycerolphospholipids apart from cardiolipin  
257 (Choi et al., 2005). This higher unsaturation may be explained by membrane fluidity  
258 associated with cell functions required by the plant seed to survive in the colder  
259 environment. However, Nakamura et al. (1995) found higher PL PUFA contents in cold  
260 sensitive rice varieties (as measured by percentage seed sterility) (Nakamura, Ohnishi,  
261 Kojima, Mano, Inazu & Ito, 1995), suggesting the involvement of other mechanisms.

262 Within a recent report evaluating the unintended effects of transgenic rice containing  
263 an insect resistant gene, the growing environment was found to have a greater effects than  
264 genetic variation on levels of rice PLs such as LPC, LPE and lysophosphatidylglycerol  
265 (Chang et al., 2012). This effect had not been detected in previous studies, and it was  
266 suggested that the difference may be caused by abiotic or biotic stresses present within  
267 the different trials. However, as a non-targeted metabolomic approach was employed to  
268 evaluate the unintended effect, the rice samples had not been prepared specially for PLs  
269 analysis (detailed in Section 4). Therefore, the observed variation, which, based on the  
270 extraction method, is likely to have been in non-starch LPLs, may have been caused by

271 partial hydrolysis of diacylglycerolphospholipids catalysed by the native phospholipases  
272 in rice. A more concerted and targeted research effort is required to establish whether  
273 growing environment has a significant influence on rice PL content.

### 274 **3. Phospholipids and rice quality**

275 The quality of rice is determined by its suitability for specific end uses, and evaluation  
276 is based on a combination of subjective (consumer) and objective (quality testing) factors.  
277 Many factors affecting processes such as milling, cooking and eating quality have been  
278 reviewed and correlated with rice grain composition (Juliano, 2003; Zhao, 2009; Zhou,  
279 Robards, Helliwell & Blanchard, 2002). However, the role and relative importance of  
280 PLs as a factor in rice quality has been overlooked due to the emphasis on conventional  
281 factors such as starch composition. In this section we systematically discuss the  
282 relationship between degradation of PLs in the bran and rice storage stability, as well as  
283 the relationship between starch LPLs and starch physiochemical properties and  
284 digestibility that affect cooking and eating.

#### 285 3.1 Phospholipids and rice storage

286 Following long term storage, paddy rice can develop an unacceptable stale flavour or  
287 smell, caused by the oxidation and decomposition of free unsaturated fatty acids,  
288 primarily oleic and linoleic, in the rice bran. These free fatty acids are released from  
289 TAGs, which are originally confined to the spherosomes, but ooze out due to the  
290 alteration of the spherosome (PL) membrane (Fig. 1). The major component of this  
291 membrane, phosphatidylcholine, may degrade to phosphatidic acid, catalysed by

292 phospholipase D. This deterioration of the PL membrane is considered to be a trigger for  
293 the degradation of rice lipids and associated rancid flavour (Aibara et al., 1986).

294 Freshly harvested rice grains are usually dried to reduce water content to <15% in  
295 order to suppress respiration, mould growth, and the multiplication of microorganisms.  
296 Natural or hot-air drying conventionally used for this post-harvest treatment may  
297 accelerate the breakdown of the PL membrane, and subsequently bring about the  
298 degradation of neutral lipids and associated stale flavour. By contrast, dehumidified-air  
299 drying may preserve the integrity of the PL membrane and suppress the deterioration of  
300 lipids during storage (Ohta, Aibara, Yamashita, Sekiyama & Morita, 1990). A recent  
301 report on the storage of paddy rice suggested that freshly harvested rice could be stored at  
302 low temperature (<20°C or <15°C) directly after harvest in order to preserve the freshness  
303 (Li et al., 2006), possibly by protecting the integrity of spherosomes.

304 The PL membrane may also be physically damaged during dehusking and milling.  
305 When paddy rice is dehusked to brown rice and further milled to white rice, the  
306 individual cells and spherosomes in the bran and germ are disrupted. TAGs leak from the  
307 damaged spherosomes, and come into contact with previously dormant but highly  
308 reactive lipases in the aleurone and germ tissues, significantly limiting the shelf life of  
309 nutritionally valuable rice bran and brown rice (Fig. 1) (Champagne, 1994; da Silva,  
310 Sanches & Amante, 2006). Some of these lipids (PL and TAG) and lipases may also be  
311 deposited on the surface of polished rice kernel, thus reducing the storage stability of  
312 white rice (Lam & Proctor, 2003; Lam et al., 2004). Compared to the well-milled white  
313 rice, under-milled rice has some residue of the bran layer and better nutritional quality.

314 However, also due to the additional residual and exposed bran lipid on the kernel surface,  
315 under-milled rice has very poor storage stability (Piggott, Morrison & Clyne, 1991).

316 Storage at low temperature (e.g. 9°C) could reduce the rate of PL degradation and  
317 development of rancidity in polished and brown rice (Lam & Proctor, 2002; Tang, Zhang,  
318 Li, Tang & An, 2001; Yasumatsu & Moritaka, 1964). However, in order to avoid the  
319 degradation of rice lipids effectively, brown rice or rice bran has to be stabilised  
320 immediately after processing, either by using heat, such as microwave or parboil methods,  
321 to deactivate the lipase, or by removal of the kernel surface lipid with organic solvents,  
322 such as petroleum ether or ethanol (Champagne, 1994; da Silva et al., 2006;  
323 Ramezanzadeh, Rao, Windhauser, Prinyawiwatkul, Tulley & Marshall, 1999; Zhang,  
324 Zhou & Feng, 1998). As phospholipase D (PLD) is the most important enzyme involved  
325 in the degradation of spherosome membranes, a rice variety with PLD deficiency could  
326 significantly improve storage stability. A PLD-deficient rice mutant which arises from a  
327 phospholipase D null allele has recently been identified and a single-nucleotide  
328 polymorphism (SNP) marker for PLD deficiency developed (Suzuki, 2011; Suzuki et al.,  
329 2011). This strategy may also be applied to other cereal crops to solve similar storage  
330 problems. However, it is important to establish an exhaustive understanding of the  
331 storage stability and associated chemical properties in such mutant-derived materials.

332 Compared to non-starch PLs, internal starch LPLs are unlikely to be hydrolysed or  
333 oxidised during rice storage (Zhang et al., 1998). This resistance to degradation may be  
334 due to the protective structure of the amylose-lipid complex (Fig. 2). The specific effects  
335 of internal starch LPLs on rice storage should be investigated further in order to  
336 understand better what is required to maintain rice quality during storage.



### 337 3.2 Phospholipids and starch physicochemical properties

338 Monoacyl lipids, such as the internal rice starch LPLs, form a complex with amylose  
339 and so change the physicochemical properties of starch (Putseys, Lamberts & Delcour,  
340 2010), resulting in modified rice cooking and eating quality. Generally, PLs in rice may  
341 reduce the iodine-binding capacity and swelling (Gelders, Goesaert & Delcour, 2006;  
342 Morrison, 1995), although the increase in gelatinisation temperature, gel viscosity and  
343 pasting temperature (Kaur & Singh, 2000; Maniñgat et al., 1980; Singh, Dartois & Kaur,  
344 2010; Zhang et al., 1998) may not be completely isolated from other components in rice.

345 Iodine-binding capacity is a conventional colorimetric assay for measuring amylose  
346 content. The presence of starch lipids (e.g. LPLs) interferes with iodine binding,  
347 suggesting the existence of two types of amylose, namely lipid-complexed amylose  
348 (LAM) and lipid-free amylose (FAM). FAM is equivalent to the apparent amylose  
349 measured by iodine binding, while LAM corresponds to the difference between total  
350 amylose and apparent amylose (Morrison, 1995).

351 Gelatinisation is a macro-molecular phenomenon during starch hydrothermal  
352 processing and an important indicator of rice cooking quality. Studies of defatted rice  
353 starch flour indicate that the presence of internal starch lipids (e.g. LPLs) may increase  
354 starch gelatinisation temperature (GT) (Maniñgat et al., 1980). As the relationship  
355 between amylose content and the amylose-lipid complex or LPLs in the rice grain is still  
356 not clear, there is scope to investigate this relationship and perhaps manipulate starch  
357 physicochemical properties including GT. Although the non-starch lipids remaining on the  
358 brown, under-milled or milled rice kernel could also increase starch gelatinisation  
359 temperature (Champagne, Marshall & Goynes, 1990; Marshall & Normand, 1990; Zhang

360 et al., 1998), the contribution of non-starch PLs compared to the major neutral lipids is  
361 unknown.

### 362 3.3 Phospholipids and starch digestibility

363 The global increase in the incidence of human Type 2 diabetes has stimulated  
364 research on the digestibility of the starch in high carbohydrate food, and low GI is now  
365 considered an important factor in rice quality. Rice grain is well known for its high starch  
366 content and has sometimes been considered a relatively high glycaemic index (GI) food,  
367 which may rapidly increase human blood glucose following consumption. However, it  
368 has been documented that consumption of rice with higher amylose levels gives  
369 significantly lower (*in vivo*) serum glucose and insulin responses (Miller, Pang & Bramall,  
370 1992). This is consistent with the response to other cereal foods. The lower serum  
371 glucose response may be partially due to the amylose-lipid complexes, which reduce  
372 susceptibility of rice starch to hydrolysis by digestive enzymes such as  $\alpha$ -amylase or  $\alpha$ -  
373 glucosidase (also called glucoamylase) (Goddard, Young & Marcus, 1984; Shu, Jia, Ye,  
374 Li & Wu, 2009; Singh et al., 2010).

375 Although the association of amylose with LPL is yet to be proven, amylose  
376 complexed with monoacyl lipids, such as lysolecithin, has substantially lower  
377 susceptibility to  $\alpha$ -amylase *in vitro* (Guraya, Kadan & Champagne, 1997; Holm et al.,  
378 1983). The complexed amylose may still be hydrolysed by an excess of enzyme.  
379 However, compared to free amylose, the digestion and adsorption of the complexed  
380 amylose would be slower *in vivo* (Holm et al., 1983). Rice amylose complexed with LPL  
381 also has strong *in vitro* resistance to the action of glucoamylase, which converts starch  
382 completely to glucose (Kitahara, Suganuma & Nagahama, 1996; Kitahara, Tanaka,

383 Suganuma & Nagahama, 1997). The adsorption of glucoamylase on the amylose  
384 complexed with LPL is very low (Kitahara et al., 1996). Since it appears that enzyme  
385 resistance of the amylose-lipid complex could be utilised to manipulate the GI for a range  
386 of rice food products (Jaisut, Prachayawarakorn, Varanyanond, Tungtrakul &  
387 Soponronnarit, 2008; Putseys, Derde, Lamberts, Ostman, Bjorck & Delcour, 2009), this  
388 is worthy of further investigation. The bioavailability of the amylose-LPL complexes in  
389 the human gastrointestinal tract is discussed further in Section 5.

#### 390 **4. Quantification and analysis of rice PLs**

391 Due to its biological importance, methods for PL analysis from various organisms  
392 have been well developed and reviewed (Brouwers, 2011; Christie & Morrison, 1988; Di  
393 Stefano et al., 2012; Kasemsuwan & Jane, 1996; Kim, Wang & Ma, 1994; Peterson &  
394 Cummings, 2006). Although classical thin layer chromatography (TLC) and gas  
395 chromatography (GC) methods are still used in some recent PL research (Yoshida et al.,  
396 2011a), liquid chromatography, especially high performance liquid chromatography  
397 (HPLC) coupled with mass detector (MS), has gradually been recognised as a more  
398 efficient and accurate method to analyse PLs and characterise food quality (Brouwers,  
399 2011; Christie, 1985; Di Stefano et al., 2012). A considerable amount of experience and  
400 knowledge has been accumulated from the analysis of PLs in cereals, and rice in  
401 particular (Morrison, 1988; Morrison, Mann & Coventry, 1975; Morrison, Tan & Hargin,  
402 1980). The procedures developed in these studies, such as deactivation of phospholipase  
403 in the bran and use of hot aqueous alcohol for extraction of starch PLs, must be  
404 considered prior to any experimental design, even when using the most advanced  
405 analytical instruments. If not taken into account, there is a danger that artefacts of PLs,

406 contamination between the extractions or incomplete extraction will occur and lead to  
407 confusing results (Chang et al., 2012; Liu, 2009; Liu et al., 2011). This section provides a  
408 commentary on both the classical and more recent analytical procedures for the analysis  
409 of PLs in rice and other cereals. For more detailed review of PL analysis in general, the  
410 systematic methodology reviews of Brouwers (2011) and Christie (1985) are  
411 recommended.

#### 412 4.1 Extraction of PLs

413 Since the nature of starch and non-starch PLs is significantly different, those in the  
414 rice bran and endosperm are usually extracted and analysed separately. For non-starch  
415 lipid, it has been emphasised that inactivation of lipolytic enzymes prior to extraction is  
416 important to avoid lipolysis and formation of artefacts (Morrison, 1982). Lipolytic  
417 enzymes are present and active in cereal grains, but generally dormant before germination.  
418 Processes such as milling and solvent extraction disturb the native structure of cells in the  
419 germ and aleurone layer, and release lipolytic enzymes (D'Arrigo et al., 2010; Morrison,  
420 1982; Morrison et al., 1980). For example, phospholipase D is often activated during  
421 milling and extraction, and is able to catalyse the transformation of phosphatidylcholine  
422 (PC), phosphatidylethanolamine (PE) and phosphatidylinositol (PI) to phosphatidic acid  
423 (PA) (Liu, 2009).

424 Inactivation of lipolytic enzymes can be achieved by boiling samples in water for 8-  
425 10 min (Morrison, 1982) or steaming for 2-3 min (100°C) (Fujino, 1978). However, we  
426 suspect that these hydrothermal processes may also transform some of the non-starch  
427 lipids to starch lipids, which requires further investigation. Extraction at low temperature  
428 has also been used to avoid the action of lipolytic enzymes. The rice bran lipids,

429 including PLs, may be safely extracted using chloroform/methanol (2:1, v/v) at 0°C with  
430 addition of 0.01% butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) to inhibit the oxidative degradation of  
431 lipids during analysis (Yoshida et al., 2011b). However, whether this cold solvent  
432 extraction could exhaustively extract the non-starch lipid is currently unknown. Other  
433 solvents such as diethyl ether, petroleum ether and water-saturated butanol (WSB) have  
434 also been used to extract non-starch lipids (Choudhury et al., 1980b; Zhou, Blanchard,  
435 Helliwell & Robards, 2003). However, petroleum ether and diethyl ether are relatively  
436 non-polar solvents and may not give an efficient extraction of relatively polar PLs  
437 (Yoshida et al., 2011b). Conversely, WSB at 20-30°C is relatively polar and can easily  
438 extract the non-starch lipids, but tends also to extract some of the starch lipids from the  
439 starch granules damaged by milling (Choudhury et al., 1980b).

440 To measure the native non-starch PLs accurately, we recommend that the rice grain  
441 should be stored at 4°C directly after harvest to avoid degradation of PLs during storage.  
442 The rice bran fraction or brown rice should be analysed immediately after dehusking or  
443 milling, as the PLs are exposed and vulnerable to lipolysis. The decision as whether to  
444 use heat treatment or cold solvent extraction should be carefully evaluated, and applied  
445 according to the purpose of research. Since rice PLs contain polyunsaturated fatty acids  
446 (linoleic and linolenic), they are liable to undergo autoxidation. PL extracts or fractions  
447 should be stored at a low temperature (e.g. -20°C) and kept under nitrogen, ideally, with  
448 addition of antioxidants such as BHT (Christie, 1985).

449 Since rice starch LPLs are protected by the impermeable starch granules and form  
450 inclusion complexes with amylose (Fig. 1 and 2), they are relatively stable in the grain,  
451 and not readily extracted by organic solvents at room temperature. Interestingly,

452 compared with the classic “defatting” by lipophilic organic solvents, efficient extraction  
453 of internal starch LPLs requires both water and heat to swell (or gelatinise) the native  
454 starch granule to permit the alcohol to penetrate and extract the lipids. Although cold  
455 WSB (2-4°C) is able to extract some of the starch lipid it takes a very long time,  
456 estimated  $2.5 \times 10^5$  hr, to complete the extraction (Morrison, 1981). When there is  
457 insufficient water to swell the starch (e.g. using 90% methanol), the extraction of internal  
458 starch lipids is as ineffective as using cold or room temperature WSB (Choudhury et al.,  
459 1980b; Morrison et al., 1985; Morrison et al., 1975). Other aqueous alcohols such as  
460 ethanol, n-propanol and isopropanol have also been tested for extraction of starch lipids.  
461 It has been suggested that the ideal conditions for complete extraction of rice starch lipids  
462 are two 2-hr exactions and one 1-hr extraction at 100°C, with not less than 16ml of 75%  
463 n-propanol per gram of starch (Morrison et al., 1985).

464 Starch LPLs may be extracted and measured after removal of the non-starch lipids  
465 (Morrison et al., 1980). However, as lipids on rice protein bodies are not as readily  
466 removed as other non-starch lipids, a protein fraction with the non-starch lipid attached is  
467 also sometimes removed before the extraction of internal starch lipids. Rice starch can be  
468 suspended in aqueous 1.2 or 2% sodium dodecylbenzenesulfonate to remove lipoprotein  
469 adhering to the surface of the starch granules (Ito, Sato & Fujino, 1979; Maniñgat et al.,  
470 1980). The protein can also be removed through proteolytic digestion with amylase-free  
471 protease (Azudin et al., 1986; Morrison, 1985.; Morrison et al., 1984).

#### 472 4.2 Column chromatography, TLC and GC analysis of PLs

473 The classical method of rice PL analysis involves separating and identifying PLs  
474 using a silica column or TLC (silica), followed by analysis of the fatty acid composition

475 using GC (Fig. 4). Such methods have been routinely used over the past 30 years  
476 (Miyazawa, Yoshino & Fujino, 1977; Morrison et al., 1980; Yoshida, Tomiyama,  
477 Mizushina & Yoshida, 2012). However, these methods are time- and solvent-intensive  
478 and lack accuracy and sensitivity. These classic techniques such as multi-dimensional  
479 development for TLC (Fig. 4) seem to be simple, but require experienced and highly-  
480 skilled operators to produce reliable results.

481 Silica columns can be used to separate rice PLs effectively from other lipids (Christie,  
482 1985; Fujino, 1978; Glushenkova et al., 1998; Hemavathy & Prabhakar, 1987; Miyazawa  
483 et al., 1977; Vasanthan & Hoover, 1992). For example, after loading total lipids, the silica  
484 column is eluted sequentially with chloroform (simple lipid fraction), acetone (glycolipid  
485 fraction) and methanol (PL fraction). The PL fraction may be further separated into  
486 different classes such as PE, PC and PI by separation on another silica column with  
487 stepwise elution: PE can be eluted with chloroform/methanol (8:2 and 7:3, v/v), PC with  
488 chloroform/methanol (7:3 and 2:1, v/v) and PI with chloroform/methanol (2:1 and 1:2,  
489 v/v) (Miyazawa et al., 1977).

490 Currently, silica TLC is still widely used to separate and analyse rice PLs (Fig. 4)  
491 (Fujino, 1978; Glushenkova et al., 1998; Ito et al., 1979; Vasanthan et al., 1992; Yoshida  
492 et al., 2011b; Yoshida et al., 2012). For example, PLs can be separated from other rice  
493 lipids using preparative TLC with n-hexane/diethyl ether/acetic acid (80:20:1, v/v/v) as  
494 the mobile phase. Separated PLs can be further fractionated by another TLC into PE, PC  
495 and PI with chloroform/methanol/acetic acid/ deionised water (170:30:20:7, v/v/v/v) as  
496 the mobile phase and detected by iodine vapour. Two-dimensional silica TLC can be  
497 used to analyse the PLs in detail on a single plate, for instance, developed by

498 chloroform/methanol/ammonia (65:35:5, v/v/v, 1<sup>st</sup>) and chloroform/acetone/methanol/  
499 acetic acid/water (10:4:2:2:1, by volume, 2<sup>nd</sup>) (Fig. 4). All the major PL species in Table  
500 1 are able to be visualised through two dimensional TLC (Fig. 4) (Aibara et al., 1986;  
501 Fujino, 1978).

502 Following separation by column chromatograph or TLC, the composition of fatty  
503 acids in PLs is normally analysed using a standard “free fatty acid methyl ester (FAME)”  
504 method by GC. For example, PLs may be scraped from the TLC plate into a test tube and  
505 heated for 20min at 80°C in BF<sub>3</sub>/methanol to produce the FAME for GC analysis  
506 (Yoshida et al., 2012). To identify the positional distribution of the fatty acids, a lipase-  
507 catalysed hydrolysis has been used to partially deacylate the PLs, by selectively removing  
508 the fatty acid esterified to the *sn*-1 (or *sn*-3) position on the glycerol backbone. The  
509 partial hydrolysates are then separated and converted to FAME for GC analysis to  
510 elucidate the fatty acid distribution (Liu et al., 2011; Miyazawa et al., 1977).

#### 511 4.3 HPLC-MS analysis of PLs

512 HPLC-MS is the fastest growing sector among analytical methodologies in food  
513 analysis due to its superior sensitivity and reproducibility. While reports for food analysis  
514 using GC-MS have doubled in the last decade, those using HPLC-MS have increased  
515 nearly tenfold in the same period (Di Stefano et al., 2012). Advanced analytical  
516 instruments such as HPLC, UHPLC (ultra HPLC) and nano-HPLC, coupled with MS and  
517 MS/MS have become more accessible and popular in the agrifood sector. Many PL  
518 classes of biomembrane can be separated by HPLC and detected by MS or MS/MS  
519 detectors, with better precision and reproducibility (Brouwers, 2011; Chang et al., 2012;  
520 He et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2011; Peterson et al., 2006). Using HPLC-MS to analyse intact



521 PLs in rice can significantly shorten the pre-cleaning steps and avoid the derivatisation  
522 procedures required by GC or GC-MS analysis (Fig. 4).

523 In the 1980s, due to the limited development of HPLC stationary phase, a silica gel  
524 column (normal phase) was often used for the separation of PLs (Christie et al., 1988;  
525 Demandre, Tremolieres, Justin & Mazliak, 1985; Jungalwala, Evans & McCluer, 1984;  
526 Palacios & Wang, 2005). Several mobile phase systems have been developed to separate  
527 PLs on silica gel columns. These include (1) gradients of hexane-isopropanol-water  
528 (Demandre et al., 1985), (2) isocratic elution with acetonitrile-methanol-sulphuric acid  
529 (Christie, 1985) and (3) a complex ternary gradient elution containing mixture of hexane,  
530 butan-2-one, acetic acid, chloroform, isopropanol, serine, and ethylamine (Christie et al.,  
531 1988). Ultraviolet (UV) detectors have been used for detection of PLs. As PLs have very  
532 limited chromophores, UV detection has to be operated at 200-205 nm, which is usually  
533 complicated by strong background noise from the solvents and significantly large peaks  
534 caused by traces of oxidised PLs (Christie, 1985).

535 During the last 15 years developments of U-HPLC and advanced stationary phase,  
536 reverse phase HPLC coupled with MS or MS/MS detectors has shown its superiority for  
537 the analysis of PLs (Brouwers, 2011; Chang et al., 2012; He et al., 2007). In PL research  
538 for animal sources, this method has identified 163 PLs in plasma and 400 PLs in liver  
539 (Hu et al., 2008; Retra, Bleijerveld, van Gestel, Tielens, van Hellemond & Brouwers,  
540 2008). The MS/MS detector can help to identify the PL fatty acids and their distribution  
541 in a single HPLC run. Recent metabolomic research of transgenic rice has identified  
542 significant variation in lysophosphatidylethanolamine levels using HPLC-MS/MS (Chang  
543 et al., 2012). The HPLC-MS/MS method should be further refined to analyse the rice PLs

544 and other cereals in a greater detail, which will help to reveal the biosynthetic pathways  
545 and processing of PLs in rice and the relative contribution of genetic and environmental  
546 factors.

## 547 **5. Health benefits of PLs in rice**

548 Dietary glycerophospholipids have been extracted from soybeans, egg yolk, milk and  
549 marine organisms such as fish and krill, and have been sold commercially as supplements  
550 for decades. Although the mechanisms for the beneficial mode of action remain unclear,  
551 the beneficial health effects have been well publicised, and thus accepted by the public  
552 (Kullenberg et al., 2012). The potential health benefits include: a) regulating the  
553 inflammatory reaction, e.g. arthritis (Hartmann et al., 2009); b) inhibiting tumour growth  
554 and metastasis (Jantscheff et al., 2011; Sakakima, Hayakawa, Nagasaka & Nakao, 2007);  
555 c) lowering cholesterol and cardiovascular risks (Wójcicki, Pawlik, Samochowicz, Kaldo  
556 Ń ska & Myśliwiec, 1995); d) enhancing learning and memory (Nagata, Yaguchi &  
557 Nishizaki, 2011); e) improving immunological functions (Jannace, Lerman, Santos &  
558 Vitale, 1992); f) treating hepatic disorders (Gundermann, Kuenker, Kuntz & Drozdzik,  
559 2011). However, most of the health benefit claims flow from *in vitro* or in animal models  
560 and so more *in vivo* human study is needed (Kullenberg et al., 2012).

561 Although rice bran and brown rice are considered nutritious and healthy foods  
562 (Lamberts et al., 2007), the contribution of rice PLs to this enhanced quality has not been  
563 highlighted or investigated, which may be partially due to the lower concentration of PLs  
564 in rice (about 0.3% in brown or white rice) (Juliano, 1985) compared with other rich  
565 sources (e.g. 10% egg yolk) (Palacios et al., 2005). However, as rice is a staple food

566 (208-578g/day) in many Asian countries (Abdullah, Ito & Adhana, 2006), the  
567 contribution of PLs from consuming rice could reach up to 1.8 g/day in these populations,  
568 representing a significant contribution to their normal dietary intake of PLs (2–8 g per  
569 day) (Cohn, Wat, Kamili & Tandy, 2008). The PLs represent 10% (in the bran) to 50%  
570 (in non-waxy white rice) of total lipids in rice, higher than PLs in the total daily fat intake  
571 (1-10%) (Cohn et al., 2008). Thus, rice could be considered a more accessible food  
572 source for dietary PLs. Rice non-starch PLs may also be concentrated and purified as a  
573 nutraceutical product arising as a side-product of the degumming process for rice bran oil,  
574 and so could add value to the large quantity of rice bran produced each year (Ghosh,  
575 2007).

576 To date, most rice is still consumed in its “whole milled rice” form, as white rice. A  
577 recent study indicates that higher consumption of white rice is associated with a  
578 significantly increased risk of Type 2 diabetes, especially in Chinese and Japanese  
579 populations (Hu, Pan, Malik & Sun, 2012). The combination of the type of rice and  
580 processing and cooking methods may affect the starch structure and chemistry of the  
581 cooked rice, resulting in variation of rice GI and thus the risk of Type 2 diabetes. Rice  
582 starch LPLs may play an important yet unknown role in this system.

583 Although the amylose-LPL complex in rice may have little or no effect on the  
584 bioavailability of both starch and LPLs in the human gastrointestinal tract (Chung, Liu,  
585 Wang, Yin & Li, 2010), it may slow their rate of digestion and adsorption (Holm et al.,  
586 1983). Starch (e.g. amylose) alone is hydrolysed by the enzymes, such as salivary  $\alpha$ -  
587 amylase, pancreatic amylase and brush border glucoamylase of the intestine, into glucose  
588 and absorbed in the small intestine (Singh et al., 2010). LPLs alone are solubilised by bile

589 salts and directly absorbed in the small intestine (Goodman, 2010). The consumption of  
590 high amylose rice reduces the intensity of serum glucose and insulin responses (Goddard  
591 et al., 1984). Goddard et al. (1984) speculated that the reduction could be caused by  
592 differential enzymatic hydrolysis of amylose and amylopectin, and the presence of starch-  
593 lipid complexes in the amylose-containing rice. This delay of digestion and/or absorption  
594 of carbohydrate may be explained by reduced susceptibility of amylose-lipid complexes  
595 to hydrolysis by the digestive enzymes (as discussed in Section 3.3) (Kitahara et al.,  
596 1996). Consumption of the natural starch-LPL complex in rice may be more beneficial to  
597 diabetics than simply coingestion of more fat with carbohydrate because the latter only  
598 reduces the serum glucose response but not the serum insulin response (Collier & O'Dea,  
599 1983).

600 Relatively “sticky” rice, with lower amylose content, is more preferable in China and  
601 Japan than in South Asian Countries, such as India (Champagne et al., 2010). Significant  
602 research effort has been dedicated to developing low or intermediate amylose rice  
603 varieties to satisfy this preference. It is well known that the GI of low-amylose rice is  
604 significantly higher than the high-amylose rice (Miller et al., 1992). The preference for  
605 eating this low-amylose rice, with little or no starch LPLs, may partially contribute to the  
606 increased risk of Type 2 diabetes in Chinese and Japanese rice consumers. Interestingly,  
607 the high-amylose rice varieties with similar amylose content differ significantly in starch  
608 digestibility and glycaemic response in humans (Panlasigui, Thompson, Juliano, Perez,  
609 Yiu & Greenberg, 1991), which has been attributed to the different physicochemical  
610 properties of the grain from each rice variety. As discussed in Section 3.2, starch lipids,  
611 including LPLs, can influence the physicochemical properties of rice starch. Therefore, we

612 suggest that this differential glycaemic response of rice with similar amylose content may  
613 in part be caused by different content, species or unsaturation of the starch LPLs  
614 complexed with the amylose (Kitahara et al., 1996). As such, this warrants further  
615 investigation.

## 616 **6. Conclusion**

617 Phospholipids in rice grain represent only a minor proportion of available nutrients  
618 compared with starch and protein, but significantly influence rice quality, especially  
619 when complexed with amylose. To date, most understanding of rice PLs has been based  
620 on thorough studies carried out from the mid-1970s to the mid-1990s by a few dedicated  
621 researchers (e.g. Morrison, W. R. and Juliano, B. O.), based on the technology and  
622 instruments available at that time. Following the development and application of new  
623 technologies and analytical instrumentation, such as UHPLC-MS/MS and next-  
624 generation sequencing, the efficiency of chemical and genetic analysis has improved by  
625 several orders of magnitude in the last decade, which could be harnessed to re-assess rice  
626 PLs in greater detail. This may help us to understand the relationship between  
627 biosynthesis of amylose, amylopectin and PLs, and reveal the biological function of LPLs  
628 in rice starch formation.

629 Based on this review, it is plausible that both starch and non-starch rice phospholipids  
630 may have significant impacts on the traditional (storage, cooking and eating) and modern  
631 (GI) concepts of rice qualities, but much more research is needed. For non-starch PLs,  
632 future investigation should focus on the optimisation of postharvest conditions and  
633 processing methods to stabilise PLs for better rice storage. For starch LPLs, research  
634 priority should be given to establishing the contribution of genetic variation and

635 cultivation environment to the content and composition of LPLs complexed with amylose.  
636 The mechanism and contribution of starch LPLs to low GI should be given particular  
637 attention.

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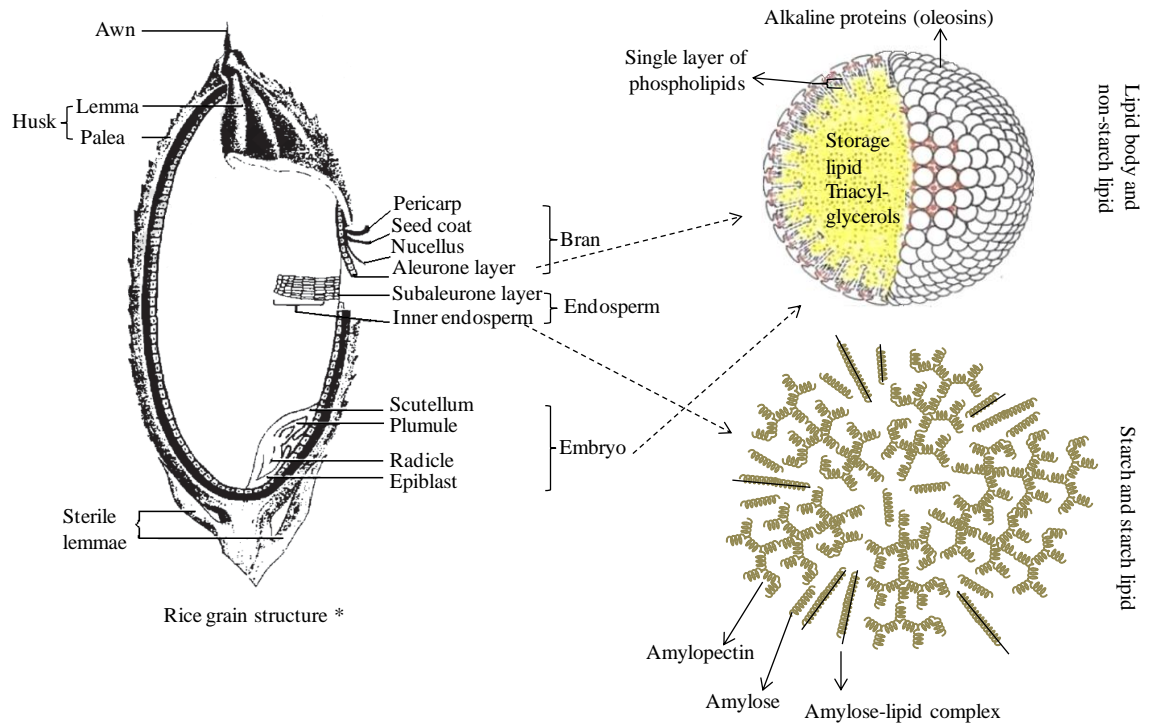
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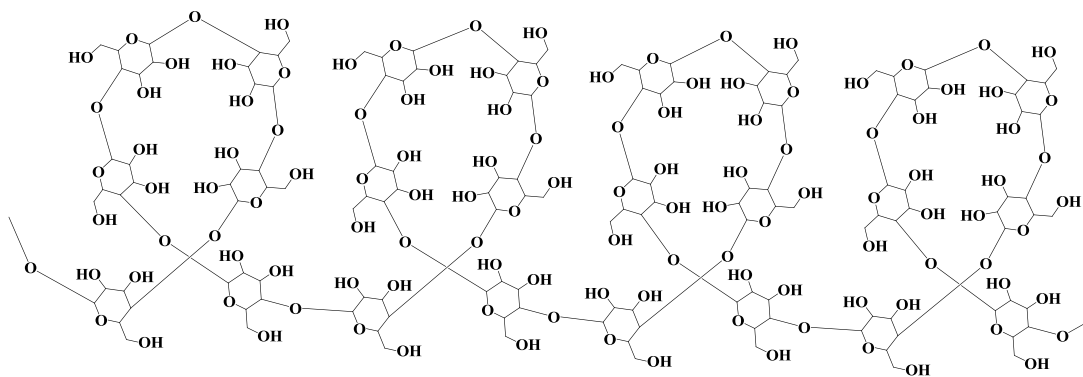


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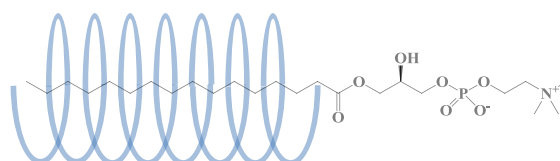
971 **Figure 1. Longitudinal section of the rice grain and distribution and illustration of**  
 972 **starch and non-starch lipids.**

973 \*Rice grain structure redrawn based on Bao (2012)

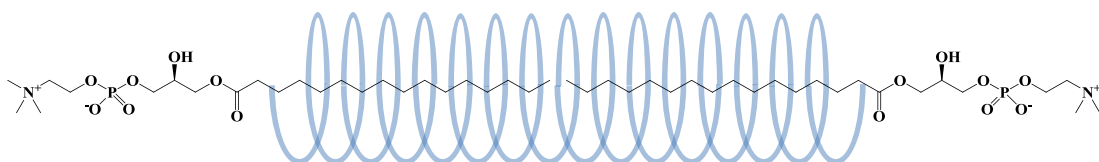
974



(a) Illustration of an amylose helix (left-handed)\*



(b) Schematic representation of a complex of amylose with one lysophosphatidylcholine\*



(c) Schematic representation of a complex of amylose with two lysophosphatidylcholines\*

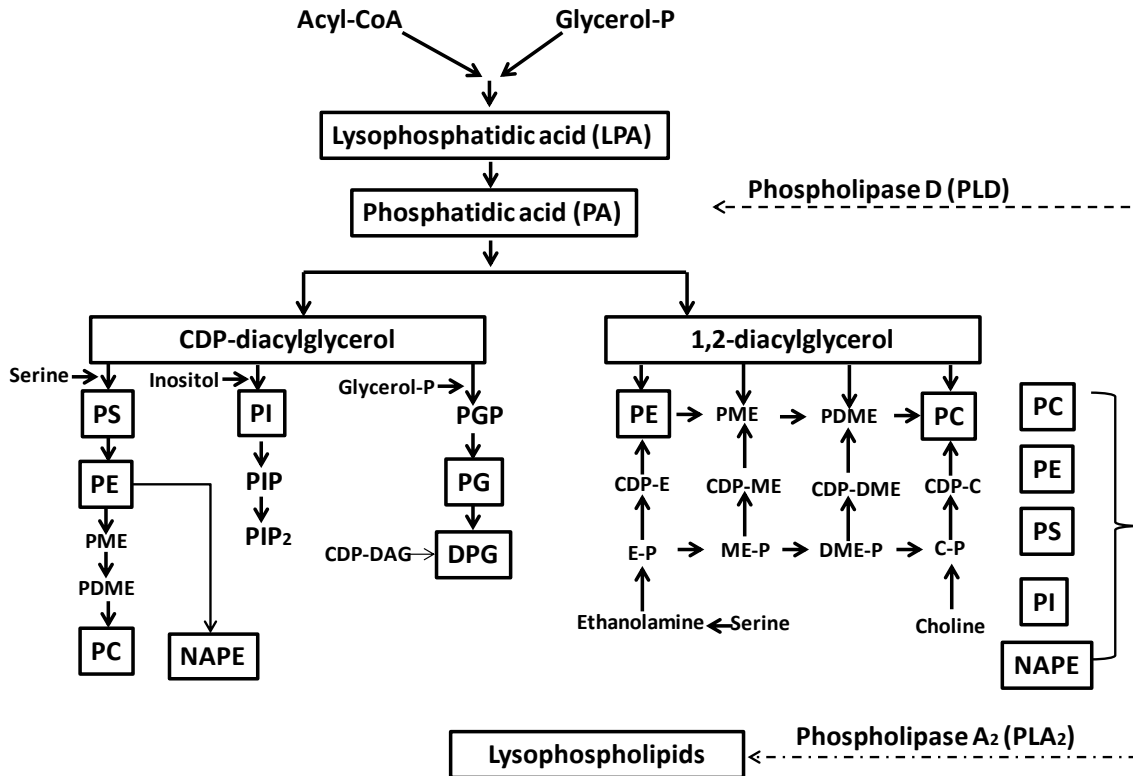
975

976 **Figure 2. Illustration of an amylose helix (a) and schematic representation of two**  
 977 **amylose-lysophosphatidylcholine complex (b) and (c).**

978 \*(a) redrawn based on Gessler et al. (1999); (b) redrawn based on Juliano (1985); (c) redrawn based on Copeland, Blazek, Salman and  
 979 Tang (2009).

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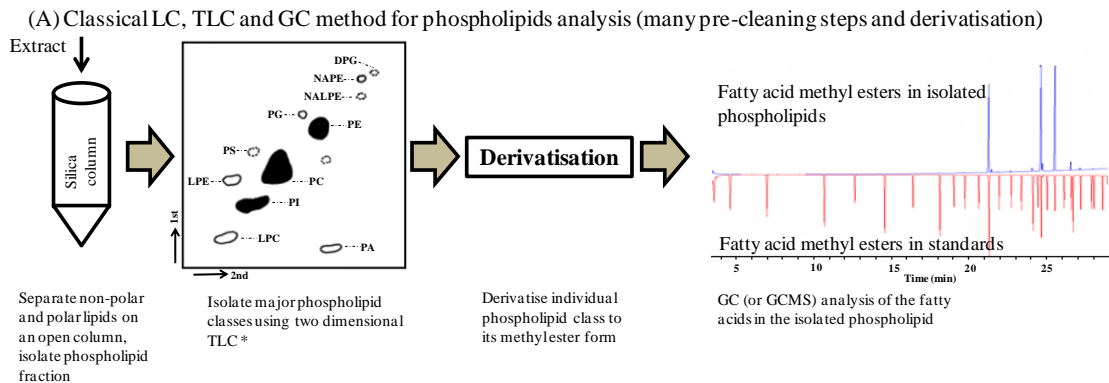
983 **Figure 3. Potential biosynthetic pathways of phospholipids\***

984 \*Redrawn based on (D'Arrigo et al., 2010; Kinney, 1993); E: ethanolamine; M: methyl; DM: dimethyl; C: choline; P: phosphate; CDP:  
 985 cytidine diphospho; PE: phosphatidylethanolamine; NAPE: N-acyl phosphatidylethanolamine; PME: phosphatidylmethylethanol-  
 986 amine; PDME: phosphatidyl dimethylethanolamine; PC: phosphatidylcholine; PS: phosphatidylserine; PI: phosphatidylinositol; PIP:  
 987 phosphatidylinositol phosphate; PIP<sub>2</sub>: phosphatidylinositol bisphosphate; PGP: phosphoglycerol phosphate; PG: phosphatidylglycerol;  
 988 DPG: diphosphatidylglycerol.

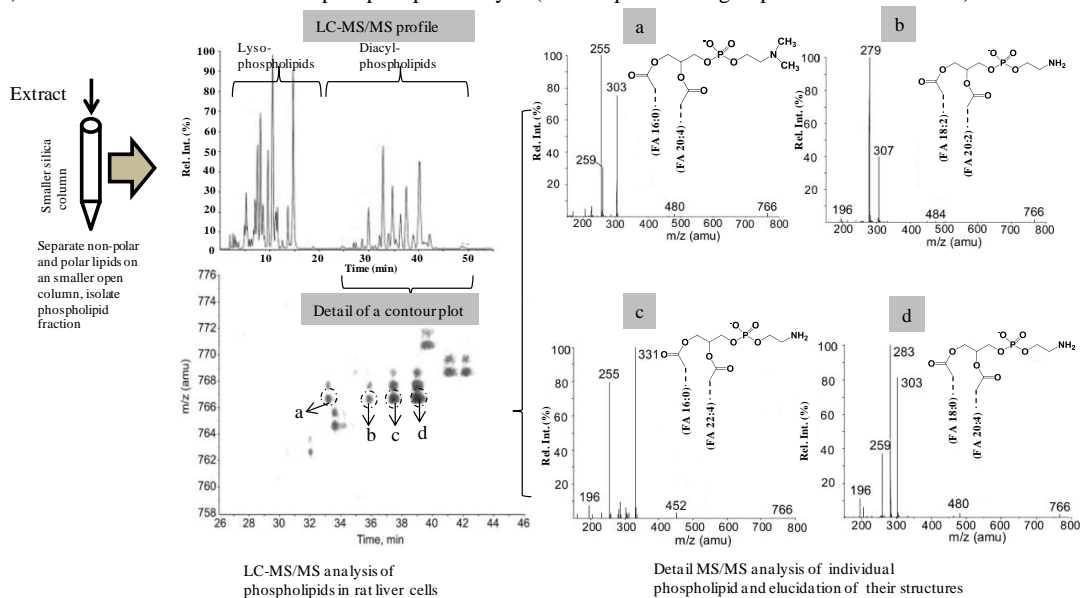
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(B) Modern LC-MS/MS method for phospholipids analysis (shorten pre-cleaning steps & no derivatisation)



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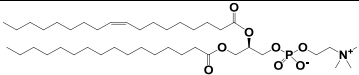
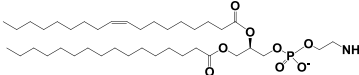
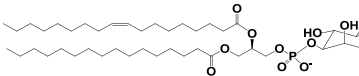
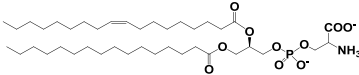
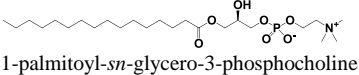
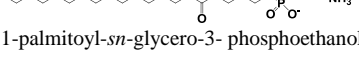
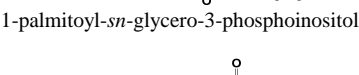
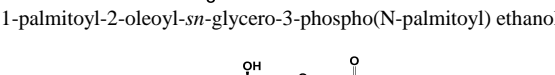
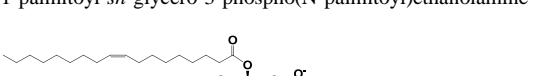
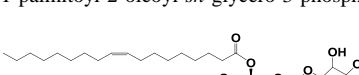
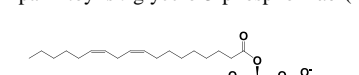
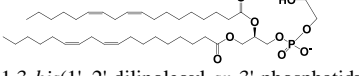
993 **Figure 4. Illustration of classical TLC, GC method and modern HPLC-MS/MS**  
 994 **method for phospholipid analysis.**

995 \* TLC and HPLC-MS/MS redrawn based on Fujino (1978) and Retra et al. (2008); Phospholipid abbreviations are same as in Fig 2.

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**Table 1. Major phospholipid classes in rice and their structures**

Glycerophospholipids (GPL)	Structure examples of typical phospholipids
Phosphatidylcholine (or lecithin, PC)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphocholine
Phosphatidylethanolamine (or cephalin, PE)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine
Phosphatidylinositol (PI)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphoinositol
Phosphatidylserine (PS)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphoserine
Lysophosphatidylcholine (LPC)	 1-palmitoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphocholine
Lysophosphatidylethanolamine (LPE)	 1-palmitoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphoethanolamine
Lysophosphatidylinositol (LPI)	 1-palmitoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphoinositol
N-acyl phosphatidylethanolamine (NAPE)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phospho(N-palmitoyl) ethanolamine
N-acyl lysophosphatidylethanolamine (NALPE)	 1-palmitoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phospho(N-palmitoyl) ethanolamine
Phosphatidic acid (PA)	 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphate
Phosphatidylglycerol (PG)	 1-palmitoyl- <i>sn</i> -glycero-3-phosphor- <i>rac</i> -(1-glycerol)
Diphosphatidylglycerol (or cardiolipin, DPG)	 1,3- <i>bis</i> (1', 2'-dilinoleoyl- <i>sn</i> -3'-phosphatidyl)- <i>sn</i> -glycerol

**Table 2. Starch and non-starch lipids in rice<sup>a</sup>**

Property	Brown rice <sup>a</sup>	Bran	Embryo	Polish	Subaleurone layer	Inner endosperm <sup>o</sup>
Wt. % of brown rice	100	5.9-6.4	1.3-1.5	4.1-4.4	4.9-5.2	82.5-83.8
NSL <sup>b</sup> content (% dry basis)	2.9-3.4	19.4-25.5	34.1-36.5	10.2-15.0	5.6-8.5	0.41-0.81
PL <sup>c</sup> in NSL (%)	8-9	7-8	6-7	8-9	8-12	12-17
NSL-PL <sup>d</sup> classes (%)						
NSL-PC <sup>e</sup>	4	3-4	3-4	3-4	4	3-5
NSL-PE <sup>f</sup>	3-4	3	3-4	3	3-4	3-5
NSL-LPE <sup>g</sup>	<1	<1	<1	<1	1-2	2-4
SL <sup>h</sup> content (% dry basis)	0.21-0.76	-	-	-	-	0.12-0.57
PL in SL (%)	37-54	-	-	-	-	24-56
SL-PL <sup>i</sup> classes (%)						
SL-PC <sup>j</sup>	5	-	-	-	-	3-5
SL-PE <sup>k</sup>	3-4	-	-	-	-	3-4
SL-LPC <sup>l</sup>	18-23	-	-	-	-	13-24
SL-LPE <sup>m</sup>	15-21	-	-	-	-	12-23

<sup>a</sup> Values summarised from Juliano, B. O. (1983); <sup>b</sup> NSL for non-starch lipids; <sup>c</sup> PL for phospholipid; <sup>d</sup> NSL-PL for non-starch phospholipids; <sup>e</sup> NSL-PC for non-starch phosphatidyl choline; <sup>f</sup> NSL-PE for non-starch phosphatidyl ethanolamine; <sup>g</sup> NSL-LPE for non-starch lysophosphatidyl ethanolamine; <sup>h</sup> SL for Starch lipid; <sup>i</sup> SL-PL for starch phospholipid; <sup>j</sup> SL-PC for starch phosphatidyl choline; <sup>k</sup> SL-PE for starch phosphatidyl ethanolamine; <sup>l</sup> SL-LPC for starch lysophosphatidyl choline; <sup>m</sup> SL-LPE for starch lysophosphatidyl ethanolamine; <sup>n</sup> Starch PLs in brown rice were summarised based on data from of three rice varieties with different amylose content: 2% for IR4445-63-1 (waxy), 24% for IR480-5-9, and 29% for IR 42; <sup>o</sup> Starch PLs in 82-84% milled rice of the same varieties as above.

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