The NERICA rice variety-L1-IER has been introduced in the regional testing and performance testing since 2003 and has shown consistently high productivity. NERICA L-IER-1 has been introduced to farmers in Mali in 2006.

It was selected in 2010 by farmers of irrigated perimeters of the Office du Niger because of its performance and organoleptic qualities. The variety has also been recommended for double cropping. It has shown wide adaptability across all irrigated areas of Mali and has an average yield of between 6 and 8 tons per hectare of paddy rice. Two qualities of this variety that has been well appreciated by consumers are the taste and conservation of cooked rice.

The objective is to broaden the range of varieties for rice intensification in Niger. NERICA-L1-IER has a short-cycle variety semi-flowering in 90 days and, a semi-maturity in 125 days.

The cultivation of a hectare of NERICA L-IER-1 takes approximately 430 000 FCFA. The possibility of use of the variety for double cropping contributes to the achievement of food security.