

## Supplementary Information

### Supplementary Tables

**Table S1** Standardisation of NaCl stress imparting concentration in the rice var. KAU Akshaya using Shoot length, Root length, Fresh weight (FW) and Dry Weight (DW). The table presents the mean  $\pm$  S.E. in var. KAU Akshaya for nine replicates (n=9). Different lowercase superscript letters denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA (P < 0.05), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly significant.

Rice variety	Concentration (mM)	Shoot Length (cm)	Root Length (cm)	FW (g)	DW (g)
KAU Akshaya	Control (0)	9.4 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>a</sup>	13.1 $\pm$ 0.34 <sup>a</sup>	7.1 $\pm$ 0.8 <sup>b</sup>	0.088 $\pm$ 0.43 <sup>a</sup>
	100	7.1 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>b</sup>	11.7 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>b</sup>	6.1 $\pm$ 0.9 <sup>a</sup>	0.061 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>b</sup>
	125	6.6 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>c</sup>	10.3 $\pm$ 0.5 <sup>c</sup>	5.7 $\pm$ 0.6 <sup>ab</sup>	0.054 $\pm$ 0.1 <sup>b</sup>
	150	5.6 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>d</sup>	9.8 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>d</sup>	4.8 $\pm$ 0.7 <sup>c</sup>	0.051 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>b</sup>
	<b>175</b>	<b>4.9<math>\pm</math>0.2<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>6.5<math>\pm</math>0.9<sup>e</sup></b>	<b>3.5<math>\pm</math>0.5<sup>d</sup></b>	<b>0.041<math>\pm</math>0.2<sup>c</sup></b>
	200	3.8 $\pm$ 0.1 <sup>f</sup>	3.7 $\pm$ 0.3 <sup>f</sup>	2.7 $\pm$ 0.1 <sup>e</sup>	0.028 $\pm$ 0.1 <sup>d</sup>

**Table S2** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF, and CaO NPs on GSH, GSSG, total glutathione, reduced ascorbate, dehydroascorbate, and the ascorbate/dehydroascorbate ratio in rice roots. Data represent mean  $\pm$  S.E. from nine biological replicates (n = 9). Different lowercase superscript letters denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA (P < 0.05), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly significant.

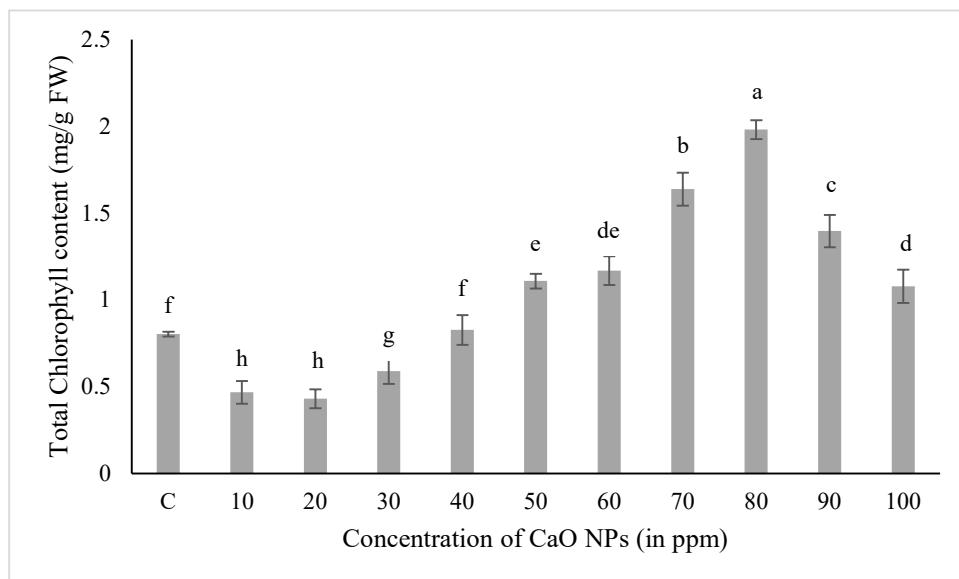
Treatments	GSH content (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	GSSG (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Total Glutathione (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Reduced ascorbate content (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Dehydroascorbate (mg g <sup>-1</sup> FW)	Ascorbate/Dehydroascorbate ratio
C	0.81 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>h</sup>	0.21 $\pm$ 0.05 <sup>f</sup>	1.23 $\pm$ 0.05 <sup>e</sup>	2.17 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>e</sup>	0.41 $\pm$ 0.04 <sup>ef</sup>	5.29 $\pm$ 0.15 <sup>c</sup>
CM	1.04 $\pm$ 0.06 <sup>g</sup>	0.23 $\pm$ 0.04 <sup>e</sup>	1.5 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>f</sup>	2.24 $\pm$ 0.11 <sup>f</sup>	0.39 $\pm$ 0.06 <sup>e</sup>	5.74 $\pm$ 0.28 <sup>c</sup>
CN	1.09 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>f</sup>	0.24 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>ef</sup>	1.57 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>f</sup>	2.25 $\pm$ 0.19 <sup>de</sup>	0.38 $\pm$ 0.07 <sup>d</sup>	5.92 $\pm$ 0.92 <sup>b</sup>
CMN	1.13 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>e</sup>	0.26 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>d</sup>	1.65 $\pm$ 0.28 <sup>g</sup>	2.28 $\pm$ 0.12 <sup>d</sup>	0.35 $\pm$ 0.07 <sup>f</sup>	6.51 $\pm$ 0.74 <sup>a</sup>
S	0.89 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>d</sup>	0.79 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>c</sup>	2.83 $\pm$ 0.19 <sup>a</sup>	3.11 $\pm$ 0.07 <sup>c</sup>	1.75 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>a</sup>	1.77 $\pm$ 0.33 <sup>f</sup>
SM	1.17 $\pm$ 0.07 <sup>c</sup>	0.71 $\pm$ 0.03 <sup>b</sup>	2.59 $\pm$ 0.16 <sup>c</sup>	3.41 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>b</sup>	0.96 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>b</sup>	3.55 $\pm$ 0.19 <sup>de</sup>
SN	1.21 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>b</sup>	0.69 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	2.6 $\pm$ 0.11 <sup>d</sup>	3.54 $\pm$ 0.13 <sup>ab</sup>	0.91 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>bc</sup>	3.89 $\pm$ 0.23 <sup>e</sup>
SMN	1.37 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>a</sup>	0.67 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>a</sup>	2.71 $\pm$ 0.06 <sup>b</sup>	3.71 $\pm$ 0.11 <sup>a</sup>	0.82 $\pm$ 0.06 <sup>c</sup>	4.52 $\pm$ 0.45 <sup>d</sup>

**Table S3** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on the accumulation of Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>2+</sup> in leaf and root Data represent mean  $\pm$  S.E. from nine biological replicates (n = 9). Different lowercase superscript letters denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA (P < 0.05), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly significant.

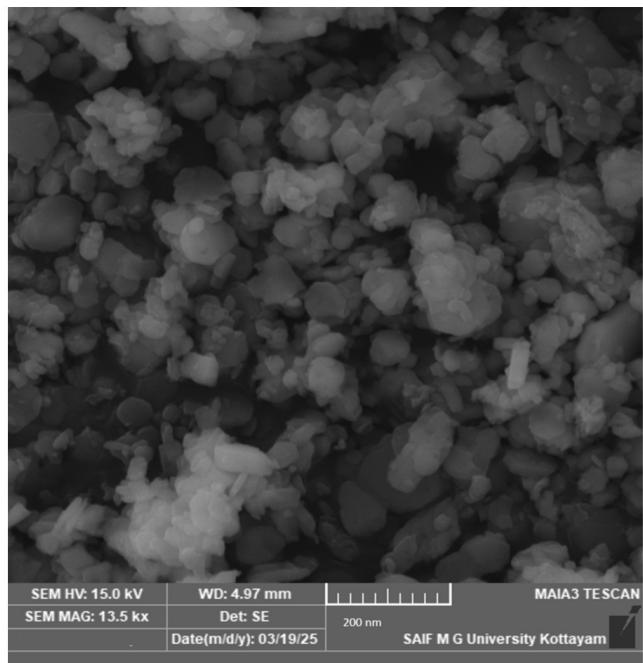
Treatments	Na <sup>+</sup> (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> DW)		Ca <sup>2+</sup> (mg kg <sup>-1</sup> DW)	
	Leaf	Root	Leaf	Root
C	99.07 $\pm$ 0.17 <sup>e</sup>	217.17 $\pm$ 0.53 <sup>d</sup>	156.63 $\pm$ 0.01 <sup>c</sup>	52.04 $\pm$ 0.70 <sup>d</sup>
CM	97.22 $\pm$ 0.37 <sup>ef</sup>	201.72 $\pm$ 0.37 <sup>e</sup>	171.77 $\pm$ 0.12 <sup>ab</sup>	59.77 $\pm$ 0.43 <sup>bc</sup>
CN	91.60 $\pm$ 0.29 <sup>f</sup>	164.79 $\pm$ 0.24 <sup>de</sup>	169.65 $\pm$ 0.31 <sup>b</sup>	59.08 $\pm$ 0.34 <sup>c</sup>
CMN	83.14 $\pm$ 0.29 <sup>g</sup>	159.74 $\pm$ 0.25 <sup>f</sup>	177.16 $\pm$ 0.45 <sup>a</sup>	63.59 $\pm$ 0.17 <sup>a</sup>
S	699.28 $\pm$ 0.13 <sup>a</sup>	1749.18 $\pm$ 0.63 <sup>a</sup>	99.41 $\pm$ 0.08 <sup>f</sup>	41.37 $\pm$ 0.38 <sup>g</sup>
SM	431.16 $\pm$ 0.29 <sup>b</sup>	1529.74 $\pm$ 0.77 <sup>ab</sup>	126.18 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>e</sup>	44.95 $\pm$ 0.61 <sup>f</sup>
SN	439.74 $\pm$ 0.29 <sup>c</sup>	1317.76 $\pm$ 0.52 <sup>b</sup>	129.69 $\pm$ 0.09 <sup>de</sup>	43.74 $\pm$ 0.61 <sup>f</sup>
SMN	291.18 $\pm$ 0.31 <sup>d</sup>	1084.19 $\pm$ 0.44 <sup>bc</sup>	134.42 $\pm$ 0.22 <sup>d</sup>	49.68 $\pm$ 0.55 <sup>e</sup>

## Supplementary Figures

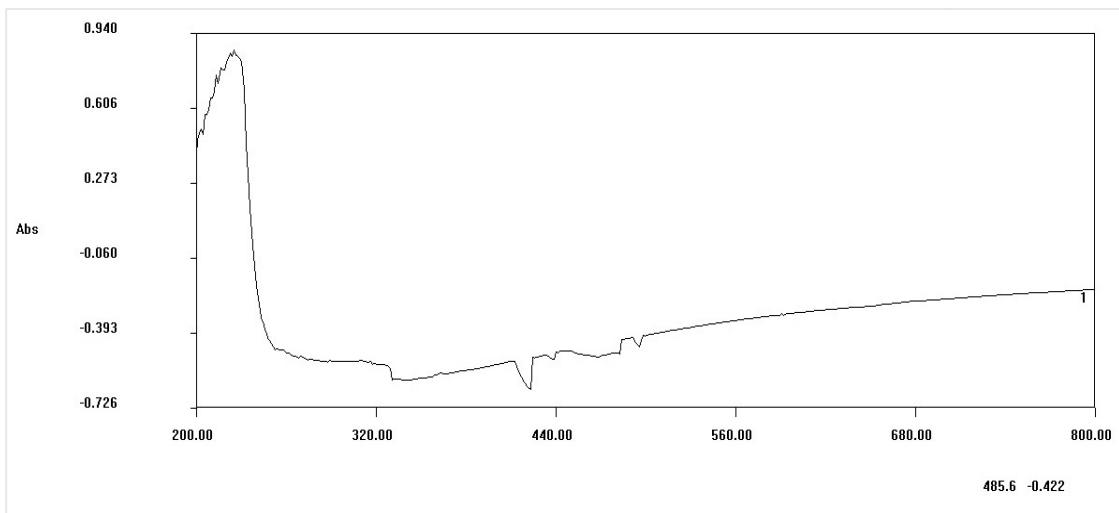
**Fig. S1** Standardisation of Calcium Oxide Nanoparticle (CaO NP) priming concentration for the selection of most effective priming dosage in the rice var. KAU Akshaya using total chlorophyll content (in mg/g FW). Bars represent the mean values from nine biological replicates (n = 9). Error bars indicate the standard error. Different lowercase letters above error bars denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA ( $P < 0.05$ ), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly different.



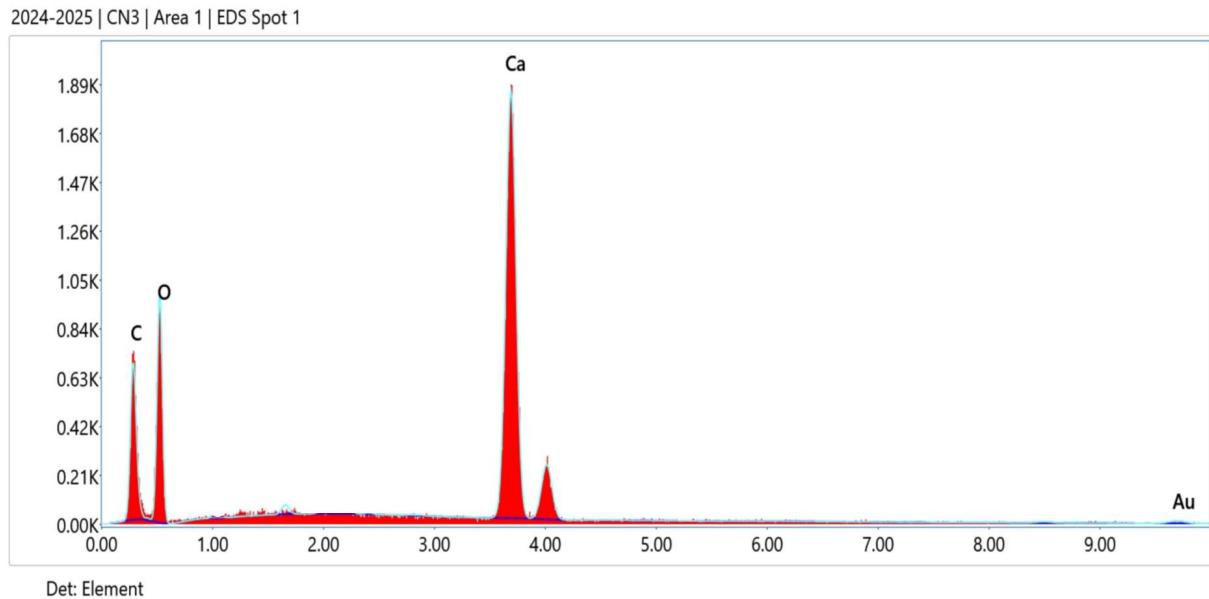
**Fig. S2A** Characterization of CaO NPs. (A) FESEM (scale bar = 200 nm)



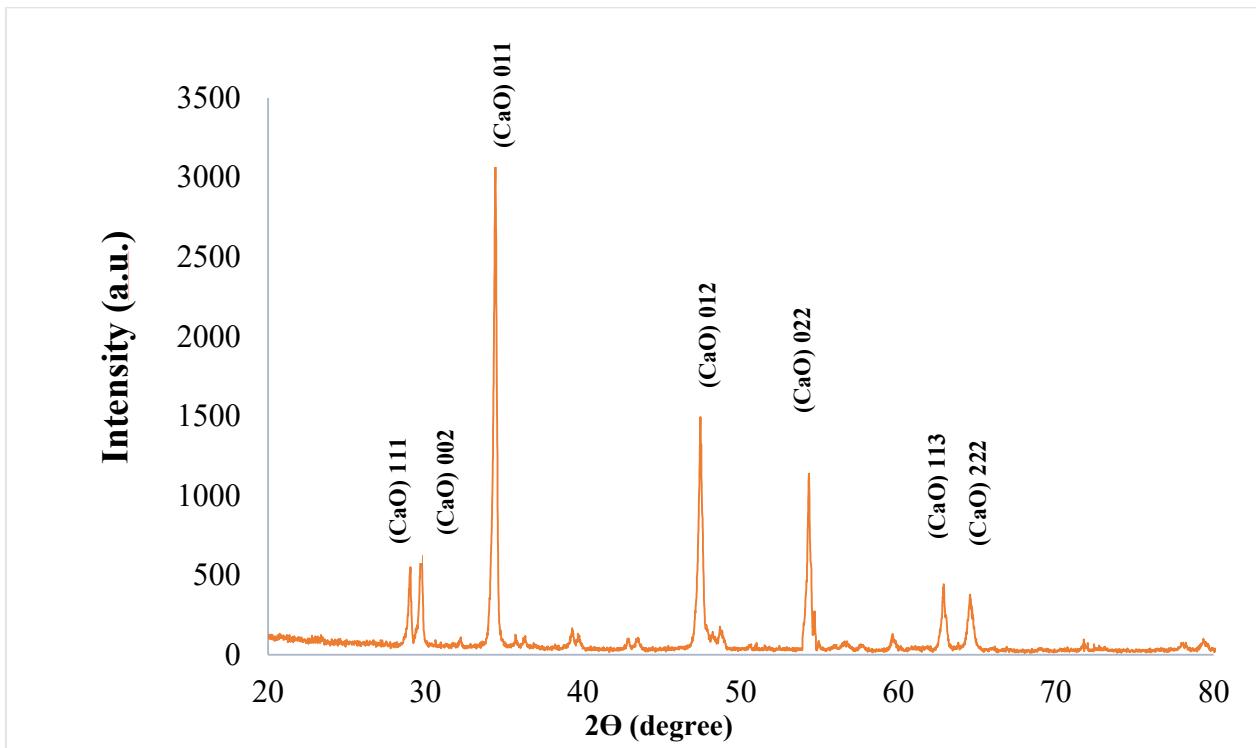
**Fig. S2B** UV-Vis Spectrum of CaO NPs



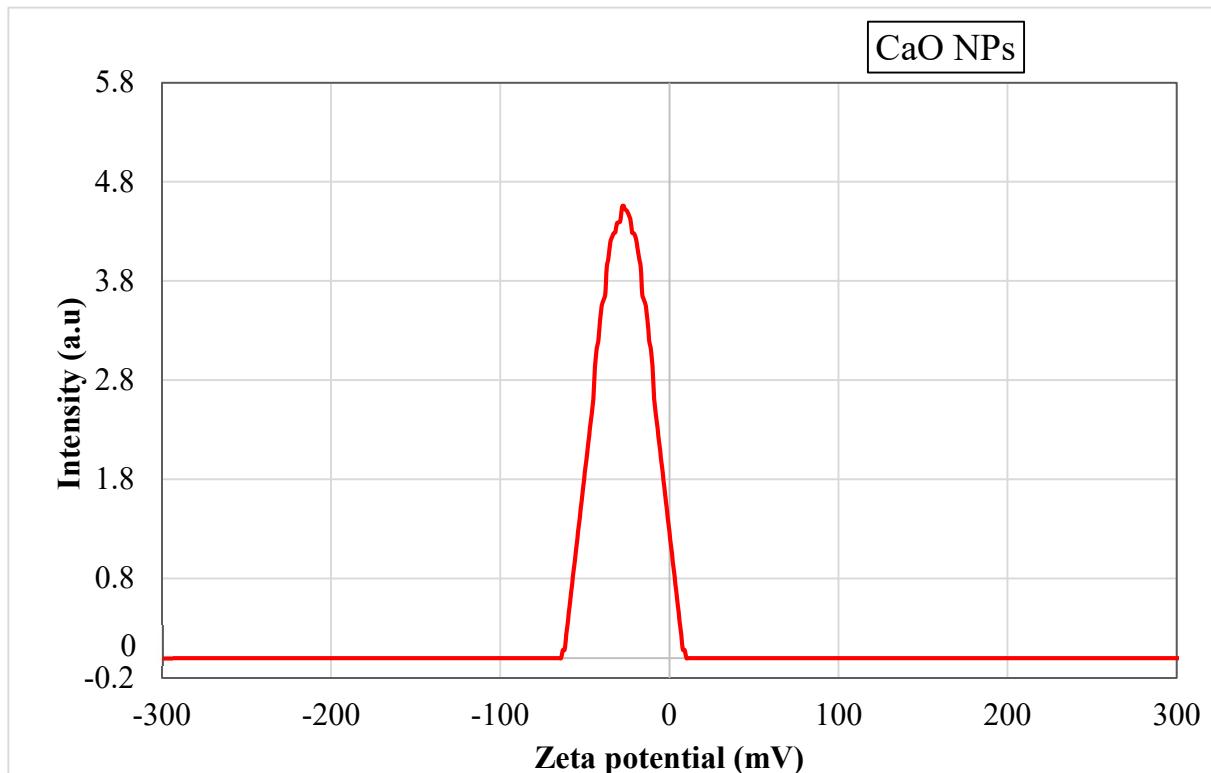
**Fig S2C** EDAX spectrum of CaO NPs



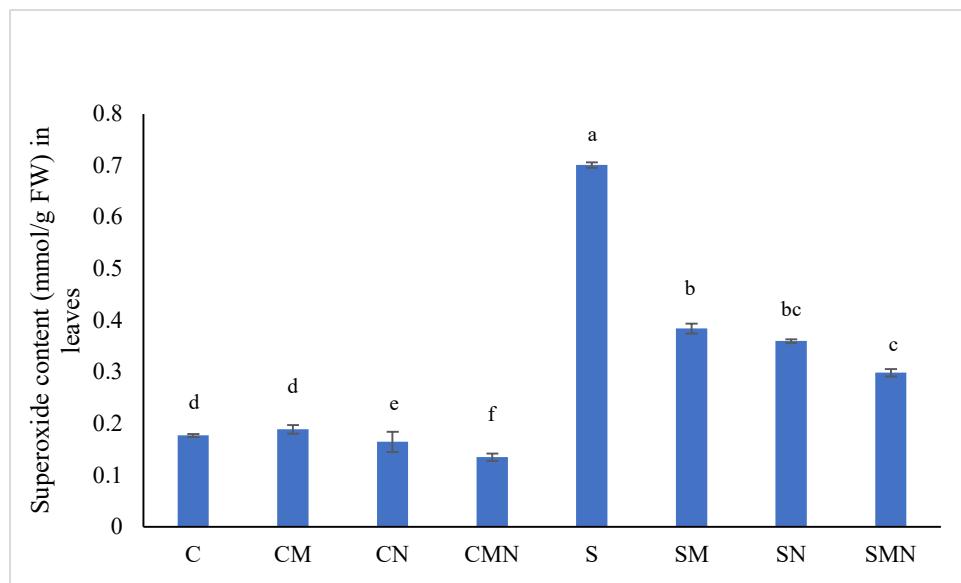
**Fig. S2D** XRD spectrum of CaO NPs



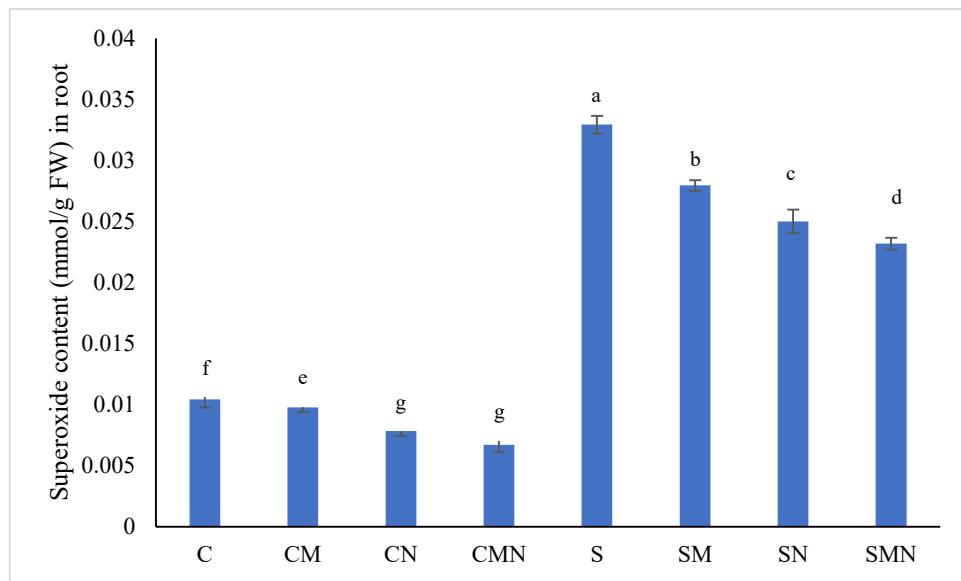
**Fig. S2E** DLS analysis of CaO NPs



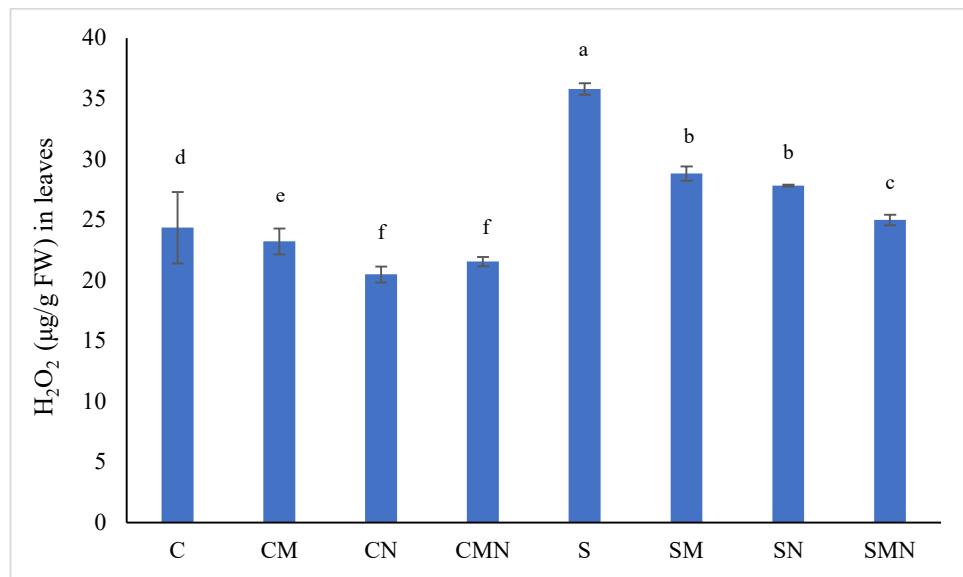
**Fig. S3A** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on superoxide content in leaves. Bars represent the mean values from nine biological replicates ( $n = 9$ ). Error bars indicate the standard error. Different lowercase letters above error bars denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA ( $P < 0.05$ ), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly different. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



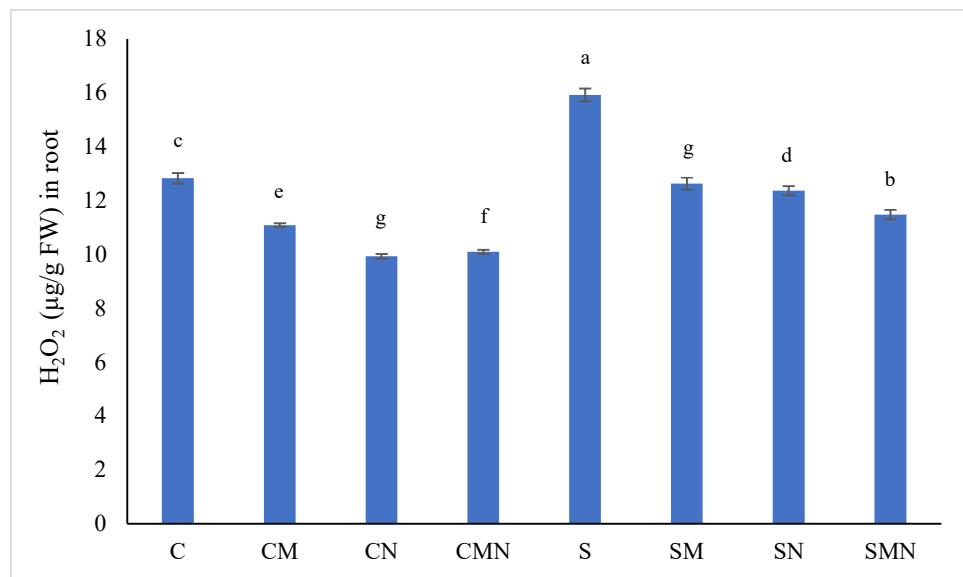
**Fig. S3B** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on superoxide content in roots. Bars represent the mean values from nine biological replicates ( $n = 9$ ). Error bars indicate the standard error. Different lowercase letters above error bars denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA ( $P < 0.05$ ), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly different. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



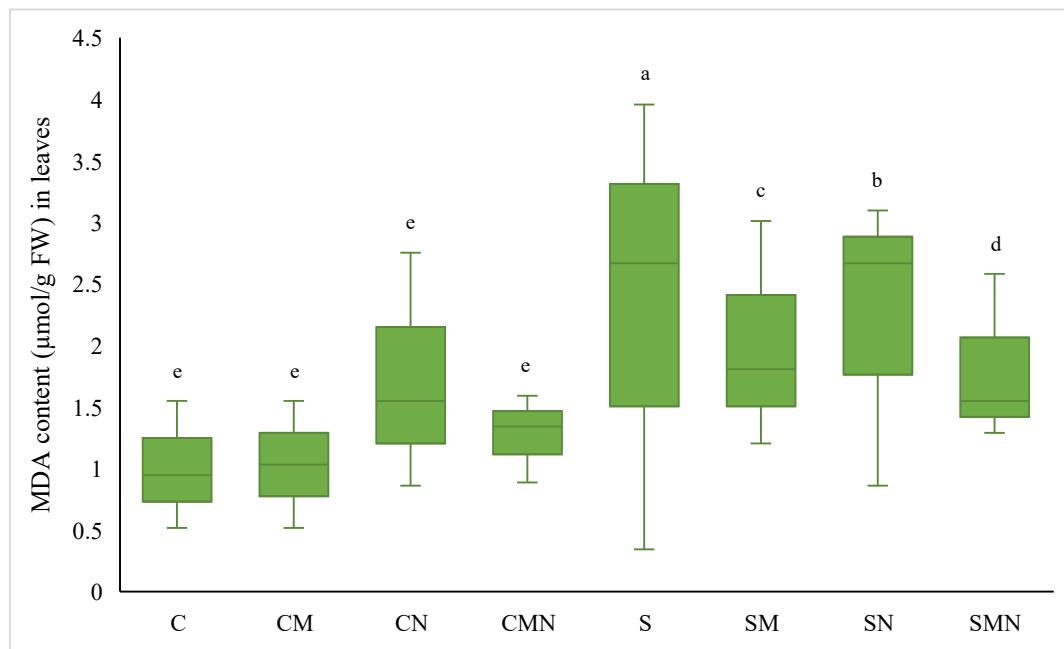
**Fig. S4A** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> content in leaves. Bars represent the mean values from nine biological replicates (n = 9). Error bars indicate the standard error. Different lowercase letters above error bars denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA (P < 0.05), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly significant. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



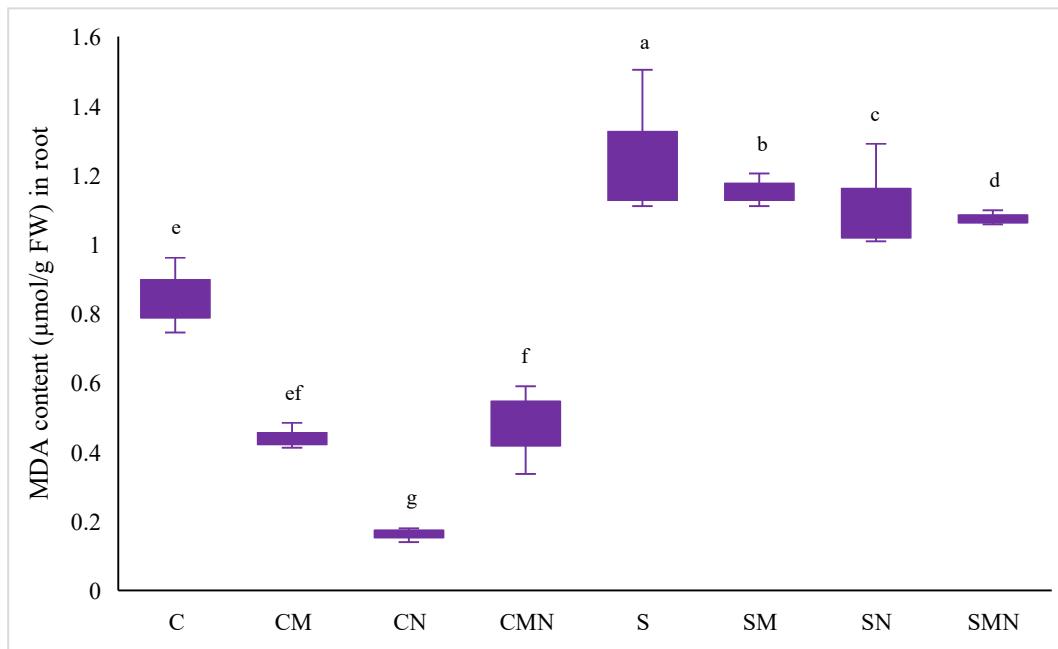
**Fig. S4B** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> content in roots. Bars represent the mean values from nine biological replicates (n = 9). Error bars indicate the standard error. Different lowercase letters above error bars denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA (P < 0.05), where treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly significant. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



**Fig. S5A** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on MDA content in leaves. Boxplots represent MDA concentration (in  $\mu\text{mol/g FW}$ ) across nine biological replicates ( $n = 9$ ) for each treatment. Different lowercase letters above the boxes denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA ( $P < 0.05$ ); treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly different. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



**Fig. S5B** Impact of NaCl stress, AMF and CaO NPs on MDA content in root. Boxplots represent MDA concentration (in  $\mu\text{mol/g FW}$ ) across nine biological replicates ( $n = 9$ ) for each treatment. Different lowercase letters above the boxes denote statistically significant differences among treatments according to Tukey's HSD post hoc test following one-way ANOVA ( $P < 0.05$ ); treatments sharing the same letter are not significantly different. Treatment abbreviations: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs.



**Fig. S6** Principal Component Analysis (PCA) biplot depicting the relationships among measured physiological and biochemical parameters in rice plants subjected to various treatments. The biplot illustrates the treatments: C, control; CM, control + AMF; CN, control + CaO NPs; CMN, control + AMF + CaO NPs; S, NaCl stress; SM, NaCl + AMF; SN, NaCl + CaO NPs; SMN, NaCl + AMF + CaO NPs. Vectors represent the contribution and direction of various parameters, with Dim1 and Dim2 accounting for 86.2% and 6.7% of the total variance, respectively.

