

ARKANSAS RICE



Dr. Chuck Wilson, Dr. Bob Scott, and Dr. Rick Cartwright

May 22, 2008

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INTRODUCTION – This newsletter is distributed during the growing season to provide updates on rice progress and problems. If you know of someone who would like to be added to the e-mail list, please send an e-mail to: cwilson@uaex.edu.

CROP CONDITION AND STATUS – Because of the extensive rain and flooding, rice planting is a couple of weeks behind normal. As of May 19, farmers had planted an estimated 75% of the rice acreage. This compares to 68% last week but we had planted 92% by this time in 2007, and 5-year average of 94%. An estimated 55% of the crop has emerged. This compares to 42% last week, 83% in 2007, and 5-year average of 85%.

Average temperatures were 2 to 6 degrees below normal for the week ending May 19. Rainfall for the week ending May 19 ranged from a low of 0.2 inches at Newport to a high of 5.3 inches at Eudora. Overall, soil moisture supplies were 57% adequate, and 43% surplus.

Several fields that are intended to be planted in rice are still flooded although the water is receding in some of these areas. The frequent rainfall has helped the activity of the residual herbicides. Over the past week, I have had reports of salt injury, lespedeza worms (grape colaspis), seedling disease (presumably pythium), and herbicide drift. The cool wet weather has not allowed the crop to grow very well. A few fields are ready for pre-flood fertilizer although much of the earliest rice is at the 2-3 leaf stage.

RICE DD50 PROGRAM—The DD50 program has been updated for the 2008 growing season and is available at <http://dd50.uaex.edu>. If you choose to not use the internet, enrollment cards can be submitted to your local county Extension agent and they will send you a report as has been done since the program originated. This program can be very helpful in time and labor management for your rice crop. It predicts the timing of 30 critical stages and management practices throughout the growing season. These predictions include timing for nitrogen fertilizer application, herbicide timings and cutoffs, midseason growth stages, scouting periods for insects and diseases, irrigation termination, and harvest. To enroll, the field size, variety, and emergence date are needed. Farmers are encouraged to enroll all fields, or at least all acres, even if several fields have the same variety and emergence date. The information generated from this program is useful to farmers but also helps the industry in preparation for harvest. It provides an estimate of harvest dates and variety distribution by county that the mills can use to “gear up” as the harvest season begins.

For more information contact your local County Extension office. (Chuck Wilson)

GLYPHOSATE DRIFT

(Bob Scott)

Glyphosate drift on small rice has now been detected in at least two counties in Arkansas. Symptoms include: chlorosis or yellowing of the leaves, death of one or more tillers, necrosis of leaf tips. In most drift cases injury will be worse near the source of the glyphosate. Often injury will occur on only one side of the levee's

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if pulled. This also will be an indication of the direction of the source of the drift.



potential. If the preflood is not done correctly, yield will be lost that can not be fully recovered from midseason N.

Remember that nitrogen is the fuel. It is the most important fertilizer nutrient and will have a major impact on yield if not managed properly. Use Agrotain on fields that can not be flooded in 2-3 days and any other fields where you may be considering cutting back on midseason N. This product has had a major impact on N efficiency for Arkansas rice production. Without this product, nitrogen losses were as much as 25 to 30% and farmers were always behind when the rice reached midseason. With Agrotain, it is possible to get the kind of fertilizer efficiency that we see in research plots and are less dependent on midseason N.

Apply the N on dry soil and flood as quick as possible. Talk to you applicator. Make sure the rates you are applying do not exceed the limitations of his equipment. If he can not apply the N evenly, then encourage him to fly it twice. A streaked up field not only looks bad but causes reduced yields and causes management problems for the rest of the season.

MANAGING THIN STANDS

I have several calls about thin or thinning stands. Some have been due to lespedeza worm, salt, seedling disease, or Command injury. The cool weather has much of the rice stunted, particularly where Command was used. I have also had a couple of calls on zinc deficiency showing up before the flood. The warmer temperatures this week should help get much of this rice growing but be cautious of these field drying too quickly. If the roots are compromised, drought stress can cause further



NITROGEN MANAGEMENT

A few of the early planted fields are ready for preflood fertilizer. Last week I talked about cutting fertilizer rates. This week I want to focus on the importance of the preflood nitrogen done as efficiently as possible. This application is most important for determining yield

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stand reductions. Where the stand has been thinned, the rice can recover with the addition of a little extra pre-flood N (about 10-20 lbs N/acre).

Although the stand may not be as thick as many growers would like, as long as 10-15 plants per square foot are present, the crop should be fine. For the hybrids, that number may be as little as 4-5 plants per square foot.

In the past, an application of 100 lbs of ammonium sulfate or DAP has been pretty common. I think guys are, and should be, thinking twice about that automatic application when the rice gets sick. With prices approaching \$0.50/lb, \$50/acre is not so routine any longer. Make sure that these nutrients are needed before pulling the trigger on these applications, "just because that's what you do to sick rice".

RICE RESEARCH VERIFICATION PROGRAM

(Stewart Runsick & Ralph Mazzanti)

Cool temperatures last week slowed growth and development in the verification fields. Much of the rice is in the 2-3 leaf stage and herbicide decisions are being made. The first field to be fertilized and flooded was Craighead County. A couple of more fields will be fertilized and flooded this week. All but two of the verification fields (Mississippi and Poinsett) have been planted. The Pope County field will be re-planted due to a poor stand. Below is a summary of the fields

South Arkansas

Arkansas – (Dewitt) Command at 12.8 oz/acre + Glyphosate at 2 qts/acre + Rice Shot applied. 1.1 inches rainfall received the following day. Litter analysis indicated N=54.3 units, P=42.7 units and K=60.0 units based on the 1.5 ton/acre applied.

Arkansas - (Stuttgart) 50 lbs/acre DAP + 50 lbs/acre A.S. applied. The rice is in the 4 leaf stage and taking off. There are some grasses and nutsedge present. Herbicide will be applied prior to establishment of permanent flood this week. Field received 1.0 inches rainfall.

Ashley – Field received 4 inches rainfall and the rice is under water on the low end of the field. The rice is in the 2-3 leaf stage. Weeds present include hemp sesbania, morningglory, and 3 leaf broadleaf signalgrass. Herbicide recommendation: Propanil at 4 qts/acre + Aim at 1.0 oz/acre.

Clark – The rice is just beginning to emerge. The field received 1.4 inches of rainfall which is keeping the command active.

Drew – The field received 2.4 inches rainfall. Weeds present include grasses, hemp sesbania, and nutsedge. Recommendation: Newpath at 4 oz/acre + Strada at 2.0 oz/+1qt oil/ acre

Jefferson – The field was water seeded on in RT CL XL730 and is looking good. The water was actually left on 14 days, not 7 as stated in last week's newsletter. Ammonium Sulfate was applied at a rate of 100 lbs/acre. Weeds present include broadleaf signalgrass, nutsedge, ducksalad, and red rice. The first application of Newpath was applied on the 17th. Stand Count 7 Plants sq/ft

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Lee – Weeds present include barnyardgrass, broadleaf signalgrass, hemp sesbania, and northern jointvetch. Facet at 0.375 lb/acre + Command at 0.8 pt/acre + crop oil was applied. The field received 1 inch of rainfall following the application.

Lincoln – The rice is in the 3 leaf stage. Weeds present include broadleaf signalgrass, nutsedge, hemp sesbania, morningglory and Indian Jointvetch. Recommendation: Newpath at 4.0 oz/acre + Strada at 2.0 oz/acre + crop oil.

Lonoke – The field is still clean. Rainfall received was 1.5 inches. Stand counts taken last week indicate 28 plants/ft².

Prairie – Grape Colaspis starting to show up in some areas of the field. Considering applying ammonium sulfate if the field dries out this week. Some sunshine and warm weather would help also. The field received 2.21 inches of rainfall. 28Plants sq/ft

North Arkansas

Clay – The field received 1.5 inches of rainfall. The emergence date was May 11th. Stand counts this week indicate 22 plants/ft².

Craighead – 250 lbs/acre of urea was applied ahead of the rain and the field was flooded only requiring 5 hours of pumping. The field is clean with only Facet and Prowl being applied.

Crittenden – The Facet and Prowl is still doing its job. The rice was 3-leaf last week. After scouting this week, urea will be scheduled following any weed control needed.

Lawrence – This field finally dried out enough to be planted. Glyphosate was applied.

Lonoke – Planted 30 April in RT CL XL 730. The rice emerged on May 9th. Stand counts taken last week indicated 12 plants/ft².

Mississippi – Planned to be seeded in Wells.

Poinsett- planted Sunday May 18. RiceTec 729 at 28 lbs/ac. Field cultivated before planting. Variable rate fertilizer, (chicken litter applied before the flood)

Pope – Zero grade field planted in RT XL723 at a rate of 58 lb/acre. Command at 12.8 oz + Facet at .25 lb acre was applied. Stand counts taken today indicated 1.9 plants/ft². The field will be replanted with 50% germ XL 723. Glyphosate will be applied behind the drill.

Prairie – The field is still clean. After scouting this week, urea will be scheduled following any needed herbicide application.

Randolph – The verification field in Randolph County will be a 165 acre field of XL 723. The field was seeded on May 1st and emerged on May 13. Command at 8 oz/acre + Glyphosate was applied. One ton litter/acre and 60 lbs of potash was also applied prior to planting.

St. Francis – The field was seeded with an air plane at a rate of 4 bu/acre and scratched in. The emergence date was May 15th. Command and Glyphosate was applied prior to emergence.

Woodruff – Newpath at a rate of 4 oz/acre was applied on May 12th. The second application of Newpath will follow on May 23 with Propanil

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for broadleaf control. The field will be fertilized and flooded next week.

Stewart Runsick

Summary

County	Variety	Planted	Emerged	Rate	Stand
Arkansas	CL 171	5/5	5/19	90	23
Dewitt	AR				
Arkansas	Francis	4/15	4/28	80	28
Stuttgart					
Ashley	Cocodrie	4/25	4/12	105	22
Clark	CL 171	5/6	---	70	---
	AR				
Drew	CL XL	4/13	5/5	53	18
	729				
Jefferson	CL XL	4/24	5/12	30	7
	730				
Lee	Francis	3/27	4/25	120	34
Lincoln	CL XL	4/22	5/3	60	20
	729				
Lonoke	Francis	4/21	5/5	100	32
Prairie	Cocodrie	4/23	5/12	95	28
Clay	Francis	4/30	5/11	85	22
Craighead	Wells	4/7	4/20	150	27.6
Crittenden	Wells	4/17	4/27	120+	35
Lawrence	CL XL	5/12		30	
	729				
Lonoke	CL XL	4/29	5/9	30	12
	730				
Mississippi	Wells	Not Planted			
Poinsett	CL 729	5/18		28	
Pope	XL 723	Re- Plant			
Prairie	Cybonnet	4/14	4/24	90	22
Randolph	XL 723	5/1	5/13	30	
St. Francis	Wells	5/6	5/15	180	
Woodruff	CL XL	4/14	4/28	28	7.3
	729				

Field Day – Southeast Research and Extension Center – Rowher – July 24, 2008

Rice Consultant Training – Lake Hogue, Weiner, AR, August 1, 2008

Rice Field Day, Rice Research and Extension Center, Stuttgart, AR – August 13, 2008

For more information, or other events, please send an e-mail to cwilson@uaex.edu

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Delta Classic Scholarship Golf Tournament –
 July 18, Helena Country Club

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