

Inside this issue:

Crop Insurance Proposed changes	1
Soybean Pathology Update	5
Entomology Update	9
Flooded Soybeans	11
USDA Flood Assistance	13
Post Harvest Weed Control	16
Crop Specific Text Message Groups	18
Upcoming Events	19
Contact Information	20

Cotton, Corn, Soybeans, Sorghum, and Wheat

Volume 6, Issue 08 August 2016

There is a proposed crop insurance change in the definition of “Practical to Replant” - **Your comments are needed by August 22**

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is trying to revise the definition of “practical to replant.” The FCIC is revising the definition to provide a clear, known deadline for when replanting of a crop is considered to be practical and *if not replanted, coverage will not be provided for the initial crop*. The practical to replant definition by RMA is as follows:

Practical to replant. Our determination, after loss or damage to the insured crop, based on all factors, including, but not

limited to moisture availability, marketing window, condition of the field, and time to crop maturity, that replanting the insured crop will allow it to attain maturity prior to the calendar date for the end of the insurance period.

It will be considered practical to replant within or prior to the late planting period, or on or prior to the final planting date if no late planting period is applicable, unless we determine it is physically impossible to replant the acreage or there is no chance of seed germination, emergence, and formation of a healthy plant.



Contributors

Dr. Ronnie Levy
Dr. Trey Price
Dr. Donnie Miller
Sebe Brown
Dr. Daniel Stephenson
Dr. David Kern
Dr. Josh Copes
Dr. Mike Salassi

This change has potential fiscal losses associated with it (which RMA has not addressed) if we delay seeding dates beyond the optimum planting periods recommended by the LSU AgCenter.

Louisiana Crop Insurance Planting Dates

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Final Plant Date</u>	<u>Last Day of Late Planting Pd.</u>
Corn	April 20 th	May 5 th
Cotton	May 25 th	June 10 th
Soybeans	June 15 th	July 10 th
Rice	May 25 th	June 10 th
Grain Sorghum	May 15 th	June 9 th

In response to requests from several stakeholders, Dr. Mike Salassi, AGECON Dept. Head in the LSU AgCenter's summarized the information from a number of planting date field trials that illustrate changes in crop yields. He used that information to develop potential fiscal losses as we delay seeding dates beyond the optimum planting periods recommended by the LSU AgCenter. Unfortunately, a couple of the dates proposed by RMA are even later than we have tested in our trials.

Corn in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates				Change Compared to March 19 Planting Date		Change Compared to April 14 Planting Date
Corn Planting Dates				April 14	May 16	May 16
	March 19	April 14	May 16	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	167.0	150.3	80.2	-16.7	-86.8	-70.1
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-10.0%	-52.0%			
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$877	\$789	\$421	-\$88	-\$456	-\$368
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$5.25	-10.0%	-52.0%			

- 1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state corn yield = 167.0 bushels per acre
2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state corn price = \$5.25 per bushel
3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research and are the average over irrigated and non-irrigated studies.
4/ Non-irrigated planting dates: 2011 - March 19, April 14, and May 16, 2012 - March 20, April 20, and May 18
Non-irrigated yields were 4% less in April and 41% less in May, compared March planting.
5/ Irrigated planting dates: 2011 - March 19, April 14, and May 16, 2012 - March 20, April 20, and May 18
Irrigated yields were 16% less in April and 63% less in May, compared March planting.

Cotton in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates					Change Compared to May 1 Planting Date			Change Compared to May 20 Planting Date
Cotton Planting Dates					May 20	June 1	June 10	June 10
	May 1	May 20	June 1	June 10	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)
Yield	1110.6	906.2	841.8	545.3	-204.4	-268.8	-565.3	-360.9
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-18.4%	-24.2%	-50.9%				
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$822	\$671	\$623	\$404	-\$151	-\$199	-\$418	-\$267
Market price (\$/lb) =	\$0.74	-18.4%	-24.2%	-50.9%				

- 1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state cotton yield = 1110.6 pounds per acre
2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state cotton price = \$0.74 per pound
3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.
4/ Compared to a May 10 planting date, cotton yields were 18.4% less with a May 20 planting date,
24.2% less with a June 1 planting date, and 50.9% less with a June 10 planting date.

Rice Planting Dates						Change Compared to April 1-16 Planting Date				Change Compared to May 14-16 Planting Date
	April 1-16	May 1-2	May 14-16	May 28 - June 1	June 16 - July 1	May 1-2	May 14-16	May 28 - Jn 1	Jn 16 - Jn 1	My 28 - Jn 1
	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)
Yield	68.2	58.1	53.9	38.7	31.3	-10.1	-14.3	-29.5	-36.9	-22.6
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-14.8%	-20.9%	-43.2%	-54.1%					
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$929	\$791	\$735	\$528	\$426	-\$137	-\$194	-\$401	-\$503	-\$308
Market price (\$/cwt) =	\$13.62	-14.8%	-20.9%	-43.2%	-54.1%					

- 1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state rice yield = 68.2 cwt. per acre
2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state rice price = \$13.62 per cwt.
3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.
4/ Compared to a April 1-16 planting date, rice yields were 14.8% less with a May 1-2 planting date,
20.9% less with a May 14-16 planting date, 43.2% less with a May 28-June 1 planting date, and 54.1% less with a June 16 - July 1 planting date.

Soybeans in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates						Change Compared to April 15 Planting Date				Change Compared to May 15 Planting Date
Soybean Planting Dates						May 1	May 15	June 1	June 15	June 15
	April 15	May 1	May 15	June 1	June 15	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	45.7	44.6	41.5	37.4	20.9	-1.1	-4.2	-8.3	-24.8	-20.6
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-2.3%	-9.1%	-18.2%	-54.3%					
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$555	\$542	\$505	\$454	\$254	-\$13	-\$51	-\$101	-\$301	-\$251
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$12.15	-2.3%	-9.1%	-18.2%	-54.3%					

- 1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state soybean yield = 45.7 bushels per acre
2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state soybean price = \$12.15 per bushel
3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.
4/ Compared to a April 15 planting date, soybean yields were 2.3% less with a May 1 planting date,
9.1% less with a May 15 planting date, 18.2% less with a June 1 planting date and 54.5% less with a June 15 planting date.

Sorghum in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates					Change Compared to April 22 Planting Date			Change Compared to May 13 Planting Date
Sorghum Planting Dates								
	April 22	May 13	June 4	June 12	May 13	June 4	June 12	June 12
	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	94.4	73.6	68.0	58.5	-20.8	-26.4	-35.9	-15.1
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-22.0%	-28.0%	-38.0%				
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$487	\$380	\$351	\$302	-\$107	-\$136	-\$185	-\$78
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$5.16	-22.0%	-28.0%	-38.0%				

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state sorghum yield = 94.4 bushels per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state sorghum price = \$5.16 per bushel

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research and are the average over irrigated and non-irrigated studies.

4/ Compared to a April 22 planting date, sorghum yields were 22.0% less with a May 13 planting date, 28.0% less with a June 4 planting date, and 38.0% less with a June 12 planting date.

Steps to commenting on RMA's forum for the change in definition of "Practical to Replant."

Visit the website: www.regulations.gov

In the search bar, enter FCIC-16-0002. This is the Docket Number.

The first link that is generated will say "Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Basic Provisions (Double Cropping and Practical to Replant). You may click on this link if you would like to read about this change.

There is a blue box underneath the title, "Comment Now!" Click here and you will be provided a space to give your opinion.

Field Crop Pathology Update

Trey Price, Assistant Professor, Macon Ridge Research Station

With the horrible weather pattern over the past couple of weeks, conditions have been favorable for a number of problems in Louisiana field crops. It was shaping up to be a good finish to a very challenging season, and heavy rains have halted harvest and promoted disease development, which is exactly the opposite of what we need. Hopefully extended periods of sunshine and light winds will prevail to stop the bleeding. I have received many communications since the last edition and will attempt to summarize our current situation below...

Soybean: Aerial blight

Fields affected with aerial blight have been identified as far north as Tensas Parish, and disease severities have ranged from superficial to significant. Aerial blight in areas with rice rotations tends to be more severe; however, there are reports of fields that are not in rice rotation requiring treatment.



Scout for aerial blight low in the canopy in the early morning, if possible. Leaves of infected plants will be matted together, and fungal growth will be evident (Photo). After extended periods of infection, sclerotia (survival structures similar to seeds) will be produced that resemble small pebbles. If the disease is allowed to progress, all plant parts are susceptible, and losses may be severe. Under the current weather conditions in <R6 soybean, fungicide applications may be warranted for aerial blight management. Strobilurin fungicides (e.g. Quadris, Headline, Gem) are usually effective; however, there are areas in southern Louisiana where the pathogen has developed resistance to this mode of action. In these cases a product containing an SDHI (e.g. Priaxor, Trivapro)

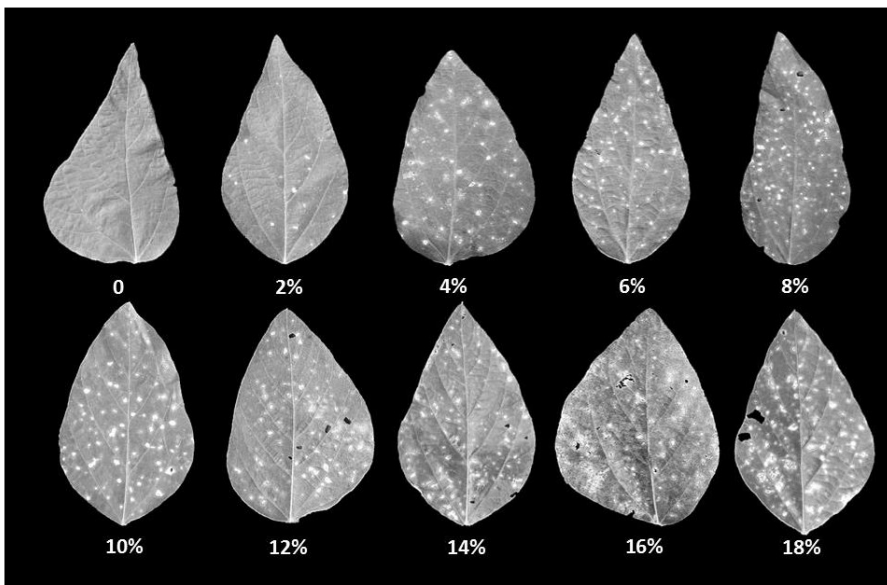
should be used. Maximum water volumes and pressures should be utilized to allow canopy penetration and optimum coverage.

Soybean: Rootknot nematode (RKN) & Southern blight



Over the past several weeks, many field visits have been conducted where soybean leaves were displaying interveinal chlorosis and necrosis (left). This symptom type is usually indicative of a root/lower stem issue. Upon closer inspection in most locations, southern blight is obvious at plant crowns (below left). Southern blight is easily identified by the white mycelial growth and numerous sclerotia at the base of the plant and is very often seen in conjunction with RKN infestations. Pulling up affected plants will reveal galled roots (upper right). Nodules are easily removed from roots while galls are actually part of the root. When this disease complex is discovered, nothing can be done in the current crop year to manage the problem. Soil fumigants such as Telone may be used in the following year to reduce RKN populations; however, these products are expensive and may require specialized equipment to apply. Costs of soil fumigants may be deferred by using site-specific applications based on NDVI data, soil EC maps, or yield maps. The most ideal management method is to plant a soybean variety resistant to RKN. A list of these varieties is available through the LSU AgCenter Nematode Advisory Service at 225-578-5724. Another management option is to rotate to grain sorghum; however, some hybrids may not reduce RKN populations. A list of hybrids also is available with the Nematode Advisory Service.

Soybean: Frogeye leaf spot



Frogeye leaf spot (FLS, below) continues to be an annual issue throughout Louisiana in susceptible varieties. Conditions have been favorable for FLS for the past few weeks, and the disease will continue to progress for the remainder of the season. If varieties are resistant or mostly resistant to FLS, fungicide applications are not necessary for management. In highly susceptible varieties, products containing triazoles or

thiophanate-methyl will slow disease progression and preserve yield during severe epidemics. During 2015 in research trials, final disease severities of ~10% (Photo Set 3) resulted in significant yield reductions. Some triazoles are more effective than others, and products containing cyproconazole, difenoconazole, flutriafol, prothioconazole, or tetraconazole are recommended. Strobilurin fungicides are not recommended for management because of resistance in the pathogen population, and applications usually are not warranted after R6.

Soybean: Cercospora leaf blight (CLB)

Reports are ramping up concerning CLB (below) statewide. Unfortunately, fungicides are not as effective on CLB as they are FLS. This is partially due to strobilurin resistance in the pathogen population. Over the past several years, five products have shown efficacy on CLB in our research trials in NELA and CENLA: Aproach Prima, Domark, Priaxor, Quadris Top SBX, and Topguard. However, inconsistencies in effectiveness over time and location create uncertainty concerning use of these fungicides for CLB management. Other factors



that confound CLB management include:

pathogen diversity, differing varietal reactions over time and location, variable regional environmental conditions, and variable symptom development among varieties.

Soybean: Weathering

As soybean is maturing throughout the state, questions are coming in about applying fungicides to maturing soybean to prevent losses due to weathering or “buy time” at harvest. Based on research conducted in 2009 and 2010 at Macon Ridge and Dean Lee Research Stations by Dr. Boyd Padgett, applications of Quadris or Headline at R3, R5, or R6 did not have a significant effect on seed quality when soybeans were harvested in a timely manner or two weeks thereafter. Therefore, these types of fungicide applications are not recommended. Unfortunately, we are at the mercy of Mother Nature in this situation, and it is not advisable to throw good money after bad.

**Cotton: Target spot,
Bacterial blight, Boll rot**

As the season was shaping up to be a “cotton year”, we have taken a turn during the latter part of the season. Hot, dry weather has turned to warm, wet weather and the crop has responded in kind by shedding fruit. The unfavorable weather conditions also have been ideal for target spot development (right). Target spot first



develops very low in the canopy and progresses upward. Rank cotton is more apt to develop target spot. Under the right conditions (like those we have now) the disease can spread very rapidly. We have observed up to 50% defoliation in trials at St. Joseph and Winnsboro in a span of less than two weeks. Most cotton in the state is far enough along that minimal losses will be incurred, and fungicide applications are not recommended for management. In research trials over the last three years, applications of Headline or Priaxor during the first month of flowering have been effective at delaying disease development with trends towards yield preservation. Data from trials in NELA and CENLA over the past three seasons indicate that “revenge” or “rescue” applications during late season are not economically beneficial. Questions have arisen concerning target spot causing boll shed: this is most likely not the case as boll shed is usually caused by weather and also may be caused by bacterial blight. Bacterial blight (lower right) has been widespread this season, and there are no treatments that are effective other than planting a resistant variety. The crop should be managed as if bacterial blight is not present. Questions also have arisen concerning fungicide applications for managing boll rots. Data indicate that fungicides are effective on boll rots; however, it is unlikely that enough product can be delivered to the lower canopy to provide economic returns. It may be possible to make a difference by ground with large water volumes and high pressures, but with this weather that scenario is unlikely. Unfortunately, as with soybean weathering, we are at the mercy of Mother Nature in this situation.



Hopefully the weather pattern will change in the coming days and provide some relief for our producers statewide and fellow citizens that have suffered hardships in SOLA. Please do not hesitate to contact your local agent or specialist if you need assistance.

Entomology Update

Sebe Brown and David Kerns: LSU AgCenter Entomologists

Cotton

With much of the cotton well beyond cutout, insect management decisions should be based on protecting those existing harvestable bolls and insects present in the field. Once cut out (average of 5 nodes above white flower) is reached, growers and consultants can calculate the daily heat units (DD60s) from cutout and terminate insecticide applications accordingly. Fields that have accumulated 325 DD60s are safe from plant bugs, while fields that have accumulated 350 DD60s are safe from first and second instar cotton bollworms and fields accumulating 475 DD60s are protected from stink bugs.

Plant bugs have been persistent in many fields throughout the growing season with insect numbers often reaching 10 – 15X threshold. Larger, more mature bolls are typically less susceptible to plant bug injury while smaller, less mature bolls may still be susceptible to adults and large nymphs. Overall, most of the harvestable bolls we now have should be safe from most plant bug injury, although adults and large immature plant bugs may still be a problem in later planted cotton. Therefore, plant bug treatment thresholds can be increased 2.5X and small first and second instar nymphs can be omitted when determining insecticide applications.

Brown, green and southern green stink bug numbers will often increase as corn is harvested and the cotton crop matures. The Louisiana threshold for stink bugs in cotton is when one adult/nymph are found per 6 row feet, 5% adults/nymphs are in sweep nets or 15-20% of 12 to 16 day old bolls have internal injury. Late season applications of acephate + pyrethroid or ULV malathion give excellent control of stink bugs and plant bugs.

Soybeans

As Louisiana progresses into late summer, producers and consultants should be wary of late season defoliators such as soybean looper, velvet bean caterpillar and lingering populations of corn earworms.

Soybean loopers have the ability to build large populations quickly and are exaggerated by the use of broad-spectrum insecticides for three-cornered alfalfaoppers and stink bugs. The threshold for soybean loopers in Louisiana is 150 worms in 100 sweeps or 8 worms ½ inch or longer per row foot. Because soybean loopers are foliage feeders, adequate insecticide coverage is essential to limiting defoliation and reducing population numbers. Soybean loopers often initiate feeding in the lower portion of the canopy defoliating soybean plants from the inside out. This cryptic behavior allows loopers to stay protected from some predators and insecticide applications in the dense canopy of soybean plants. Thus, good insecticide coverage is essential for optimal control of soybean loopers. Insecticides currently recommended for use against loopers in Louisiana include Belt, Prevathon, Besiege, Intrepid Edge, Steward and Intrepid. Once soybean reach R6.5, yield is set and protection from soybean looper defoliation is no longer critical.

Velvetbean (VBC) caterpillars, like soybean loopers, can build large populations quickly and defoliate large portions of soybeans in a limited amount of time. The Louisiana threshold for VBC is 8 worms ½ inch or longer per row foot or 300 worms in 100 sweeps. Unlike loopers, VBC are easily controlled with pyrethroids and applications for insects such as stink bugs effectively control this pest.

As stated above, numbers of corn earworm (CEW) moths are declining and instances of CEW infesting soybean fields around the state are becoming fewer. Of the previously mentioned caterpillar pests, CEW are the only insect that feeds on fruiting structures of the soybean plant. The Louisiana threshold for CEW is 3 worms per row foot or 38 in 100 sweeps, after bloom. Corn earworms in Louisiana have the highest levels of pyrethroid resistance in the United States. Therefore, control of CEW with the use of a pyrethroid alone is strongly discouraged. Products recommended for control of CEW in Louisiana are Belt, Prevathon, Besiege and Intrepid Edge.

Finally, when making insecticide application decisions for caterpillar pests in soybeans: insect species present, insect numbers present and defoliation percentage should be taken into consideration. After bloom, soybeans can tolerate 20% defoliation and not experience a significant yield loss. However, with insects such as CEW, pod and seed injury can occur without excessive defoliation.

Sorghum

With many of the fields around Louisiana at or nearing harvest, late season sugarcane aphid infestations can have a severe impact on harvest ability and efficiency. Below is a list of considerations in anticipation of harvesting grain sorghum:

- Two to three weeks before harvest, remaining applications of Transform (14 day PHI) or Sivanto (21 day PHI) can be used to control aphids present. This serves two fold, by eliminating the remaining aphids, honey dew build up can be slowed along with problems stemming from the aphids and sticky leaves clogging the combine.
- As soon as the sorghum nears harvest maturity, ~25% grain moisture in the lower portion of the head, a harvest aid should be used to kill and dry down the crop. Harvest aid choice will depend on whether aphids or heavy honeydew are present in the upper canopy.
 - If aphids are not present or present in low numbers, and if honeydew is not heavy in the upper canopy, glyphosate is the best option.
 - If aphids are present in high numbers, or if honeydew and sooty mold is has accumulated on the leaves, sodium chlorate + 1% crop oil concentrate may be a better option. Although sodium chlorate is caustic and hard on spray equipment, it tends to dry the upper sorghum canopy down fairly quickly, and has been fairly effective when honeydew is present. Aphids may still move up into the head but preliminary information suggests that the aphids may not be as numerous.
- The effectiveness of Transform tank mixed with a glyphosate or sodium chlorate is uncertain. However, some preliminary information suggests that the addition of Transform may help prevent aphids from moving up to the head following desiccation; this is untested but has been observed in mixes with both glyphosate and sodium chlorate. Keep in mind that Transform has a 14 day pre-harvest interval.
- Once the crop is desiccated and if a large number of aphids have infested the head, there are few options available and no options that have been tested. The only insecticide labelled with less than a 14 day preharvest interval is Malathion. When applied to at 1.5 pts per acre with a 1% COC, Malathion provided 30-45% control of aphids infesting the foliage. Control may be better on aphids infesting the heads, but we are not certain.
- Combine cutting heads should be kept as high as possible to prevent any unnecessary vegetative material from passing through the machine.
- Slower harvest speeds may need to be maintained to allow adequate time for aphid and honey dew infested plant material to be expelled.



Severe flooding has many low-lying soybean fields underwater. As the water dissipates yield potential questions will arise. Flooding can be divided into either water-logging, where only the roots are flooded, or complete submergence where the entire plants are under water. Water-logging is more common than complete submergence and is also less damaging. Soybeans can generally survive for 48 to 96 hours when fields are flooded. The actual time frame depends on air temperature, humidity, cloud cover, soil moisture conditions prior to flooding, and rate of soil drainage. Soybeans will survive longer when flooded under cool and cloudy conditions. Higher temperatures and sunshine will speed up plant respiration which depletes oxygen and increases carbon dioxide levels. If the soil was already saturated prior to flooding, soybean death will occur more quickly as slow soil drainage after flooding will prevent air exchange between the soil and the air above the soil surface. Soybeans often do not fully recover from flooding injury. Crop injury from water logging is difficult to assess. Water-logging can reduce soybean yield or result in plant death.





United States Department of Agriculture

Louisiana Farm Service Agency

3737 Government Street
Alexandria, LA 71302

www.fsa.usda.gov/la

News Release

Contact:

Rachelle Broussard
(337)367-1538, ext 2

Rachelle.broussard@la.usda.gov

USDA Services Can Help Individuals and Small Businesses Affected by Flooding in Louisiana

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17, 2016 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reminds farmers and ranchers, families and small businesses affected by the [severe storms and flooding in Louisiana](#) that USDA has several programs that provide assistance before, during and after disasters. USDA staff in regional, state and parish offices are ready to help.

“Our hearts go out to the families and communities in Louisiana who have been devastated by flooding over the past several weeks,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. “USDA has offices in nearly every county or parish in the U.S., and we want to remind people that we have a variety of services that may be useful in challenging times like this one. Our employees are also members of the communities hit by flooding, and we want to help.”

USDA encourages Louisiana residents to contact the following offices to meet their individual needs:

Property and Shelter

When floods destroy or severely damage residential property, USDA Rural Development can assist with providing priority hardship application processing for single family housing. Under a disaster designation, USDA Rural Development can issue a priority letter for next available multi-family housing units. While these programs do not normally have disaster assistance authority, many of USDA Rural Development programs can also help provide financial relief to small businesses hit by natural disasters, including low-interest loans to community facilities, water environmental programs, businesses and cooperatives and to rural utilities. More information can be found on the [Rural Development website](#) or by contacting the State Office located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, LA 71302, or by calling (318) 473-7920 or (866) 481-9571.

Food Assistance and Food Safety

The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) coordinates with state, local and voluntary organizations to provide food for shelters and other mass feeding sites. Under certain circumstances, states also may request to operate a disaster household distribution program to distribute USDA Foods directly to households in need. In addition, FNS may approve a state’s request to implement a Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) when the President declares a major disaster for individual assistance under the Stafford Act. State agencies may also request a number of disaster-related SNAP waivers to help provide temporary assistance to impacted households already receiving SNAP benefits at the time of the disaster. Resources for disaster feeding partners as well as available FNS disaster nutrition assistance can be found on the [FNS Disaster Assistance website](#).

Severe weather forecasts often present the possibility of power outages that could compromise the safety of stored food. The USDA [Food Safety and Inspection Service](#) (FSIS) recommends that consumers take the necessary [steps](#) before, during, and after a power outage to reduce food waste and minimize the risk of foodborne illness. FSIS offers [tips](#) for keeping frozen and refrigerated food safe and a [brochure](#) that can be downloaded and printed for reference at home. If you have questions about the safety of food in your home, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) on weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET or visit [AskKaren.gov](#) to chat live with a food safety specialist, available in English and Spanish.

Owners of meat and poultry producing businesses who have questions or concerns may contact the FSIS Small Plant Help Desk by phone at 1-877-FSIS-HELP (1-877-374-7435), by email at infosource@fsis.usda.gov, or 24/7 online at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulatory-compliance/svsp/sphelpdesk>.

Crop and Livestock Loss

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) administers many safety-net programs to help producers recover from eligible losses, including the Livestock Indemnity Program, the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish Program, Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) and the Tree Assistance Program. The FSA Emergency Conservation Program provides funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters. Producers located in parishes that received a primary or contiguous disaster designation are eligible for low-interest emergency loans to help them recover from production and physical losses. Compensation also is available to producers who purchased coverage through the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program, which protects non-insurable crops against natural disasters that result in lower yields, crop losses or prevented planting. More information on all of these programs can be found at <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

USDA encourages farmers and ranchers to contact their local FSA office to learn what documents can help the local office expedite assistance, such as farm records, receipts and pictures of damages or losses. FSA maintains contact information online for all [Louisiana parish offices](#).

Producers should use form FSA-576, Notice of Loss, to report prevented planting and failed acres in order to establish or retain FSA program eligibility. Prevented planting acreage must be reported no later than 15 calendar days after the final planting date as established by FSA and USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA). Producers must file a Notice of Loss for failed acres on all crops including grasses in a timely fashion, often within 15 days of the occurrence or when the losses become apparent. Producers of hand-harvested crops must notify FSA of damage or loss within 72 hours of when the date of damage or loss first becomes apparent.

Producers with coverage through the RMA administered federal crop insurance program should contact their crop insurance agent. Those who purchased crop insurance will be paid for covered losses. Producers should report crop damage within 72 hours of damage discovery and follow up in writing within 15 days.

Community Recovery Resources

For declared natural disasters that lead to imminent threats to life and property, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) can assist local government sponsors with the cost of implementing recovery efforts like debris removal and streambank stabilization to address natural resource concerns and hazards through the [Emergency Watershed Protection Program](#). NRCS staff is coordinating with state partners to complete damage assessments in preparation for sponsor assistance requests. NRCS also can help producers with damaged agricultural lands caused by natural disasters such as floods. The NRCS [Environmental Quality Incentives Program](#) (EQIP) provides financial assistance to repair and prevent excessive soil erosion that can result from high rainfall events and flooding. Conservation practices supported through EQIP protect the land and aid in recovery, can build the natural resource base, and might help mitigate loss in future events.

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture provides support for disaster education through the Extension Disaster Education Network ([EDEN](#)). EDEN is a collaborative multi-state effort with land-grant universities and Cooperative Extension Services across the country, using research-based education and resources to improve the delivery of services to citizens affected by disasters. For Louisiana, the LSU AgCenter has flood recovery info available online that businesses, farmers and homeowners can use as resources for restoring water-damaged buildings and possessions. The information is available online at the LSU AgCenter's [Disaster Information](#). The page includes a list of downloadable publications including a mold removal guideline and storm recovery guide.

For complete details and eligibility requirements regarding USDA's disaster assistance programs, contact a local [USDA Service Center](#). More information about [USDA disaster assistance](#) as well as other disaster resources is available on the USDA Disaster Resource Center website. In a continuing effort to better serve the public, USDA has developed a new and improved central resource for disaster related materials. In partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other disaster-focused organizations, USDA created a [Disaster Resource Center](#) website, utilizing a new online searchable knowledgebase. This knowledgebase is a collection of disaster-related resources that are powered by agents with subject-matter expertise. The new Disaster Resource Center website and web tool now provide an easy access point to find USDA disaster information and assistance.

#

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).

Assessment of Weed Control Programs and Post-harvest Weed Control in Problem Fields.

Josh Copes, Donnie Miller, and Daniel Stephenson

Assessment of weed control programs.

With corn harvest underway and soybean and cotton fields approaching maturity, this is a great time to evaluate this year's weed control programs. Things to consider include: what herbicides were applied, when they were applied in respect to crop and weed growth stages, what were weather conditions like before and after application, and what weed species are present after final weed control efforts. In addition, knowing which fields contain glyphosate-resistant weeds and other difficult to control species that escaped control can help us better plan and budget for more effective herbicide programs. These factors will help critically evaluate weed control programs and may offer insights into becoming more effective at herbicide selection, improving application timing, and how environmental conditions may dictate the need for more aggressive weed control tactics in certain fields.

Post-harvest weed control.

The time period from corn harvest and the first killing frost can range from 1 to 4 months. The average first frost date in North and Central Louisiana is November 15 and 25, respectively. A lot of money and effort is spent in controlling weeds during the growing season to negate yield loss. With the extended window from harvest to first frost, weeds will continue to emerge and produce seed. Timely weed control practices following harvest (post-harvest weed control) can reduce weed seed return to the soil, thus ensuring fewer weeds to fight in future cropping seasons. Post-harvest weed control is especially important in fields containing herbicide resistant weeds. A good example to illustrate the importance of post-harvest weed management is the ability of glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth to produce mature seed in as little as 30 days after emergence during late summer and early fall. Many other grass and broadleaf weeds are capable of setting viable seed in a similar time frame.

For weeds that are present in the field at harvest time, mowing and/or tillage should be conducted as soon as possible upon harvest to ensure viable seed set is eliminated or reduced. Rainfall will influence subsequent germination of weed seed and therefore the need for additional weed control.

Furthermore, rainfall following cultivation could increase weed seed germination, however, if the weeds are controlled the soil seedbank would be reduced.

Other methods of weed control include the use of herbicides. Herbicide applications should be targeted from late-September through October when the time period from application to first killing frost is shortened. Multiple herbicide applications for post-harvest control of summer annual weeds should be avoided. Residual herbicides such as S-metolachlor, pyroxasulfone, linuron, and diuron, among others, can be applied in the fall following harvest. However, rotation interval restrictions must be followed and length of residual control will be influenced by soil temperature and saturation. Glyphosate plus 2,4-D and/or dicamba or paraquat plus diuron and/or linuron are some choices for late-fall post-harvest applications. Diuron and linuron will offer soil residual; however, if soil temperatures are warm and rainfall frequent, do not expect long residual from these products. Likewise the lack of rainfall to properly activate residual herbicides to minimize weed germination can negatively impact treatment

effectiveness. Maximize water volume to ensure good weed coverage as this is critical for good weed control, especially for paraquat plus diuron and/or linuron.

To reiterate, weeds are capable of setting viable seed within 30 days after emergence during late summer and early fall. Post-harvest weed control is especially important when combatting glyphosate-resistant weeds such as Palmer amaranth, waterhemp, or johnsongrass. Problem fields should be identified and receive top priority for preventing seed return. Once harvested these problem fields should be mowed or tilled shortly after harvest to prevent and/or reduce seed set. Fields should then be regularly scouted for emerging weeds and additional control tactics applied prior to seed set. This will require close inspection of weed species to determine when they are flowering. Once a weed species is observed flowering a weed control operation should be implemented. Depending on weather conditions following harvest, weed control tactics may need to be implemented approximately every 3 to 4 weeks until a killing frost has occurred. If glyphosate-resistant Palmer amaranth or waterhemp is an issue, a management tactic (i.e. mowing, tillage, herbicide application) should be done every 3 to 4 weeks.

If you have any questions please contact us.

Josh Copes

Cell: 318-334-0401

Office: 318-766-4607

jcopies@agcenter.lsu.edu

Donnie Miller

Cell: 318-334-0401

Office: 318-766-4607

dmiller@agcenter.lsu.edu

Daniel Stephenson

Cell: 318-308-7225

Office: 318-473-6590

dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu



LSU AgCenter Launches Crop Specific Text Message Groups

In an effort to better reach crop specific clientele, the LSU AgCenter has formed several crop specific text message groups. The intent of the text message groups is to provide timely information to growers, crop consultants, land owners, extension, research, and other related industry personnel. Text messages will be sent out as reminders for meetings, updates about product registrations, notifications of new publications and newsletters, updates of disease and pest outbreaks (somewhat as an early warning system), as well as other important information as it arises during the growing season. Dr. Dustin Harrell launched the group text messages to rice producers last month and has been very well received by all in the rice industry. The rice text message group already has over 175 participants. Due to the success of the rice text message group the AgCenter has decided to form five additional text message groups for the 2016 growing season. Separate text message groups will be set up for corn, cotton, soybeans, grain sorghum, wheat, and crop consultants.

It was pointed out that it would be important that text messages go out from the AgCenter and that recipient would not have the capability to text back to the whole group because this could cause endless text messages going back and forth. Another key was that all personal information should be kept private. The program that we have decided to manage the text message groups with is called Remind. This program is often used by school teachers to text-message students and parents and does not allow texts to be sent back to the group. All phone numbers from the different members of the group is kept confidential and is not shared with others within the group.

A Remind computer and smart phone application is also available if you would like to download it. The app allows you to receive the texts in the app in addition to the regular text message feature. This is convenient, especially if you do not have text message capabilities. *In addition, if you opt in for the feature, you can instant message/chat with others in the group within the app. Again, all phone numbers and other information is kept confidential. Only your name is visible.*

If you would like to join the one of the commodity text groups, simply send a text message to **81010** with the name of **one** of the groups in the body of the message:

@larice @lasoybean @lacorn @lacotton @lasorghum @lawheat @lacropcon

Repeat process to join more than one text group

To unsubscribe to any group, simply text back “unsubscribe@larice” (or other group name) to the group. If you would like to get the text messages by email, send an email to larice@mail.remind.com (or other group name). If you would like to unsubscribe to the email messages, simply email back with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

Commodity	Group text number	Group Text Name
Rice	81010	@larice
Corn	81010	@lacorn
Grain Sorghum	81010	@lasorghum
Soybeans	81010	@lasoybean
Wheat	81010	@lawheat
Louisiana Crop Consultants	81010	@lacropcon

D. Harrell would like you to join Louisiana Rice Text Group!

remind

To receive messages via text, text @larice to 81010. You can opt-out of messages at anytime by replying, 'unsubscribe @larice'.

Trouble using 81010? Try texting @larice to (337) 397-4946 instead.

To:

81010

Enter this number

Message:

@larice

Text this message

or:

@lacorn

@lasorghum

@lasoybean

@lawheat

@lacropcon

*Standard text message rates apply.

Or to receive messages via email, send an email to larice@mail.remind.com. To unsubscribe, reply with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

New message

Recipients: larice@mail.remind.com

Subject: (You can leave the subject blank)

Upcoming Calendar of Events



Harvest

PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish	County Agent	Phone	Email
Acadia	Jeromy Herbert	337-788-8821	jherbert@agcenter.lsu.edu
Allen	Keith Fontenot	337-639-4376	kfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ascension	Al Orgeron	225-562-2320	aorgeron@agcenter.lsu.edu
Avoyelles	Justin Dufour	318-542-8045	jdufour@agcenter.lsu.edu
Beauregard	Keith Hawkins	337-463-7006	khawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu
Bossier	Ricky Kilpatrick	318-965-2326	rkilpatrick@agcenter.lsu.edu
Caddo	John Terrell	318-226-6805	jterrell@agcenter.lsu.edu
Calcasieu	James Meaux	337-475-8812	jmeaux@agcenter.lsu.edu
Caldwell	Jim McCann	318-649-2663	jmccann@agcenter.lsu.edu
Cameron	James Meaux	337-475-8812	jmeaux@agcenter.lsu.edu
Catahoula	Lucas Stamper	318-744-5442	lstamper@agcenter.lsu.edu
Concordia	Kylie Miller	318-336-5315	kmiller@agcenter.lsu.edu
Desoto	Chuck Griffin	318-872-0533	cgriffin@agcenter.lsu.edu
East Carroll	Donna Lee	318-282-1292	drlee@agcenter.lsu.edu
Evangeline	Todd Fontenot	337-363-5646	tfontenot@agcenter.lsu.edu
Franklin	Carol Pinnell-Alison	318-267-6713	cpinnell-alison@agcenter.lsu.edu
Grant	Donna Morgan	318-627-3675	dsmorgan@agcenter.lsu.edu
Iberia	Blair Hebert	337-369-4441	bhebert@agcenter.lsu.edu
Jeff Davis	Frances Guidry	337-824-1773	fguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu
Lafayette	Stan Dutile	337-291-7090	sdutile@agcenter.lsu.edu
LaSalle	Donna Morgan	318-992-2205	dmorgan@agcenter.lsu.edu
Lafourche	Mike Herbert	985-413-1158	mherbert@agcenter.lsu.edu
Madison	R.L. Frazier	318-267-6714	rfrazier@agcenter.lsu.edu
Morehouse	Richard Letlow	318-282-3615	rletlow@agcenter.lsu.edu
Natchitoches	Donna Morgan	318-627-3675	dsmorgan@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ouachita	Richard Letlow	318-282-2181	rletlow@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pointe Coupee	Mark Carriere	225-638-5533 ext: 102	mcarriere@agcenter.lsu.edu
Rapides	Donna Morgan	318-613-9278	dsmorgan@agcenter.lsu.edu
Red River	Robert Berry	318-932-4342	rmberry@agcenter.lsu.edu
Richland	Keith Collins	318-355-0703	kcollins@agcenter.lsu.edu
St. James	Mariah Simoneaux	985-513-4058	mjsimoneaux@agcenter.lsu.edu
St. Landry	Vincent Deshotel	337-831-1635	vdeshotel@agcenter.lsu.edu
St. Martin	Stuart Gauthier	337-332-2181	sgauthier@agcenter.lsu.edu
St. Mary	Jimmy Flanagan	337-828-4100	jflanagan@agcenter.lsu.edu
Tensas	Dennis Burns	318-267-6709	dburns@agcenter.lsu.edu
Vermilion	Andrew Granger	337-898-4335	agranger@agcenter.lsu.edu
West Baton Rouge	Stephen Borel	225-281-9474	sborel@agcenter.lsu.edu
West Carroll	Bruce Garner	318-331-9481	bgarner@agcenter.lsu.edu
West Feliciana	Andre' Brock	225-635-3614	abrock@agcenter.lsu.edu

Specialists

Specialty	Responsibilities	Name	Phone	Email
Soybean	Soybean	Ron Levy	318-542-8857 (cell)	rlevy@agcenter.lsu.edu
Cotton , Corn, Sorghum	Cotton, Corn, Sorghum	Dan Fromme	318-880-8079 (cell)	dfromme@agcenter.lsu.edu
Weeds	Corn, Grain Sorghum, Cotton. Soybeans	Daniel Stephenson	318-308-7225 (cell)	dstephenson@agcenter.lsu.edu
Asst. Integrated Pest Management, Northeast	Cotton, Corn, Soybean, Grain Sorghum	Sebe Brown	318-498-1283 (cell)	sbrown@agcenter.lsu.edu
Entomology	Cotton, Corn, Soybean, Grain Sorghum	David Kerns	318-439-4844 (cell)	dkerns@agcenter.lsu.edu
Entomology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum, Sugarcane	Beuzelin, Julien	337-501-7087 (cell)	JBeuzelin@agcenter.lsu.edu
Nematodes	All agronomic crops	Charlie Overstreet	225-578-2186	coverstreet@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pathology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum , Cotton, Wheat	Trey Price	318-2359805(cell)	pprice@agcenter.lsu.edu
Pathology	Soybean, Corn, Grain Sorghum	Clayton Hollier	225-578-1464	chollier@agcenter.lsu.edu
Irrigation	Corn, Grain Sorghum, Cotton. Soybeans	Stacia Davis	904-891-1103	sdavis@agcenter.lsu.edu
Ag Economics and Agribusiness	Soybean, Cotton, and Feed Grain marketing	Kurt Guidry	225-578-3282	kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu
Fertility	All agronomic crops			
Wheat	Wheat	Boyd Padgett	318-614-4354 (cell)	bpadgett@agcenter.lsu.edu

Louisiana Crops Newsletter created and distributed by:

Dr. Ronnie Levy

Dean Lee Research Station
8105 Tom Bowman Drive
Alexandria, LA 71302

Phone: 318-427-4424
Fax: 318-473-6503

We're on the Web.

www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops

<http://louisianacrops.com>

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, William B Richardson, LSU Vice President for Agriculture

Louisiana State University Agricultural Center

Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station

Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service

LSU College of Agriculture

Issued in furtherance of the Cooperative Extension work, Acts of Congress of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture.
The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service provides equal opportunities in programs and employment