

LOUISIANA RICE NOTES

Dr. Dustin Harrell

July 27, 2018

No. 2018-06

Early Yields Encouraging

Rice harvest has picked up in southwest Louisiana this week. However, there are many growers who have yet to harvest a field. I expect harvest will be wide open by this time next week. We are slightly later in harvest this year as compared to the yearly average. This is mostly due to the early cold spell that was observed through March and well into April that stalled early rice development.

Early yield reports are strong, with many fields cutting over 50 barrels per acre (180 bushels/8,100 pounds per acre). The average yield (unweighted for acres) so far seems to be around 47 barrels per acre (169 bushels per acre/7,614 pounds per acre). This would put us currently above the state record achieved in 2013 which was 45 barrels per acre (162 bushels per acre/7,300 pounds per acre). These reports are encouraging, but in the long run I do not think it will be a record breaking year. The yields generally drop as we



Figure 1. CL111 rice being harvested in Acadia Parish, 2018.

move into the later planted rice. However, as one grower put it, “our best rice is yet to be cut.” It is still too early to see how this will shake out.

The new Provisia (PVL-01) variety looks promising as well; however, the yield potential of the variety is just not up there with our other variety’s we are currently growing. The only Provisia field that I know of that has been cut at this point averaged 42 barrels per acre (151 bushels per acre/6,804 pounds per acre) which is pleasantly encouraging, especially considering that we

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Figure 2. Shattered grain from an Acadia Parish rice field after a hail storm blew through in July of 2018.

took a toll on the yield. While another had outcross and weed control issues. One 96-acre field of CL111 cut in Acadia parish was averaging 47 barrels per acre (169 bushels per acre/7,614 pounds per acre) prior to a storm which blew through in the afternoon. The storm brought with it heavy winds and hail. The last 12 acres of the field which was harvested after the storm blew through only averaged 29 barrels per acre (104 bushels per acre/4,698 pounds per acre).

More Sheath Blight Than Expected

The cold winter and dry summer conditions are typically associated with lower disease pressure. While reports of rotten neck blast have been low, bacterial panicle blight



Figure 3. Sheath blight in rice.

are growing the variety to clean up our fields and not break yield records. Not all the yields reported so far have been great. Some have fallen below 40 barrels per acre. Generally, these fields have had one problem or another associated with the lower yields. A couple of the fields had bacterial panicle blight which

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and sheath blight pressure have definitely had a presence in Louisiana this year. The sheath blight pressure increased as the season progressed. In many cases, sheath blight was reported where the fungicide Amistar Top was used. In some instances, two applications were made. The general consensus is that the fungicide has underperformed in control of sheath blight. In rice production, when a variety is first released and it is hit particularly hard with disease or shown to lodge excessively, a grower will be very hesitant to grow that variety in the future. I am afraid that is what will happen with Amistar Top. This lack of control observed this year was quite unexpected since research indicated that it provided good control overall and also controlled the strobilurin resistant strains of the disease as well. Perhaps the 15 gallon per acre work applied by backpack sprayers on small plots did not equate to the control observed with low volume applications made by air. This is purely speculation on my part.

However, the label does specifically state that applications by air must contain a minimum of 5 gallons of water to provide sufficient coverage.

AV-5055 headed rice bird repellent

Arkion Life Sciences, the same company which has the bird repellent seed treatment, AV-1011, is evaluating a bird repellent for headed rice. They hope to submit an application to the EPA for registration in August. However, the registration process is a long process arduous process. Letters of



Figure 4. Birds feeding on mature rice prior to harvest.

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support and data indicating economic losses due to bird predation on headed rice in the main and ratoon crops will strengthen any package submitted to the EPA. This information can be used in support for an emergency exemption application in the near future as well. Letters of support can be sent to Mike Brinkley

(mikebrinkley43@yahoo.com) with Arkion directly or you can send them to me and I can forward them to him.

The headed rice product contains the same active ingredient as the AV-1011, anthraquinone, along with other additives. However, the concentration and formulation differs. Anthraquinone is a non-toxic chemical which makes the rice taste bad to the birds and they move on to other fields. This new formulation, AV-5055, is being tested in a commercial field this year in St. Landry



Figure 5. Post-harvest stubble management in a rice field using a crumbler.

Parish near Lebeau. So far the test looks very promising.

Ratoon stubble management

Research has been conducted on post-harvest stubble manipulation in ratoon rice production for many years. In general, post-harvest flail mowing or bush hogging to approximately 8-inches or post-harvest rolling the stubble increases ratoon rice yields. Both practices encourage the ratoon regrowth to come from the crown node of the plant. Panicles that derive from the crown tend to



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have more grains per panicle and more filled grains per panicle. Disease pressure, especially *Cercospora* which is the typically the dominant disease in the ratoon crop, is also reduced. The ratoon crop also matures more uniformly and typically increases quality. Stubble management practices do delay maturity by two weeks and is not recommended when first crop is harvested after Aug. 15th.

Typically, 90 pounds of nitrogen (N) per acre is recommended for ratoon rice production regardless if stubble management is used or not. Maturity of rice is delayed as rates of N increase. Therefore, the rate of N should be reduced when the rice is harvested after August 15. This is done to reduce the potential of losing the crop prior to maturity due to cold weather.

Until this year, a fungicide has not been registered for use in the ratoon rice crop, but Amistar Top is registered for a ratoon crop. Amistar Top has shown to have good activity on *Cercospora* in research here at the station.

The labeled application rate is 10 to 15 fluid ounces per acre and 5 gallons of water, or more, is required to provide adequate coverage. Recent research suggests that the fungicide should be applied 5- to 6-weeks after the first crop is harvested.

LSU AgCenter Seeks Partner for Hybrid Rice Seed Production

The LSU AgCenter is excited about the new rice hybrid LAH169 which was released in the spring of 2018. The LSU AgCenter does not have the manpower or infrastructure needed for commercial seed production and is searching for a partner to bring the hybrid to the market. A public bid process will be used to select a potential partner and all interested parties are encouraged to submit a business proposal. More information on the bid process, the hybrid itself, and the unique challenges presented in producing a 2-line hybrid is available by contacting Alana Fernandez, Associate Director, Office of Intellectual Property at (225) 578-8238.



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Parish	Variety	Acres	Yield			Notes
			bbl	bu	lb/A	
Vermilion	Cheniere	40, 156, 120, 115	40	144	6480	
Vermilion	Cheniere	225	41	148	6642	
Evangeline	Mermentau	121	56	202	9072	
Acadia	CL111	71	45	162	7290	
Vermilion	CL111	170	52	187	8424	
Calcasieu	CL153	53	37	133	5994	BPB
Jeff Davis	753	50	55	198	8910	
Jeff Davis	753	43	51	184	8262	
Jeff Davis	CL153	85	36	130	5832	BPB
Vermilion	Cheniere	120	48	173	7776	
Vermilion	CL111	100	49	176	7938	
Jeff Davis	753	60	57	205	9234	
Evangeline	Cheniere	40	47	169	7614	
St. Landry	CL111	80	47	169	7614	
Evangeline	CL111	100	46	166	7452	
Allen	Cheniere	120	42	151	6804	
Acadia	CL111	135	44	158	7128	
Acadia	CL111	108	46	166	7452	
Acadia	729	not reported	50	180	8100	
Acadia	723	65	51	184	8262	
Acadia	723	54	54	194	8748	
Acadia	753	30	58	209	9396	
Acadia	CL111	125	48	173	7776	
Acadia	CL111	190	40	144	6480	
Acadia	CL111	140	46	166	7452	
Acadia	CL111	170	47	169	7614	
Vermilion	CL153	104	44	158	7128	
Vermilion	PVL01	21	42	151	6804	
Acadia	Mermentau	100	38	137	6156	outcross issues
Acadia	729	78	56	202	9072	
Acadia	753	36	58	209	9396	
Acadia	CL111	164	46	166	7452	
Acadia	CL111	190	53	191	8586	
Acadia	Mermentau	50	52	187	8424	
Acadia	CL111	111	55	198	8910	
Acadia	CL111	84 of 96	47	169	7614	Hail & wind storm came through and shattered grain. Bottom 12 acres cut 29 bbl/A



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Join the Louisiana Rice Text Group List

If you would like to join the Louisiana Rice Text Group, simply text @larice to 81010. To unsubscribe to the group, simply text

back “unsubscribe@larice” to the group.

If you would like to get the text messages by email, send an email to larice@mail.remind.com. If you would like to unsubscribe to the email messages, simply email larice@mail.remind.com with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

Additional Information

Louisiana Rice Notes is published periodically to provide timely information and recommendations for rice production in



Louisiana Rice
@LouisianaRice

LSU AgCenter H. Rouse
Caffey Rice Research
Station

Louisiana Crops
Website @
www.louisianacrops.com

LSU AgCenter Official
Website @
www.lsuagcenter.com

Louisiana. If you would like to be added to this email list, please send your request to dharrell@agcenter.lsu.edu.

This information will also be posted to the LSU AgCenter website where additional rice information can be found. Please visit www.LSUAgCenter.com.

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