

Field Notes  
September 7, 2011  
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I thought some of you might be interested in how yields turned out in the Verification Program this year. We increased the number of fields from 3 to 5 this year and monitored one other that was not officially part of the program.

The overall average is slightly lower than last year even though two fields produced exceptional yields. The field in Allen parish was the most disappointing because it appeared to have much more potential. Laser leveling of the shallow soil created areas of low fertility that we should have supplemented as the grower had suggested. That could have gotten us over the 8100 pound (50 bbl or 180 bu) mark. The second disappointing field was the field in St. Landry parish where Poule d'eau ate about 3 to 5 acres that had to be replanted which then affected water management, weed control and fertility. The great surprise was the Madison field which according to the farmer was still yielding the same when tropical depression Lee came in and flattened the remaining 20 acres or so of the field. At this writing I have not heard the final tally.

#### Yields from the 2011 Rice Research Verification Program

| Parish                     | Acres             | Variety  | Cwt/A green | Bbl/A green | Bu/A green | Cwt/A dry | Bbl/A dry | Bu/A dry |
|----------------------------|-------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Allen                      | 23.2              | Jupiter  | 80.65       | 49.8        | 179.0      | 77.99     | 48.1      | 173.3    |
| Cameron                    | 17.6              | Jupiter  | 84.73       | 52.3        | 188.3      | 82.90     | 51.2      | 184.2    |
| Madison                    | 10.5 <sup>1</sup> | Cheniere | 100.32      | 61.9        | 222.9      | 93.82     | 57.9      | 208.5    |
| St. Landry                 | 45.7              | Cheniere | 71.42       | 44.1        | 158.7      | 68.90     | 42.5      | 153.1    |
| Vermilion                  | 24.0              | CL151    | 93.94       | 58.0        | 208.8      | 87.54     | 54.0      | 194.5    |
|                            |                   |          |             |             |            |           |           |          |
| <b>Average<sup>2</sup></b> | 121.0             |          | 82.10       | 50.7        | 182.4      | 78.54     | 48.5      | 174.5    |

<sup>1</sup>The Madison field was actually 73.4 acres weights were only obtained from 10.51 acres

<sup>2</sup>Averages are weighted according to acres

I have had lots of calls about high stink bug numbers in first crop in northeast Louisiana and in second crop in the south. Looks like they came on late and built up fast. Early reports indicate Tenchu was providing some residual control and that the pyrethroids were working as expected requiring multiple applications to keep the numbers down. Where malathion was used it was about the same as spraying water. Malathion is just about useless in controlling rice stink bugs.

The other calls we are getting are about very low milling numbers. Most of the reports are from hybrids, but at least one was from CL151 harvested at low moisture. The AgCenter has long recommended harvesting at 18% to 22% moisture. Only Cypress and CL161 (a derivative of Cypress) seem to tolerate very low moisture without suffering serious decline in milling. This is especially true this year when many fields ripened during the excessive heat of August. In some cases fields may have been drained a little early with the anticipation of being able to harvest in a timely fashion. When harvest was delayed the field continued to dry resulting in much lower than desired harvest moisture.

If a load was turned down it can be put back in the bin and when cold air is available it can be blown through this rice. This practice seems to temper the grain and improve milling. While it will not convert poor milling rice to excellent milling rice a few percentage points of increase in milling could make the difference between being able to sell the grain or having to suffer deductions.

A number of folks have inquired about a session on drying rice. Several years ago we put together a grain drying seminar and can do something similar if we can arrange speakers. At present there is no agricultural engineer within the AgCenter that has expertise in this area. We will try to locate someone in one of the adjoining states and get back to you.

This will be the last edition of Field Notes this year.