



Left to right above are photographs of sheath blight, an unknown, and leaf blast on rice. The sheath blight photograph was taken in a field of XP753 in which every stop was a positive stop, that is, we could find disease at each stop. In some cases I considered the stop to rate a 10 out of 10 because every stalk appeared to be infected while most averaged about 30 to 40 percent infected. At any rate, the most severe sheath blight I have seen on any hybrid. This rice was drill seeded at around 20 pounds per acre yet has tillered so much it is difficult to walk through. We used the same amount of nitrogen we used last year in a verification field of hybrid rice not far from this location. Heavy rain and more cloud cover has set things up for a heavy disease pressure year. At least it made it easy to decide whether or not to use a fungicide.

The middle photograph I took to illustrate the type of symptom often mistaken for blast. While blast can be found on leaf margins they usually are scattered throughout the leaf surface. Another hint was that this was the only lesion on the plant or any nearby plants. In this instance this leaf stood out because there was nothing else there. Had the problem been blast we should have been able to find a lot more around.

The third photograph is of the genuine article. This is leaf blast on Jupiter. I have found blast in our verification field of Jupiter in Vermilion parish and was called to this field of Jupiter in Evangeline parish to confirm what the dealer rep already expected. So, it is starting late, but I do not take any chances with this pest. We recommended fungicide be applied. In Dr. Groth's letter he mentioned having seen a sample of CL261 with blast too. So far the blast of which I am aware has only been on medium grain varieties known to be susceptible. Check any CL151 carefully.



Yesterday Terry Erwin and I looked at a field thought to have been hit with glyphosate drift. The top photo showing the field from a distance only shows injury and perhaps a water pattern. When we looked at individual plants the symptoms were more like Newpath than glyphosate because injury was mostly on lower leaves and interveinal chlorosis characteristic of Newpath was present. However when we looked in a westerly direction the rows from the previous corn crop were very clearly demarked by alternating relatively healthy rice with injured rice. I sent these photos to Dr. Webster who also sent them to Dr. Daniel Stephenson. We could not tell if the green plants were on old row ridges or bottoms. Overlapping herbicide injury symptoms, a water pattern in one direction and a row pattern in another confound the issue. All I could say was that it was not glyphosate drift. Dr. Webster is still working on it.



The plants in the top left photo are of crabgrass exhibiting typical Newpath injury symptoms. The dramatic interveinal chlorosis (yellow between green veins) is classic. Above right is textbook Permit symptoms on soybeans. Londax symptoms would be very similar. It amazes me that so many soybean fields have been ruined by standing water while we have volunteer soybeans scattered throughout flooded rice fields.

The near photograph is a close-up of some insect eggs I found while scouting for sheath blight. I thought at first it might be a borer behind the leaf sheath then found these. One entomologist said he thought they might be sharpshooter eggs (a type of leaf hopper). Note several of the eggs have been parasitized.

The other photograph shows two rice water weevil pairs on rice that had been sprayed with Karate less than a week ago. Nearly every plant in the field had at least one weevil on it. Glad we have Cruiser Maxx on the seed.

