

Field Notes
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The photographs on this page illustrate a problem we addressed at the producer meetings last winter. Between the drill rows at left is an excellent stand of volunteer rice. It is probably a combination of both volunteer hybrid from last year and red rice because the field has a long history of both. The only recommendation we could provide was to spray the entire field with glyphosate and try water seeding like we did when we did not have Clearfield rice. As we said at the meetings the volunteer generation of hybrid rice would segregate into various types. The bottom series of photographs show this. The reddish colored one probably has only one gene for Newpath tolerance so was affected but not killed. The next one is probably resistant red rice. The last photo shows four plant types – CL151 at far left and three volunteer types which could be either resistant red rice or volunteer hybrid.





The photo above was taken in a field where dry seed had been spread with a spin spreader. The heavier stand is where the swath overlapped. The farmer's concern was whether it would affect yield and second did he have a good enough stand to keep. The county agent, Keith Fontenot, had already done stand counts in a line transecting the planting pattern. The numbers he showed me indicated that even though there were some light spots in the middle and heavy where overlapped there was a good probability the field would be OK and definitely good enough to keep. If we are right the heavy planted area will not tiller as much as the light and near mid-season the pattern will not be so clear. There could be some difference in maturation of the grain on tillers versus main stems. How much it might impact yield would only be speculation now.

On the next page the left photograph shows typical injury symptoms of pendamethalin (Prowl and others). In this case it is relatively minor and the field is very clean and rice is otherwise growing well. Unlike the stem which elongates from the base initially, roots elongate at the tips. When this process is interrupted the tips enlarge.

The last photograph is a regular in Field Notes. I took this one in a field that had already been sprayed once. We had very heavy scarring but could find no adults. So with our second herbicide application to dry ground just ahead of the flood we included an insecticide. A few days later we checked the field and found adults. We had to recommend spraying again. I am not sure if the remainder of the farmer's fields were sprayed. If they were not sprayed it will make for an interesting comparison. In Vermilion parish we found adults where Stuart Gauthier had been monitoring at least weekly. Looks like a sign of emergence to me. Watch for them.



Addendum to this edition

In the discussion of the volunteer hybrid rice and possible resistant red rice infesting the field shown in the first series of photographs I made a misleading statement when I said the only thing we could recommend was to apply glyphosate and try water seeding. This statement was made after declining the options of totally abandoning the field and plowing repeatedly to kill all succeeding stands of rice or to plant glyphosate tolerant soybeans. It is all a moot point since it appeared the last time I drove by the field that nothing on that order had been done.

I did not in any way want to indicate I or the LSU AgCenter would disregard good stewardship of Clearfield technology. We harped on this enough last winter that I think that is obvious.