

Field Notes
June 28, 2010
Johnny Saichuk



Last week I had several calls about possible *Cercospora* development and was able to see a couple of samples. What you see at right are *Cercospora* lesions on CL111. At least a couple of calls were about lesions on this variety, but most of our recommended long grain varieties show some susceptibility to *Cercospora* and even the medium grains, which are all rated resistant, will have some lesions on them. To control this disease will require an application of a fungicide that contains propiconazole, the active ingredient in Tilt and other fungicides.



At left is a close-up of some of these lesions. There are several characteristics that separate these lesions from blast lesions and brown spot lesions. These run parallel to the veins in the leaf, they do not have a tan or grayish center, they are distinctly linear. Blast lesions would be elliptical rather than linear and would have tan or grayish centers. If they were of brown spot they would be nearly circular in shape and might or might not have a distinct center that was somewhat tan or grayish.

Actually I am not nearly as concerned about any of the fungal diseases as I am bacterial panicle blight. Much of our rice in the southern part of the state is just beginning to flower now under high night time temperatures, ideal for panicle blight.

Whenever we have an extended planting season problems show up at odd times. Normally we are through with chinch bug problems by this time of year. I took the photograph at right this afternoon in Calcasieu parish. Permanent flood was just being established. I was called last Friday, but could not get there until today and by today the rice had improved simply by flooding even though the insects were everywhere. Once they are flushed out of the soil where they can feed on young roots and the crown of the plant they do not appear to cause as much injury as when they are in the soil. Because there was also a lot of rice water weevil adults present we recommended an insecticide. Had the rice water weevils not been present I would have recommended watching the crop and only spraying if the problem persisted. Most of these critters were hiding the whorls of the plants.



Do not forget about the Rice Research Station field day to be held this Thursday, July 1. More information is available at: www.lsuagcenter.com/ricefielddayinfo. On this site is a link that will allow you to view the field day live if you are not able to attend.

Vermilion parish will have their annual field tour on Tuesday, July 6.

An in field rice school will be held in Madison parish on Friday, July 9.

The Northeast Louisiana rice field tour will be held in Richland parish on Wednesday, July 14.

For more information about any of these events contact your local county agent.