

Field Notes

May 31, 2013, Part B

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With all of the emphasis on the weather I thought we might never discuss the regular topics. With the onset of warmer conditions we are finally reaching internode elongation, also called green ring. I prefer the term internode elongation because of what is shown below. This stem is from drill seeded rice. Because the internode is below the soil line the green pigment did not develop like it does in water seeded rice. The top section shows the outside of the stem and the lower the inside. The internode is elongating but is white while the second internode is accumulating green color. The point is that we are past “green ring” even though we do not see the typical green band. Below are panicles at 2mm or PD and the second panicle is about 4 mm long. 2 mm is about 1/16 inch and 4 mm is between 2/16 and 3/16 inch. The top photo is of CL111 planted March 19th and the lower photos are of Mermentau water seeded March 12th. The water seeded field is about a week ahead of the DD50 prediction while the drilled field is about a week behind the DD50 prediction. Usually drill seeded rice is slower to mature than water seeded rice.



Below is the first borer I have found this year. It is a sugarcane borer which has become our most common stalk borer in rice and the easiest to identify. It has spots on it while both the Mexican rice borer and rice stalk borer have lines on their backs. A number of county agents are participating in a Mexican rice borer monitoring program under Dr. Julien Beuzelin . So far I have not heard of any moth catches outside of the already documented areas of Calcasieu, Cameron and parts of Jeff Davis parishes. If any of you find borers and you are not certain of their identity please give us a call.



In the photograph at left and below is a rice field levee with vegetation on one side. This is the result of applying burndown herbicide and the vegetation on the windward side got a full dose while that on the leeward side did not thus survived. Dr. Webster has used this pattern to detect drift injury in some cases. The second photograph is of an old man who caught an alligator.

