



The above photographs do not do justice to what can be seen when these plots are seen “in person”. On the left is one of Dr. Linscombe’s plots and on the right is one of Dr. Harrell’s at an off station location in Vermilion parish. Dr. Harrell treated his seed with AV-1011 while Dr. Linscombe did not. The difference is really very clear and dramatic. The stuff works.

Earlier this week we sent out information to county agents in which we are asking anyone who has used or regretted not using this blackbird repellent to write to the EPA in support of the product. This was prompted by a message stating the manufacturer will not have all of the necessary data required to obtain a full federal label in time for the 2014 season. In the letter from the EPA granting the section 18 Emergency Use label, the agency made it abundantly clear they do not intend to grant a section 18 for this product again. Among the issues the agency had with the request was insufficient documentation of loss expressed as dollars or yield or any factor such as forcing the delaying of planting and its consequences. A very short two or three sentence letter from a farmer will carry much more weight than a two page letter from me or any AgCenter employee. The letters should be sent to Steven Bradbury and copied to Lois Rossi. The addresses are below along with their e-mail addresses if you prefer to use that format.

Steven Bradbury, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Pesticide Programs
USEPA Headquarters
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail code: 7051P
Washington, DC 20460
Bradbury.steven@Epa.gov

Lois Rossi
Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs
USEPA Headquarters
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Mail code: 7505P
Washington, DC 20460
Rossi.lois@Epa.gov

Our verification field in Vermilion parish was water seeded on March 12 and like most of the rice planted in early March has been struggling since. The combination of cold weather, rain, wind, birds and the potential for red rice in this field has forced us to keep the field flooded as much as possible. As you can see in the photograph at right, much of the rice is stretched and laying on the water surface. This is actually an improvement over the previous week when none of the rice was standing.

We decided to lower the water slowly so the seedlings would not stick to the soil. Once all of the water was out of the field we recommended 190 pounds of urea plus 10 pounds of zinc per acre with the intention of establishing permanent flood immediately afterward. The only herbicide applied at this point has been Command on phosphorus and potassium fertilizer. We will allow the seedlings to improve then we will decide on the next step in weed control. Warmer weather should help the crop turn around.



A few years ago Dr. Linscombe released the variety Trenasse. I'll admit I did not know its root or meaning until the variety was released and Dr. Linscombe provided an explanation. A "trenasse" is a trail in the marsh. At left is an example of a trenasse in lower Vermilion parish not far from our verification field and from the critter on the next page.

The alligator on the next page has had a hard life based on the missing scutes on its tail and the loss of his right eye. I used the male personal pronoun assuming the injury was from another male, but an out-board motor propeller could be as likely a cause. This one was around 8 feet long as best as I could estimate.

