

Field Notes
August 16, 2012
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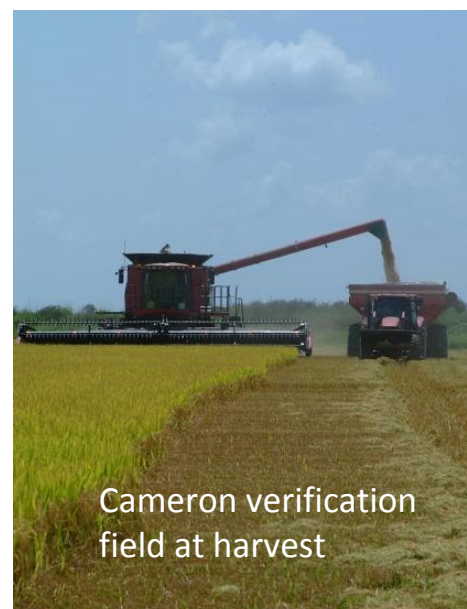
Parish	Acres	Variety	Cwt/A green	Bbl/A green	Bu/A green	Cwt/A dry	Bbl/A dry	Bu/A dry
Allen	30.7	CLXL745	79.69	49.2	177.1	73.91	45.6	164.2
Cameron	35.7	Cheniere	57.75	35.6	128.3	55.78	34.4	124.0
Concordia	37.4	CL111						
St. Landry	44.1	CL152	85.60	52.8	190.2	81.42	50.3	180.9
Vermilion	16.5	Cheniere	75.40	46.5	167.6	71.37	44.1	158.6
Average¹	164.4							

I had hoped to have the blanks following Concordia parish filled by tonight (Thursday, August 16, 2012), but the lone remaining verification field is not yet harvested. While this has been the best year since the program started in 1998 as far as grower and agent participation, it has been a little disappointing in terms of yields.

The Allen parish field looked great all year. It was the tallest rice I have had to scout and was very difficult to walk through. Heads looked outstanding. My first clue of a problem was test weight samples taken at harvest which averaged 43 pounds per bushel. That is just too light and indicates poor grain fill. I checked our records and during flowering we over 8 inches of rain which apparently affected pollination.

The Cameron field was disappointing for a different reason; we did it to ourselves. After the very favorable results of the N-Star testing last year we decided to give it a try. The field was beautiful, virtually no disease, excellent weed control, and no insect problems. The sample was very high quality in appearance with test weight averaging 48.5 pounds per bushel. The only problem was that we did not have enough bushels or barrels or hundredweights. It may not be as disappointing economically because we only used 140 pounds of urea per acre and only applied 6 ounces of propiconazole fungicide.

On the next page is a photograph of stubble manipulation in the St. Landry parish verification field. This is a regular practice for this grower and the first in the verification program. It was also my first look at CL152 and I think it is a winner. We picked up sheath blight early and blast later on, but with a single 18 ounce per acre application of Stratego we slowed the progression of both diseases enough to produce excellent yields. The highest previous yield from this field was 44 barrels per acre according to the farmer. This variety might not have quite the yield potential of CL151, but it appears to tolerate disease pressure better and is expected to have better grain quality. We have not yet run milling on any samples. This field and the Cameron field have been fertilized and flooded to produce a second crop. No second crop is planned for any other verification fields this year.



Cameron verification
field at harvest



Above – flail mowing in St. Landry verification field.

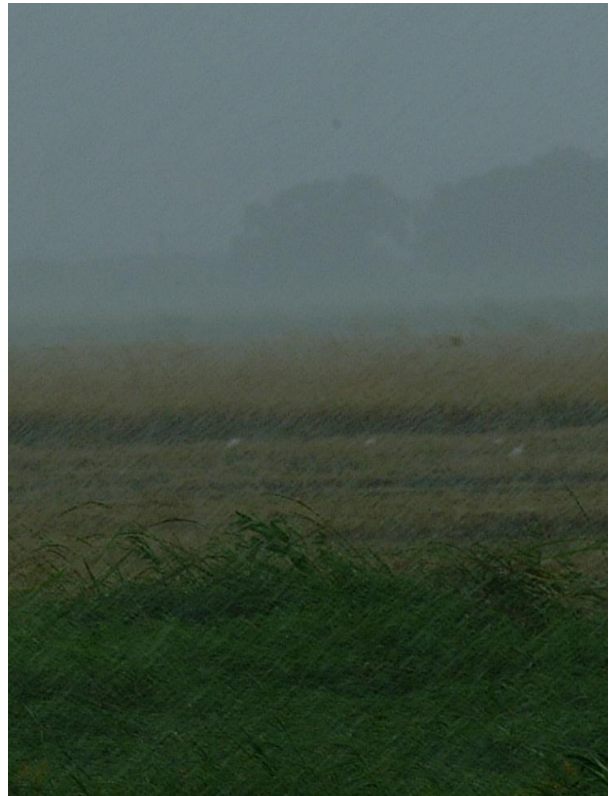
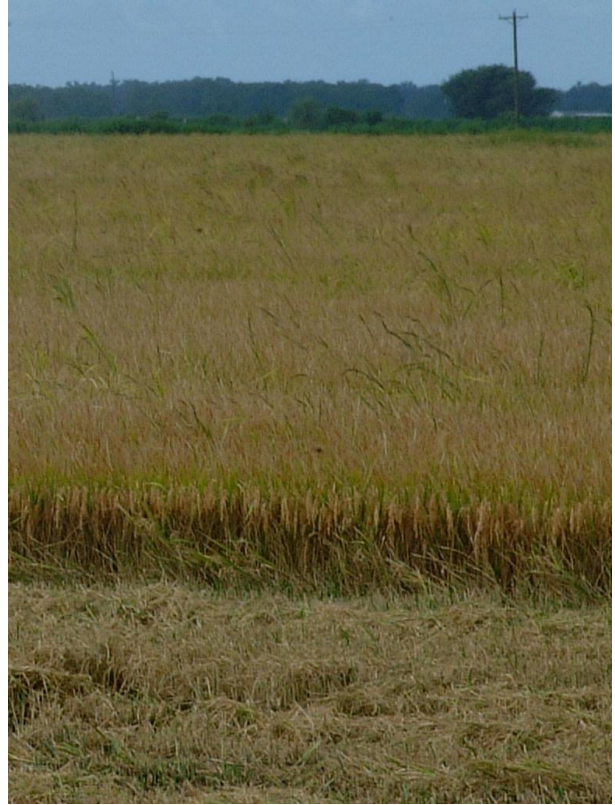
Below – varying degrees of blast on CL151. Very severe on left to mild on right. (Photo provided by Dr. Don Groth).

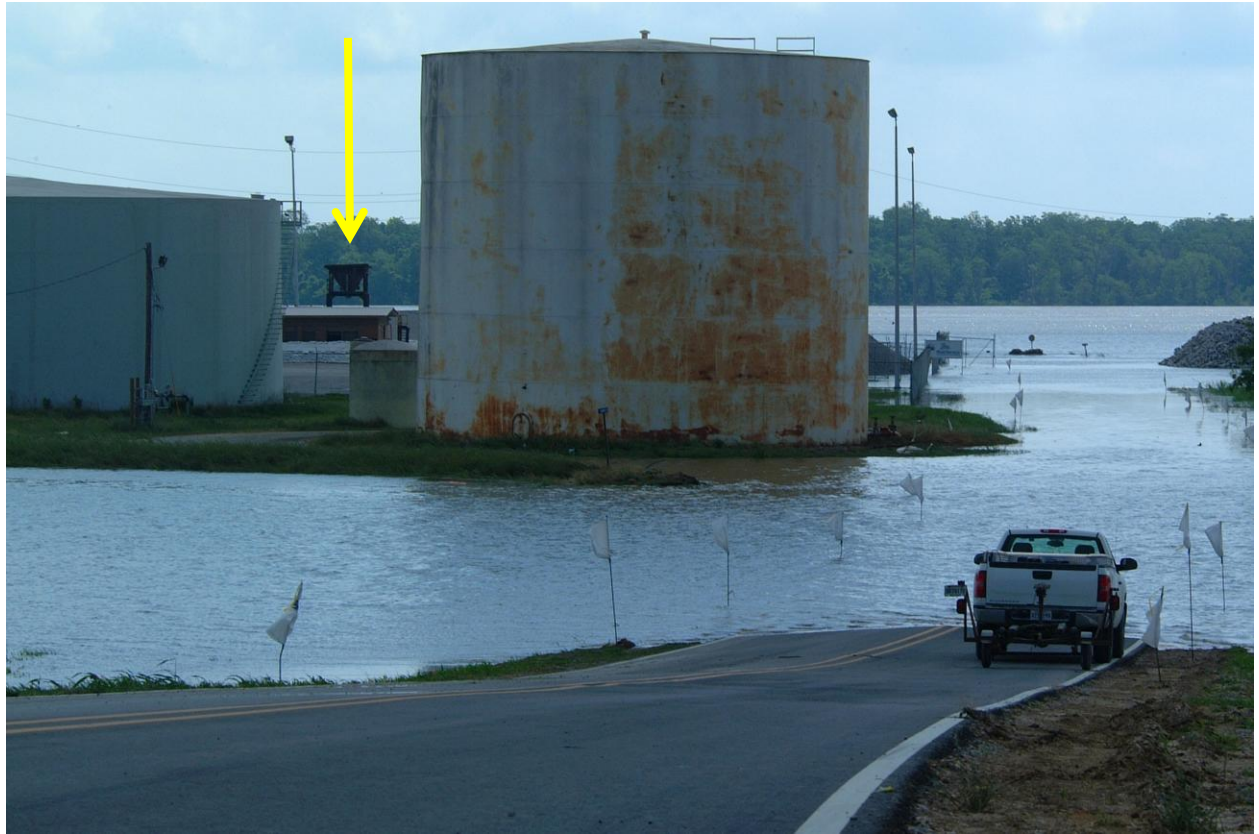


At right is a view of our verification field in Vermilion parish where Newpath resistant plants were a known problem before we planted. We water seeded then ducks forced a re-plant. Two things were a big surprise; the sample had very little black hulled rice and the yield was much better than expected.

A photograph of the sample is shown below. While some of the resistant plants could have been red rice out-crosses, there were others that probably were something else. The field has no history of hybrids.

Below right is a shot of the situation when we had about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the field harvested. It was the first time in 15 years that we were rained out while harvesting so we have been very lucky. We waited a few hours, came back and finished the field.





The two photographs on the preceding page are of the Tallulah port. The top photo was taken in 2011 when there were concerns that the Mississippi River might overtop or rupture the levee. The bottom photo was taken by County Agent Donna Lee last week. The loading funnel is the only common object we could find among our photographs from last year and this year. If this is not going from one extreme to the next I do not know what is.

The next issue will probably be the last to summarize our verification results.

All of the issues except this one have been posted on the web at: www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/rice/Field+Notes/ . They have also been posted on the Louisiana Crops blog at www.louisianacrops.com .