RiceTec

People Dedicated to the Field of Rice

PREFLOOD 2009

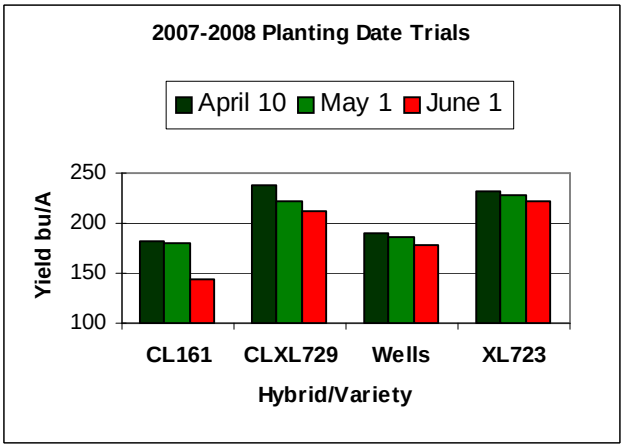
Published for the customers of RiceTec, Inc.

- Remember to check our website for updates, information, and details on programs.
- Please be sure to enter your emergence in your states DD50 program.
- All unused seed must be returned by June 15th for credit.

Hybrid Advantage Evident Even When Planted Late

Jeff Branson

Rice yields are typically greater when planting occurs in April compared to May or June. The graph below represents combined data from RiceTec, University of Arkansas and Mississippi State University from the 2007 and 2008 growing seasons. The data illustrate the impact that planting date has on yield. RiceTec hybrids and varieties display the same trend when planting is extended into May and June. However, the higher yield potential provided by RiceTec hybrids keeps yields at acceptable levels when planting is delayed due to environmental conditions like we have encountered across much of the mid-south this year.



In these studies XL723 had the most consistent yield across all planting dates ranging from 216 to 233 bushels per acre. The stability of XL723 across all planting dates also makes it an excellent choice for double cropping situations such as rice following wheat.

The yield advantage provided by RiceTec hybrids can also be seen where it matters the most, and that is in net income. Table 1 speaks for itself and illustrates the potential increase in profits that may be realized by making the decision to plant RiceTec hybrid rice. Whether it be early or late in the planting season RiceTec hybrid rice has the potential to put more money back into your farming operation.

Table 1

University of Arkansas Planting Date Studies Stuttgart, AR (2005 - 2008)

May Planting

Hybrid/ Variety	Yield (bu/a)	Milling	Net Income
XL723	209	58 / 70	$332
CLXL729	200	58 / 70	$235
Wells	160	58 / 71	$129
CL161	131	62 / 70	($45)

June Planting

Hybrid/ Variety	Yield (bu/a)	Milling	Net Income
XL723	141	62 / 71	$39
CLXL729	164	60 / 71	$86
Wells	124	61 / 72	($19)
CL161	92	63 / 72	($240)

*XL723 & Wells 3 year average yield & milling (2005 - 2007) Input cost taken from U of A Estimating 2009 Costs of Production (AG-1209-11-08 and AG-1214-11-08)
*CLXL729 & CL161 3 year average yield & milling (2006 - 2008) Input cost taken from U of A Estimating 2009 Costs of Production (AG-1209-11-08 and AG-1214-11-08)

Preflood Herbicide Options for RiceTec Hybrid Rice

Dr. Brian Ottis

Now that you've hopefully gotten off to a good start with your residual preemergence or early postemergence herbicide program, we have to maintain a clean crop going into the flood and beyond. I like to know exactly what weeds and their sizes I am dealing with before making a herbicide recommendation. One size does not fit all. You can spend more money than you need to, but you can also try to get by on the cheap and pay for it later with postflood salvage treatments. It's important from a yield and financial standpoint that you get it right the first time out. Here are some things to consider when making your preflood herbicide applications (Continued on pg 2).

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For grass control in conventional (non-CLEARFIELD) rice, there are several options to choose from, and these options largely depend on the size, species, and whether the field has a history of herbicide resistance. Propanil is an excellent choice for small grass (less than two-to-three leaf) and picks up many broadleaf weeds as well. Facet is another choice, and the rate for both of these can be adjusted upwards if the situation calls for it and resistance is not present. Grasp and Regiment are good choices if barnyardgrass (*Echnichloa* sp.) is the only grass present, as they do not control other grass weeds. As wet as things have been, Ricestar and Clincher are other grass control options, but I typically do not recommend these preflood unless the ground is saturated at the time of application. If this is the case and the flood will be delayed for some time, including a residual herbicide such as Prowl or Command is a good option. Typically when going to flood, we like the ground to be dry for our fertilizer and Clincher and Ricestar will not work effectively in this situation.

Other than Ricestar and Clincher, all of the above herbicides also have broadleaf activity, but control is dependent on the species present. I recommend you refer to the label or your state or local weed control guidelines for control of specific broadleaf weeds.

In CLEARFIELD rice, weed control should center around Newpath; however, Newpath may not control every weed in your field. It is important from a resistance management standpoint to consider adding an additional mode of action with Newpath. This practice will extend the life of the technology on your farm and depending on the herbicide you choose, allow you to pick up leguminous (coffeebean, indigo sp.) or other broadleaf weeds that Newpath may miss or only suppress. Although they are popular, I'm not a big fan of mixing other ALS herbicides (Regiment, Permit, Grasp, Londax) with Newpath unless something else is in the tank or another application has been made with a different mode of action. Relying solely on ALS chemistry puts too much pressure on Mother Nature to adapt and can result in resistance. Consider adding propanil, Basagran, Aim, or Facet (Clearpath) as tank mix partners to provide additional weed control and mitigate resistance.

If you have further questions about weed control in RiceTec Hybrid Rice, consult your local technical services representative.

RiceTec Hybrid Preflood Nitrogen Rates by Region and Soil Type — Greg Simpson

RiceTec recommends 30 units of N/ac at late boot or as a delayed midseason application with the remaining N to be applied preflood. Total N requirements are dependent on soil type and other adjustments such as previous crop. All N adjustments should be made to the preflood application. The late boot application timing is due to a difference in physiology between RiceTec hybrid rice and other commonly grown varieties. Delaying traditional midseason nitrogen applications to late boot has resulted in increased grain and milling yields and increased standability under adverse environmental conditions. Midseason nitrogen applications may be warranted if preflood nitrogen was lost due to delayed flooding or loss of the permanent flood after nitrogen application.

RiceTec Hybrid rice final plant stand is targeted at 8 to 10 plants per square foot. Multiyear head to head comparisons have shown that nitrogen adjustments can increase yield potential in situations where stand density is a concern. Ammonium sulfate at a rate of 100 lb/acre applied at the 1 to 2 leaf growth stage can help preserve yield potential with plant populations less than 5 plants per square foot.

Soil Type	South AR, MS, North LA	South LA	Grand Prairie AR, North East AR, South East MO	TX, East and South of Houston	TX, West of Houston
Silt Loam	120-0-30*	120-0-30	120-0-30	120-0-30	90-0-30
Sandy Loam			90-0-30		90-0-30
Clay Soils	120-0-30	120-0-30	120-0-30	120-0-30	120-0-30

*Preflood—Mid-Season — Late Boot

Factors that can increase nitrogen use efficiency and protect your yield potential include:

- Applying urea to dry, crusted soil to ensure that nitrogen will move down the soil profile once flooded.
- Applying the recommended nitrogen rate for each soil type to maximize yield potential.
- Applying the flood immediately following preflood N application.
- Using Agrotain® to protect preflood urea from ammonia volatilization or if applications of urea are made when dry soil conditions can not be obtained.

Agrotain® has been shown to reduce nitrogen loss in less than ideal conditions and when the establishment of the permanent flood takes longer than 5 days.

Hybrid rice grain yield (lb/Ac) from the RiceTec farm at Harrisburg, AR

Year	Untreated Urea	Agrotain-treated Urea
2007	9306	9770
2008	9325	9720

Water Weevil Management

Dr. Brian Ottis

Rice water weevils can cause considerable damage if left untreated. If you have not applied your preflood herbicide, did not use Dermacor X-100 seed treatment, and if you are in an area where weevils usually cause damage, consider including a pyrethroid insecticide with your preflood herbicide application. It's a cheap and efficient way to get ahead of the weevils before they can lay eggs. This application must be made within 7 days of the flood to be effective. Otherwise, consider applying a pyrethroid by air within 5 days following the flood. Once the adults lay eggs in the water, the only control measure after that point is to drain the field and allow the ground to crack in order to break the reproductive cycle of the weevils. If this is the case in your field, be aware that some of your preflood nitrogen may be lost if you drain 10-14 days following the establishment of the permanent flood. You may need to add (50 lb) urea at midseason to make up for this loss.


Adult rice water weevil


Severe weevil pressure left untreated

If you have already applied the flood, scout for adult weevil feeding scars on new leaves as soon as possible following the flood. If you find damage on 60% of the leaves you check, this is the economic threshold for this pest, and an application would be warranted. If root pruning is already severe due to larval feeding, draining the field is the only option at that point, and yield loss has likely already occurred.

Application Timing for Beyond™

Beyond™ can be applied postemergence to remove late-emerging or previously missed red rice, only on CLEARFIELD® rice following two Newpath® applications at labeled timings and labeled rates or after a sequential application of Clearpath® followed by Newpath® or Newpath® followed by Clearpath® at labeled timings and labeled rates.

If a red rice rescue treatment is required apply Beyond™ postemergence to RiceTec CLEARFIELD® rice between RiceTec CLEARFIELD® rice tillering and RiceTec CLEARFIELD® rice panicle initiation (green ring). Applications of Beyond made after panicle initiation (green ring) may reduce RiceTec CLEARFIELD® rice yields.

Flooding Has Been a Major Concern Across Mid-South

Jeff Branson

Torrential rainfall in the last few weeks has caused many problems across the region. Thousands of acres of rice have been under water for at least a week. The fields that had emerged before flooding occurred should recover once the flood waters recede. The photographs below illustrate the typical results of deep water on small rice. The leaves will stretch and usually fall over and stick in the mud. New growth will take a few days, and will come from the soil surface. Hopefully the waters will go down quickly and the process of assessing the damage can begin.

Seed Returns

Any seed to be returned must be accompanied by the proper paperwork and turned in by June 15th, 2009. RiceTec will take returns up to 10% of the order from the March and May pay period in standard paper bags that are un-opened and in good condition. Remember, seed ordered under Fall Pay Terms is non-returnable, and if your paperwork is not filled out and to RiceTec by June 15th there will be no return on that seed.

RiceTec, Inc.

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RiceTec Newsletter
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