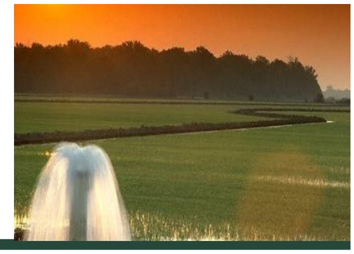
RiceTec

People Dedicated to the Field of Rice



Midseason 2009

Published for the customers of RiceTec, Inc.

2009 Mid South Rice Crop Delayed Due to Significant Spring Rainfall

Jeff Branson

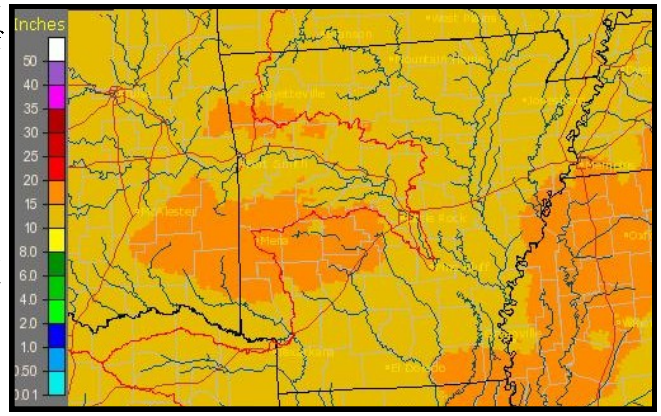
Significant rainfall totals over the last 90 days turned what looked like an easy spring at the first of April, into one of the hardest planting seasons on record.

There were a few producers that were able to get some acres planted in late March and the first few days of April. However, the late harvest of the 2008 crop left many fields with knee deep ruts all winter long and remained that way for much of the spring.

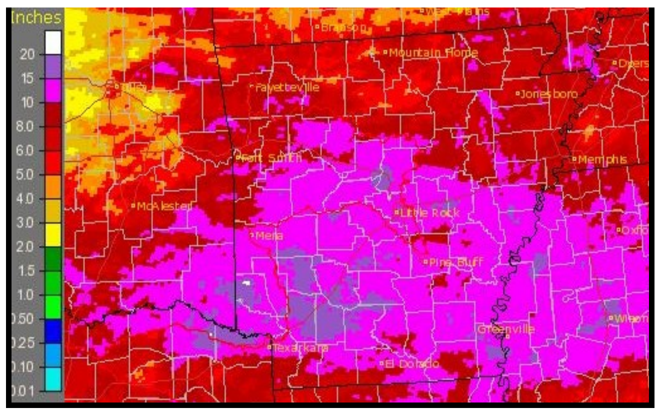
The regional maps show the average precipitation and the 2009 average. In many areas of the mid south the rainfall received was almost double the average. With 15 to 20 inches of rainfall common across the area stand establishment was hard to obtain.

Most fields that had germinated but had not emerged before flooding occurred still managed to get an acceptable stand density. In these fields the seed had germinated, but had not emerged prior to going underwater. When the flood waters receded there was a stand, but it was 2 leaf rice 12 to 14 inches long.

Average Precipitation April-June



2009 Precipitation April-June



The photos below illustrate what happened on many of the fields were germination occurred prior to flooding. These are from the RFYT location in Lincoln County AR. The field was completely submerged for 14 days and the rice had not emerged prior to flood. As the water receded you could see a little green and finally a full recovery.

However, there were many fields that never had a chance due to the weather. The old saying about rice can come through soil or water, but not through both is true. If the seed had not germinated before all of the rain started it simply rotted due to the lack of oxygen in the soil. Even fields that were never submerged for very long, the seed rotted due to the fact that it rained every day for almost a month and the soil was just as saturated as if it had been flooded. RiceTec provided replant seed to all of the costumers that were affected by this natural disaster in our on going effort to help minimize your risk.

- New RiceTec hybrids can be seen at a RFYT location in your area. Contact your local RiceTec representative.
- To sign up for the RiceTec podcast, email Dr. Brian Ottis at bottis@ricetec.com

Sheath Blight on Hybrid Rice

Dr. Brian Ottis

As we approach midseason and beyond, it is important to be on the lookout for sheath blight disease. Sheath blight is caused by *Rhizoctonia solani*, the same pathogen responsible for aerial blight in soybean. Although RiceTec Hybrids have been shown to have better resistance to sheath blight than other varieties, it is important to be vigilant for signs of the disease.

Sheath blight disease starts at the water line typically during the time when rice shifts to reproductive growth following panicle initiation. The disease can be found on the hybrids, but typically does not escalate to the point necessitating a fungicide application. If a fungicide application is warranted, in many cases a lower fungicide rate is enough to keep the disease at bay so that the flag leaf and panicle are not affected.

In the event that sheath blight develops on your RiceTec Hybrid Rice, there are a couple of management options that must be considered. First, determine if a fungicide application will be warranted by considering the field history and stage of growth. If the rice is heading, a fungicide for sheath blight is usually not warranted at this stage as the panicle has 'escaped' the disease, or the disease has already infected the flag leaf and a fungicide at this stage may be too late to be of any benefit for sheath blight. Research has shown that yield loss associated with sheath blight is most likely due to infection of the flag leaf, which supplies most of the energy to the panicle during grain fill. Therefore, even if disease thresholds have been reached, it may be better to wait until the disease is two to three leaves below the flag leaf until the application is made in order to get more 'bang for your buck.' In the case of hybrid rice, research has shown that more often than not, a fungicide application did not pay for itself in protected yield.

RiceTec HYBRID RICE SEED

PRODUCT	DISEASE REACTION[1]								CHARACTERISTICS		
	Blast[2]	Sheath Blight	Straight Head	Kernel Smut	False Smut	Stem Rot	Bacterial Panicle Blight	Narrow Brown Leaf Spot	Maturity	Milling Yield[3]	Standability
CLEARFIELD® Long Grain											
CLEARFIELD XP746	**MR**	**MS**	**MR**	**MS**	**MS**	**S**	**MR**	**MR**	**Early**	**60/70**	**Average**
CLEARFIELD XL745	**MR**	**MS**	**MR**	**MS**	**MS**	**S**	**MR**	**MR**	**Very Early**	**58/70**	**Average**
CLEARFIELD XL729	**MR**	**MS**	**MR**	**MS**	**MS**	**S**	**MR**	**MR**	**Early**	**58/70**	**Excellent**
CLEARFIELD XL730	**MR**	**MS**	**MR**	**MS**	**MS**	**S**	**MR**	**MR**	**Early**	**60/70**	**Average**
CL151	VS	VS	VS	S	S	S	S	S	Early	60/69	Excellent
CL131	MS	VS	VS	S	S	S	S	VS	Early	59/70	Excellent
CL171-AR	MS	S	MS	S	S	S	S	MS	Early	61/70	Excellent
CL161	S	VS	MS	S	S	S	S	MS	Early	62/70	Excellent
Standard Long Grain											
XL723	**MR**	**MS**	**MR**	**MS**	**MS**	**S**	**MR**	**MR**	**Very Early**	**61/70**	**Excellent**
Cocodrie	MS	S	VS	VS	S	S	S	MS	Early	61/69	Superior
Wells	S	MS	MS	MS	S	VS	S	S	Early	58/71	Excellent
Francis	VS	MS	MS	VS	S	S	VS	S	Early	58/70	Excellent
Cheniere	MS	S	MS	VS	S	S	S	S	Early	61/70	Excellent

[1]RiceTec hybrid disease ratings and characteristics are determined from data collected from specific RiceTec and/or University field trials and are not a guarantee of performance, nor do they constitute a warranty of fitness for a particular use. CLEARFIELD XP746 ratings are based on preliminary RiceTec data.
R = Resistant; MR = Moderately Resistant; MS = Moderately Susceptible; S = Susceptible; VS = Very Susceptible

[2]RiceTec hybrids have shown field resistance to common strains of rice blast fungus. Susceptibilty to unusual strains of the rice blast fungus that has been rare in the field to date has been documented in nursery trials.

[3]Millling yields are averages of Commercial and University results. CLEARFIELD XL746 ratings are based on preliminary RiceTec data.

Although RiceTec hybrids normally do not require fungicide treatment, fields should be scouted closely for diseases and treated with fungicides when necessary. Consider field history and environmental conditions when making fungicide decisions. Apply preventative applications of fungicide if justified by field history for Kernel Smut, False, Smut, and/or Cercospora.

Mid-Season and Late Boot Nitrogen Applications

Even though nitrogen is not usually recommended for RiceTec hybrids at midseason, occasionally it can be warranted. If preflood nitrogen is lost, for whatever reason, midseason nitrogen may need to be applied. If the rice starts to turn yellow before the boot stage is reached apply the boot nitrogen early to ensure the plant has enough nitrogen and remains healthy during this developmental stage.

Nitrogen at late boot application timing protects against lodging by prolonging stem strength, decreasing disease pressure, and promotes grain fill in RiceTec hybrid rice.

The down rice on the right side of the picture was treated with midseason nitrogen while the rice to the left had only a preflood and boot application of nitrogen.

RiceTec takes a "New" approach to 2009 Field Days

Chad Duckworth

Historically, RiceTec has given growers and the rice industry new information about the company and their products in the same manner as almost every other entity dealing in rice; more or less a "one size fits all" approach. That structure will change for RiceTec in 2009.

In the past, our plan was to organize field days at dates and times that would fit most everyone in the industry, so all could attend . As RiceTec Field Days have increased in popularity and our attendance has grown we have come to realize that this approach does not allow us to meet specific needs of specific customer sets.

This year, however, we wanted to take a slightly different approach. With our new plan, we hope to be able to have several smaller groups with more time to talk and interact with those who attend.

The new approach will offer multiple small scale field days within the various geographies that RiceTec services. The intent is to have smaller more informal groups that will allow customers and others in attendance to interact with company representatives in an information exchange mode; thereby tailoring the discussion to the specific interests of each group. To help manage the size of groups, 2009 RiceTec field days are to be attended ***by invitation only.***

RiceTec will be sending out personal invitations to customers, non-customers and groups within the rice industry, notifying them of the dates in their area. Local RiceTec representatives as well as members of RiceTec management will be present at each field day to share information, answer questions and interact with the attendees.

If you are interested in attending one of our local field days and have not received an invitation we encourage you to contact your local RiceTec representative to learn more. Additional information may also be found on our website, www.ricetec.com as we get closer to field days.

Reminder on 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. If you have questions on timings please contact your local RiceTec representative.

ASPB Validation Reports for LL Testing

Arkansas State Plant Board validation reports for LL testing are available at website www.ricetec.com. Simply scroll down to the bottom of the page and enter the lot number of the seed and click on the search button. The LL validation report will pop up for that lot number. If you have any questions, or if you are having trouble finding the report you need please feel free to contact your local RiceTec representative.

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RiceTec Newsletter

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- RiceTec takes a "New" approach to 2009 Field
- Reminder on Application Timing for Beyond™
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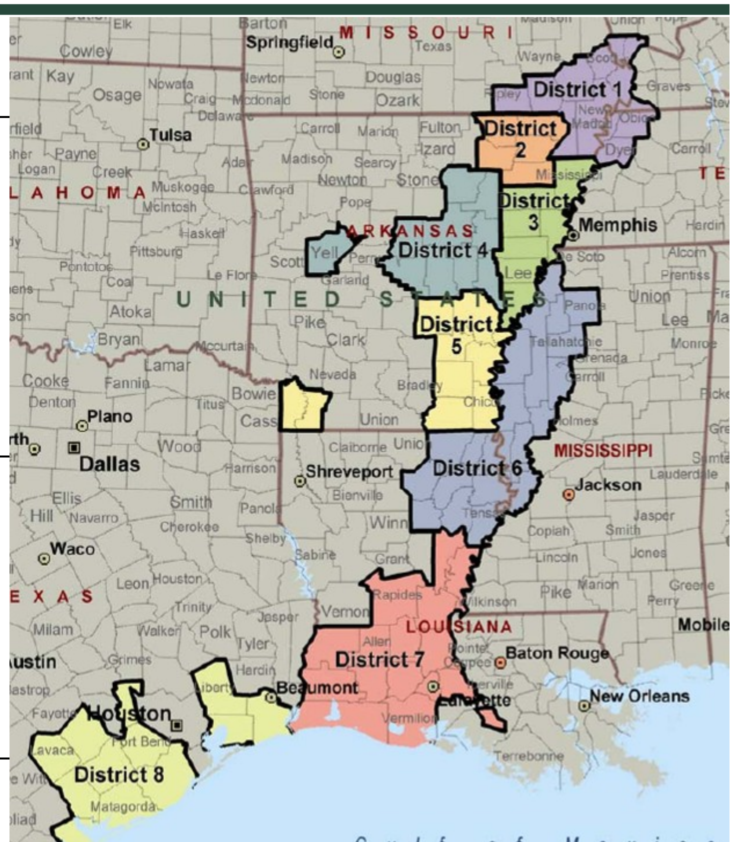

Email addresses for RiceTec representatives available at www.RiceTec.com