



**People Dedicated to the Field of Rice**

**Late Season 2011**

Published for the customers of RiceTec, Inc.

## RiceTec's Disease Package Is Industry Leader

Jeff Branson

The environment during the growing season is conducive to the development of two economically important diseases in rice production. Sheath blight and blast are two diseases that have the potential to cause significant economic loss if left unchecked. According to University data, these diseases cause yield and quality losses ranging from 8 to 10 percent annually. This is a significant loss of revenue to producers; however, utilizing RiceTec Hybrids as your first line of defense against diseases can mean more money in your pocket at the end of the year.

Although RiceTec Hybrids have the best disease package in the industry, this does not mean that scouting for diseases in hybrids is not essential for maximizing yields. Sheath blight is the most frequent disease observed in rice production and is one of the leading causes of economic loss. Since the disease is soil born it will always be in those fields that have a history of the disease. RiceTec hybrids normally do not require a fungicide treatment for sheath blight; however, fields should be scouted closely for the disease and treated with a fungicide when necessary.

Blast is another disease that can cause significant yield loss, but unlike sheath blight, there are varieties/hybrids that are resistant to the disease. RiceTec Hybrids are resistant to the most common races of blast. Blast is an airborne disease that has the potential to devastate rice fields if left untreated. If leaf blast is observed it is recommended to treat with an approved strobilurin fungicide at late boot and again about a week later to stop the disease from moving to the panicle. The blast resistance provided by RiceTec hybrids protects your yield without the additional expense of a fungicide application.

Don't let diseases take your profits after all the work and money you have put into your crop. Utilizing the resistance in RiceTec Hybrids will mean more returns and fewer losses from disease.

PRODUCT	DISEASE REACTION <sup>1</sup>									CHARACTERISTICS		
	Blast <sup>2</sup>	Sheath Blight	Straight Head	Kernel Smut	False Smut	Stem Rot	Bacterial Panicle Blight	Narrow Brown Leaf Spot	Standability	Maturity	Grain Retention	
<b>CLEARFIELD® Long Grain</b>												
CLEARFIELD XP756	R	MR	MS	MS	MS	S	MR	MR	Average	Medium Late	Above Average	
CLEARFIELD XL745	R	MS	MR	MS	MS	S	MR	MR	Average	Early	Average	
CLEARFIELD XL729	R	MS	MR	MS	MS	S	MR	MR	Above Average	Early	Below Average	
CL111	S	VS	S	S	S	VS	S	VS	Above Average	Early	Above Average	
CL142	S	S	MS	S	S	S	S	S	Above Average	Early	Above Average	
CL151	VS	VS	VS	S	S	VS	VS	S	Below Average	Early	Above Average	
CL181	S	VS	MS	S	S	VS	VS	S	Above Average	Early	Above Average	
<b>Standard Long Grain</b>												
XP754	R	MR	MS	MS	MS	S	MR	MR	Below Average	Medium Late	Above Average	
XP753	R	MS	MS	MS	MS	S	MR	MR	Above Average	Early	Above Average	
XL723	R	MS	MR	MR	MS	S	MR	MR	Average	Early	Below Average	
Wells	S	S	MS	S	S	VS	S	S	Average	Medium Late	Above Average	
Cheniere	S	S	MS	S	S	S	S	S	Above Average	Early	Above Average	

<sup>1</sup>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 XP756, XP753, and XP754 ratings are based on preliminary RiceTec data. R = Resistant; MR = Moderately Resistant; MS = Moderately Susceptible; S = Susceptible; VS = Very Susceptible

<sup>2</sup>RiceTec hybrids have shown field resistance to common strains of rice blast fungus. Possible susceptibility to unusual strains of the rice blast fungus, which have been thus far rare on one hybrid in the field to date, is being analyzed under controlled conditions in the laboratory and greenhouse.

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*.

•To sign up for the RiceTec podcast, email Dr. Brian Ottis [ottis@ricetec.com](mailto:ottis@ricetec.com)

•Remember to check RiceTec's website today for updates, information and details on programs.



**Also available on our website: WWW.RICETEC.COM**



### Main Crop Management Key to Ratoon Success

Mark Spilman

With the ever increasing costs of production, it is never too early to consider what fields to second crop and which ones would be best to shoot for a good quality first crop. Some things to consider for making a ratoon crop decision are:

- **Main Crop Harvest Date:** RiceTec Hybrids second crop matures faster than that of varieties. Therefore you can expand the main crop harvest window to September 1 in the Gulf Coast, and still realize a very high yielding RiceTec second crop.
- **Rutting after main crop harvest:** A wet harvest season makes for poor ratoon crop yields. Excessive rutting by combines and auger carts cut down on harvested ratoon crop acres, and make yield enhancements such as flail mowing virtually impossible. Once the decision has been made to ratoon fields, consider the following practices to enhance the grain yield and quality of your second crop rice.
- **Stubble Management:** Flail mowing rice stubble immediately after main crop harvest to a height of 8 to 10 inches has consistently increased ratoon yields in RiceTec Hybrid rice fields by 500 to 1000 lbs/acre. A second option would be to slow your combine down and cut your main crop rice to a height of 8 to 10 inches. Rolling the main crop stubble doesn't seem to have any advantage.
- **Nitrogen Management:** RiceTec Hybrids respond best to 100 units of nitrogen applied to dry ground, at ratoon crop flood up. University tests show that you lose yield each day you delay flooding your ratoon crop. Chase the combine out of the field with the flood water. University tests are currently under way to determine if a second nitrogen application at boot in the ratoon crop has any additional benefit to grain yield and milling.

*\* Expect about a two week delay in maturity when flail mowing or adding a booting application of nitrogen to the ratoon crop.*

### Lookout for Rice Stinkbugs at Heading

Dr. Brian Ottis

Rice stinkbugs are a perennial problem for rice producers in the Mid South and Gulf Coast. Rice stinkbug pressure is generally much worse in our southern rice areas, but can be an issue for any rice producer. Rice stinkbugs generally spend time on flowering grasses such as johnsongrass or barnyardgrass and move into rice fields upon heading. Upon maturity of the grass weeds, the rice stinkbugs will move into the rice, so it's important that you don't allow grass weeds to mature in fields and keep field edges mowed. For the last couple of years it seemed like stinkbugs were at extremely high levels prior to heading in the Midsouth, but then numbers diminished; however, don't let your guard down as every year brings new conditions and the possibility for problems.

Rice stinkbug damage in milled rice is known as peck, and can also reduce head rice yields if kernels break during milling. Control of rice stinkbugs is important if populations reach threshold levels. For the first two weeks of heading, the economic threshold is 3-5 stinkbugs per 10 sweeps of a stinkbug net. Following that, it is 10 stinkbugs per 10 sweeps until rice reaches dough stage.

The best time to check for stinkbugs is in the early morning or late evening hours, as the pest tends to move up the plants during the cooler times of the day. If thresholds are reached, consider applying an insecticide such as a labeled pyrethroid or Tenchu, if approved in your area.



Hybrid Rice

FIELD DAY  
2011

Wednesday, Aug. 3  
Tours begin at 8 a.m.

RiceTec Facilities  
15329 Hwy 1 N  
Harrisburg, Ark.

Free lunch and prize drawings  
Field tours on covered trailers – rain or shine

Tour the RiceTec facilities and field trials in Harrisburg, Ark., on Aug. 3 and compare RiceTec Hybrid Rice with conventional varieties. You'll see for yourself the superior grain quality, yield consistency, disease resistance and sustainability RiceTec Hybrids offer!



877-580-7423 • [RiceTec.com](http://RiceTec.com)

Leadership and Innovation Within the Field of Rice



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**RiceTec Newsletter  
Late season 2011**

- **Disease Resistance Provides Higher Yields**
- **Main Crop Management Key to Ratoon Success**
- **Lookout for Rice Stinkbugs Following Heading**
- **RiceTec 2011 Arkansas Field Day**

## RiceTec Service Contacts

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### **Customer Service**

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