



Planting Progress Report March 20, 2020

Region 4

Texas

With another dry, windy day today, we are getting close to 75% planted across the Texas Gulf Coast. A majority of the crop is in the ground on the west side of the district with the east side guys just getting started good. This is the earliest and fastest the Texas rice crop has been planted in a long time. The combines and driers are going to have a hard time keeping up during harvest. Mother Nature has really been on our side thus far west of Houston, and most of the crop has been planted to good moisture and off to a good start. There are several of the early planted fields starting to emerge already, no more than 5% of the crop, and will need moisture soon. West of Houston, we are hoping for a good rain over the next couple of days, while the east side guys are hoping it will stay away. There have already been quite a few fields flushed and if we miss the rains, there will be a lot more water running next week. We



were able to plant our standard and one of our two FullPage trials this week, and the second FullPage will be planted as soon as the

rain chances leave the area. Over-all, we are off to a good start in the Texas Gulf Coast.

SE Texas and SW Louisiana

Growers in SWLA have been trying to drill rice in-between rain events that have been scattered throughout the region the past 2 weeks. Some hybrid has been water seeded starting as early as February 29th with successful stands. The warm weather and frequent sunny hours have been a positive for getting the rice crop off to a good start. One FullPage RFYT has been planted in the Winnie, TX area and the other two trials may go in this weekend, weather pending. The region is around 25% planted and is mostly wet and should be dry by Saturday if we miss the rains.

South Louisiana

Majority of growers in South Louisiana were able to start planting at the beginning of this month, but over the past week, rain has kept most of our customers out of the fields putting us around 30% planted. We were able to get our conventional RFYT planted on the Hundley Farm earlier in the week near Eunice, Louisiana. We are expecting more rain over the next day or two. This will most likely delay any more planting until later into next week. With the dry fall for land preparation and temperatures optimal for planting, growers finally seemed to be optimistic about 2020, but unfortunately, Coronavirus outbreak hits our homeland. Over the past week, due to this virus, crawfish demand along with price has drastically come down leaving rice growers speechless. Within a week, crawfish prices have dropped from \$1.75 to \$1.00 per pound along with growers only being able to sell half of their production. If this trend continues, many growers will be forced to drain their crawfish ponds much earlier than normal and

possibly putting them in a position to either plant these fields in rice or soybeans.

Central and NE Louisiana

Things are off and running in the south end of District 11. Evangeline Parish is roughly 50% planted with growers drilling and water planting all at the same time. Some rice is starting to sprout but nothing emerged as of today. We were able to plant our FullPage RFYT in Evangeline Parish on Richard and Neal Fontenot today (Thursday). Northeast Louisiana



growers are planting corn ahead of the possible next rain event expected at the end of the week through the weekend. Several rice

growers are getting ground ready to drill. A few acres have been planted behind dirt buckets making less than 10% planted in NE LA.

Region 3

There hasn't been any hybrid planted in the Region as of today (3/20), but growers are gearing up at a rapid pace. Some field work has started on the lighter textured soils, but frequent rain showers keep slowing that down. Growers are just bouncing around trying to find dry spots to work. Calls are steadily coming in for drill calibrations indicating growers are getting plans put in place to get to work planting as soon as we can get an extended dry period.

Region 2

The region has experienced significant rainfall over the past weeks; and fields remain fully saturated due to the round of storms and precipitation that passed through last night. Many fields are ready for planting as everyone waits for a warm and dry spell. Planting will begin on a wide scale as soon as the weather will allow. We have a lot of acres to plant and growers (as well as RT salespeople) are READY to begin.

Region 1

There hasn't been much activity take place in the field yet in Region 1 due to wet conditions from continuous rain. We did have a very short window (1-2 days) a couple of weeks ago where there was a little field work done but it was mostly on the higher, lighter soils. Our customers are setting on go and just waiting for drier weather to get started. Last year proved that farmers can cover a lot of ground and plant a ton of rice in a very short window. Hopefully, this year that window comes earlier than it did last year.

Technical Services

Gulf Coast has been lucky in missing most of the rain and we were able to get trials in the ground. Technical Service trials in the Gulf Coast are 33% planted and we are adding trials every day. Plant Date 1 should be emerged with a few days. We hope to add two more trials over the weekend, weather permitting, and continue next week with Plant Date 2.

Commercial Hybrid Planting Progress						03/20/20	
District	Planted	Emerged	Region	Planted	Emerged		
1	0%	0%	1	0%	0%		
2	0%	0%	2	0%	0%		
3	0%	0%	3	0%	0%		
4	0%	0%	4	40%	4%		
5	0%	0%					
6	0%	0%	MO	0%	0%		
7	0%	0%	AR	0%	0%		
8	0%	0%	MS	0%	0%		
9	0%	0%	LA	28%	3%		
10	0%	0%	TX	75%	5%		
11	30%	0%					
12	30%	10%	Mid South	0%	0%		
13	25%	0%	Gulf Coast	40%	4%		
14	75%	5%	US	11%	1%		
Testing - RFYT Trials						Planted	Emerged
Mid South						0%	0%
Gulf Coast						42%	0%
Testing - Development Trials							
Mid South						0%	0%
Gulf Coast						33%	0%
Testing US						19%	0%