



# RiceTec

## Field Update

June 06, 2020



## RT - Region One

### *Northeast Arkansas & Southeast Missouri*

The warm, dry weather this week has allowed more planting progress to be made and we are nearing completion of this rice crop in Region 1. Several growers across the area are still planting and will probably continue to do so until the next forecasted rain early next week. Planted acres will end up being less than anticipated but the actual number of acres is still yet to be determined.

The dry weather this week has also allowed a good portion of the pre-flood fertilizer to be applied on dry ground on the earlier planted rice. Most of the earliest rice has received or is on the list to receive fertilizer and is in the process of having permanent flood established. If it doesn't rain early next week the rice that has been planted recently will probably require a flush for stand establishment and to activate herbicides. There has been another round of grass emerge and herbicides will have to be activated by moisture to be effective, keep this in mind as we move forward with the later rice. As always, stay safe and let us know how we can help!

## RT – Region Two

### *Central Arkansas*

In the words of Yogi Berra, “*It’s deja vue all over again.*” That pretty much sums up this year’s planting season, as it is very similar to last. From late cool snaps to abnormally wet weather,

growers have struggled to get a crop in the ground. We estimate our area (Central Arkansas) to be at 97% planted with approximately 95% emerged. Stand establishment has been favorable with very few issues to date

The weather issues that caused a spread in planting also created a wide variance in crop stages. Rice ranges from being planted to receiving permanent flood. Growers need to remain mindful of each field’s management needs, as timing could vary widely across their farming operation. Later planted rice will also develop much faster, so staying on top of things is critical to the crop’s success.

As for the condition of the current crop, everything seems to be progressing nicely. We have had the typical concerns with herbicide drift (mainly paraquat) and the crop’s response to residual herbicides due to the cool weather that was experienced earlier. Our current concerns are completing planting and cleaning up the crop before establishing a flood. The rains helped with the activation of residual herbicides; however, winds made some herbicide applications problematic, which led to less than desirable results.

If you are nearing 4-5 leaf rice, remember our nitrogen recommendations of 120 units pre-flood followed by 30 units at boot stage. Growers will feel the desire to push the timing with nitrogen and flooding on the later rice, but please keep the water levels shallow so the rice will continue to tiller. This is critical with the

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lower seeding rates of hybrids. Deeper floods will reduce tillering and therefore negatively affect yields.

Please contact your local RiceTec representative if you have other questions or concerns. You can find their contact information on our website [ricetec.com](http://ricetec.com). Stay Safe!

## RT – Region Three

### *Southern Arkansas & Mississippi*

As of today (6/5), planting of the 2020 rice crop is all but wrapped up. There are just a handful of growers still working in isolated areas to get the last few remaining acres planted that have been wet all Spring. Some of the later planted acres have quickly become a challenge as growers are having to flush fields to get stands. A few of those acres received a large rainfall event after flushing and had to be replanted after water stood on them for several days with seed sitting in very warm, saturated soils.

A big portion of the crop is currently at the pre-flood to permanent flood stage. Airports and retail locations are extremely busy as growers are pushing to get herbicides and fertilizer applied, pull up levees, and start pumping water. Much of the crop is in great shape and looks really good, but there are a few issues out there with ALS herbicide injury on some Clearfield® hybrids. These fields just were not able to metabolize the herbicide as quickly as needed due to a period of cool, cloudy, wet weather after application that caused plant stress. Those fields are now beginning to turn around quickly with the recent warm temperatures and sunshine and are expected to fully recover. Our earliest planted rice acres are progressing nicely and have reached panicle initiation stage.

As a final note, we at RiceTec are proud to be your preferred rice seed partner and say a big

THANK YOU for your business and for your dedication to the rice industry in what has been a very challenging crop year thus far. Stay safe, and please let us know if we can help in any way!

## RT – Region Four

### *Texas & Louisiana*

With much of the rice crop along the Texas and Louisiana Gulf Coast approaching heading, or in some cases over 50% headed, the last thing we need is a tropical storm in the Gulf of Mexico. One of our biggest customers would tell me every year that we should be promoting how well our hybrids hold their blooms during rainy conditions. This is a man who endured many hurricanes and tropical storms in his long rice



### **RT7501 Water Seeded South Louisiana**

farming career. So, keep the faith and hopefully Tropical Storm Cristobal will skirt further east than predicted and we will miss the bulk of the rain on our headed rice along the Louisiana coast. In the meantime, growers in Texas are finishing up planting the last remaining organic rice acres, while crawfish ponds are being planted in southern Louisiana.

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With most of the Gulf Coast crop approaching the boot stage, growers are now concentrating on putting out some preventative fungicide applications, mainly for kernel smut. Also, it is at that mid to late boot stage we recommend putting out your last shot of nitrogen on your RiceTec hybrid rice. We have found that putting out 60 units of N at heading (mid to late boot) helps the ratoon crop get off to a good start while enhancing the grain quality of the first crop. If you are only harvesting one crop, our recommendation is 30 units of N for grain fill and quality.

Moving into Central Louisiana, much of the rice crop is in permanent flood, with earlier planted furrow irrigated rice approaching green ring. Planting is finishing up in Northern Louisiana, with roughly 5% of the crop left to plant.

Growers are scrambling to finish up planting, get herbicide applications out and fertilizer applied ahead of the possible rain event with Cristobal. It has been a long drawn out planting season in this part of the state, from rice just being planted to moving into permanent flood.

We have signs up identifying our hybrids in our Farm Scale Trials across the region. Contact your RiceTec District Sales Manager if you would like a personal tour.



RiceTec Trial Matagorda County TX

## District Manager Contacts

District 1	Elliot Maschmann	573-258-2084
District 2	Nick Ragsdell	870-878-1554
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District 5	Rob Dixon	501-286-1655
District 6	Garrison Hardke	501-772-1715
District 7	Whitney Jones	501-516-6904
District 8	Matt Snow	870-830-3313
District 9	Jeff Branson	870-578-8436
District 10	Jay Burchfield	662-402-2781
District 11	Matt Laird	318-355-6509
District 12	Nicky Miller	337-207-6572
District 13	Craig Hamm	281-387-7247
District 14	Derrol Grymes	281-381-9371

## Regional Manager Contacts

Districts 1-3	DJ Shipman	870-273-9286
Districts 4-7	Jeff Reeves	870-919-6944
Districts 8-10	Jeff Mosley	662-719-1034
Districts 11-14	Mark Spilman	281-389-3527

## Sales Agronomist

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