

Field Update

July 03, 2020



RT - Region One

Northeast Arkansas & Southeast Missouri

Most of Region 1 received a much-needed rain yesterday (7-1) with amounts ranging from 2 tenths to 2 inches. The areas that only got a couple of tenths definitely could have used more but it was enough to help a little.

The rice crop is shaping up and starting to look pretty good. We still have a wide range of stages out in the field, some of the later planted fields are going to flood this week and others that have received a mid-season fertilizer application this week as well. Some areas have been battling grass escapes in the later planted rice but overall it appears the rice crop is fairly clean considering how difficult the Spring planting season was.

We have gotten several calls this week concerning mid-season nitrogen timing on hybrids. In general, the recommendation on hybrids is to skip the traditional mid-season timing and delay to late boot. The delayed application has been proven to reduce lodging and promote milling stability in some instances. With all that being said, if individual fields are starting to turn yellow at mid-season it is best to go ahead and make a nitrogen application to avoid any adverse effects due to nitrogen deficiencies.

All of the RFYT strip trials in the Region have been signed and are looking good. Be on the lookout for these trials and feel free to give us a call if you would like to tour one of these trials to get a closer look at some of the new products that we are testing as well as current products. As always, thanks for your business and let us know if we can help!

RT – Region Two

Central Arkansas

We still have a tale of 2 rice crops – early and late. We will discuss what we are experiencing with each, and how they should be managed, as there are distinct differences.

The earliest rice is approaching boot stage and hopefully will show heads in 2 to 3 weeks. Boot stage is the recommended timing for the last shot of nitrogen (30 units N); so, applications should be applied if not already. We are getting some calls where rice is showing some slight yellowing. If the fields are close to boot stage, we are recommending applying the nitrogen. If the fields are not that far along, we are recommending waiting and observing the crops progression. We also have some fields that "just didn't look right". We found some of these fields showing signs of Hydrogen Sulfide Toxicity, which required draining the water. It seems like growers have experienced everything imaginable this year.

As for the late crop, we are visiting fields that are just getting a stand established. These fields will need to be pushed to allow as much time as possible to mature. We need to be

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early on preFLUSH nitrogen. Notice that flush part! Floods on small rice will reduce tillering. You can slowly raise the depth of flood as the season progresses. For paddy rice, I would consider increasing the preFLUSH nitrogen slightly (10 – 15%) and eliminating the boot shot of nitrogen if the field is late planted (June 10 or later for our region). The boot application is for plant health but will delay maturity. If you have row rice, call us and we can discuss your situation as it pertains to nitrogen applications. We will be recommending a propiconazole application at EARLY boot on late planted rice due to the increased risk of smut.

Continue to persevere as "This too shall pass!"

Stay safe and contact us if you have questions or comments. Thank you for allowing us to work with you!

RT - Region Three

Southern Arkansas & Mississippi

The rice crop in Region 3 is progressing nicely since the last report two weeks ago. The earliest planted portion of the crop has reached the early to mid-boot stage and should begin heading next week. The biggest portion of the crop is between green ring and internode elongation, while a small portion of the late planted crop ranges anywhere from early tillering to established permanent flood. Recently, calls are coming in regarding yellowing of the older foliage down in the canopy indicating nitrogen is beginning to run out. Some of this is due to the age of crop nearing heading, but a good amount is probably due to nitrogen having to be applied to wetter soils than what we would have liked. Some acreage also received large rainfall events after fertilizer was applied and could have experienced some losses out of the bottom of fields in drain water.

The recommendation has been to apply another

100 pounds of nitrogen fertilizer as long as the rice has passed panicle initiation and reevaluate the crop again prior to the standard boot application.

We have also gotten some reports of billbug damage in some row rice acres. Some producers have applied pyrethroid insecticides, but not enough is known about these treatments in controlling populations at this time. Overall, the crop is clean and in very good shape. Current expectations are high for a good crop to come in this Fall. As always, please let us know if we can help!

RT – Region Four

Texas & Louisiana

Throughout Louisiana and Texas, our rice crop is looking great ranging from 3-leaf to completely headed. These rice fields that have been planted recently are located in South Louisiana following crawfish production. We are starting to see a few fields being drained for harvest and expecting many more acres to follow over the next week or two. Majority of our southern rice crop is ranging from 10% to 100% headed and has received 30 to 60 units of top dress nitrogen fertilizer four to six weeks ago. Most of these hybrid fields have also received some type of fungicide application, mostly as a preventative measure against smut, but also to protect yields even though disease pressure has been lite up to this point. As we move towards central and northern Louisiana, majority of this rice crop is just past green ring while a small percentage is starting to head.

We are seeing quite a bit of leaf tip bronzing across the more advanced fields, stirring up some concern. We have seen this in the past, especially in the XP753 fields. With the abundant sunshine prior to the rain event last

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Gemini 214 CL South Louisiana

week, it's no surprise we are seeing this again this year.

Over the past several weeks, temperatures have been favorable for flowering ranging in the upper 80s to low 90s during the day and low 70s at night. We did receive rain early last week and are expecting more next week. Hopefully, this will not have any impact on our yields. With much better growing conditions throughout the year, we are expecting an earlier harvest compared to last year which most likely will begin around the middle of this month.

Good luck to all growers on a successful and safe harvest!!

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