Arkansas Rice Expo Is August 10th

Make plans to attend the Arkansas Rice Expo scheduled for Wednesday, August 10th. It will once again be held at the Grand Prairie Center, 2807 Highway 165 South, in Stuttgart. Dr. Jarrod Hardke, U of A Extension Rice Specialist, says the Expo is planned with topics and activities the whole family can enjoy. The trade show, field tours, and indoor seminars, are popular for those working in agriculture.

Seminar topics this year include drones on the farm, new technology for in-bin rice drying and storage and factors affecting rice milling yields.

Field tour topics include:

Stop 1 - Arkansas rice breeding update
Stop 2 – Weed resistance management in rice and soybeans
Stop 3 – Rice irrigation water management

For more details go to the expo website: http://uaex.edu/rice-expo/

Rice Stink Bug Numbers Low

According to Dr. Glenn Studebaker, U of A Extension Entomologist, so far rice stink bug numbers have been low this season in Northeast Arkansas, with few fields requiring treatment. A special thanks to our local consultants, farmers, and AG retailers who have provided us updates.

You need to continue scouting for the rice stink bug through grain maturity to preserve grain yield and quality. The threshold to treat the first 2 weeks after heading is when an average of 5 or more stink bugs are found per 10 sweeps, or for 2 or more stink bugs per square yard. Once rice enters the dough stage the 3rd week after heading, the threshold goes up to 10 stink bugs per 10 sweeps, or for 3 or more stink bugs per square yard.

Scout during early morning or late evening for the most reliable estimate of stink bug levels. Insecticides listed for control of the rice stink bug in the MP 144 include Seven, Malathion, Tenchu, Prolex, Proaxis, Declare, Karate Z, and Mustang Max.***

Screening Planned For Escaped Barnyardgrass

We received more reports this year from producers and consultants about herbicide failures for barnyardgrass in some of their fields. We plan to collect and submit seed samples from these fields to determine what herbicides the barnyardgrass has resistance to. Please call and let us know if you have fields you would like screened so that we can collect a seed sample as the escape barnyardgrass matures.

Most know the best way to delay herbicide resistance development is to rotate crops, chemistries and cultures. Researchers find that once weeds in a field become resistant to a herbicide, they stay resistant for years to come, eliminating that weed control tool from the tool box.***
**SOYBEANS**

**Sign Up For Soybean College**

How would you like to attend Soybean College? Make sure to register to participate in this quality learning opportunity scheduled for Thursday, August 18th at the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture’s Newport Research Station. Thanks to Dr. Jeremy Ross, Extension Agronomist-Soybeans, for taking the lead to plan the Soybean College.

Farmers, crop consultants, and industry personnel are encouraged to attend. The college will provide hands on training and discussion about current research projects addressing many of the production challenges faced by growers today. Presentations & updates are planned from several Division of Agriculture, and industry professionals.

Participants must register online, and no walkup registrations will be accepted the day of the Soybean College. Total participants will be capped at 200 to keep breakout groups small. The college will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. Participants will receive a complementary sweep net, hand lens, and other items. Lunch will be provided, and CEUs will be available.

The registration fee to attend is $75, and can be completed online at the following link:


**Earworm Levels Variable, So Scout**

Producers have made applications for earworm control in several grain sorghum fields and a few soybean fields so far this season. Several acres of conventional corn was planted in western Greene County. The region is currently experiencing the most earworm pressure.

Earworm moth trap numbers have also been higher this year, especially in the Stanford area. A peak in moth numbers occurred in late June, and were building again in late July. We expect worms numbers to increase according during early-mid August, especially for late planted beans. Make sure to scout these fields weekly.

Regarding treatment for earworms in soybeans, recall the U of A is using a new dynamic threshold this year, based upon both crop value and cost of control per acre. For example, for soybeans at $10 per bushel and an insecticide treatment cost of $20 per acre, the threshold to spray is 10 earworms per 25 sweeps. Sweep deep into the canopy to get more accurate estimates of worm numbers. If you have row beans, the dynamic threshold trigger is 1.3 earworms per row foot at the same $10 value and $20 treatment cost. Charts for the dynamic threshold can be found in the UA Insect control guide (MP 144). Remember to only count worms that are 1/2 inch or longer (beneficials feed on the smaller worms).

Stink bug numbers also generally start to build during August. They can feed for several weeks making dents in both yield and quality. The treatment threshold is an average of 9 stink bugs per 25 sweeps, or 1 per row foot (14,000/acre) when using a shake sheet. Soybeans should also be scouted and protected from stink bugs until 7-14 days past the full seed stage.

**Chris Elkins Welcomed Back**

We are happy to announce that Chris Elkins was recently appointed by the U of A, Division of Agriculture as Extension Soybean & Wheat Verification Program Coordinator. He has previously worked as County Extension Agent-Agriculture for Greene County, Agronomist for Black Gold, and Sales Rep for Stine Seed. He will provide leadership to the verification program along with other soybean and wheat projects conducted in this region.***

Warmest regards,

Allen Davis
CEA-Staff Chair

Dave Freeze
CEA-Agriculture