**RICE**

Red Rice & Barnyardgrass Herbicide Resistance Survey

Dr. Jason Norsworthy, U of A Weed Scientist, has requested weed seed samples for herbicide resistance screening. He would like several red rice and barnyardgrass samples from each row crop county to screen for resistance to the major chemistries used to control grass weeds in Arkansas rice production.

If you have red rice that is getting by your Newpath/Beyond applications, it would be good to send seed from those plants to Dr. Norsworthy to see if resistance has developed to ALS herbicides. Some herbicide chemistries are also no longer working to control barnyardgrass. If you have fields where Ricestar or Command are not working, seed from these fields should be collected to send to the U of A weed science department for screening.

For both red rice and barnyardgrass, we need 20-25 mature seedheads placed in a paper bag for each field you sample. Farm name, county, collection date, and GPS coordinates should be marked on the bag. We are pulling some samples from fields as we travel the county, so call and we can pick up your samples when in that area. ***

**Keep Safety In Mind As Harvest Begins**

We want to encourage our friends in the agriculture community to be careful as harvest begins. It is human nature to get in a hurry to bring out the crop we have nurtured all season. Just remember to slow down and put safety first.

More farm equipment will be on the highways and gravel roads during September, so pay extra attention as you share the roads with the rest of the public who sometimes lack patience. Speaking of roads, when statistics are reviewed, ATV & UTV accidents and fatalities top the list, so encourage your workers and family members to keep them off the main highways and follow proper steps for safe riding.

National Safety Week is just around the corner (September 20-26th). We wish you a safe and prosperous harvest.***
SOYBEANS

Insect Numbers Low in County IPM Survey
Insect numbers have been low in the 9 fields being checked in the Greene County Extension soybean pest survey. Not one of these fields has been near threshold level for treatment for stinkbugs or earworms. Be mindful, we have received reports from consultants that some of their fields needed sprayed for earworms. They are more likely to be a problem on late planted fields where soybeans have not lapped the middles. We also want to remind you that a stinkbug will feed for a few weeks as it develops, so scout your fields weekly to see how their numbers are building, and to see if earworms are present and feeding on pods.

Asian Soybean Rust Update
Soybeans rust spores are wind blown, so the disease may eventually show up here as fronts move through the next few weeks. In past years, rust has arrived late enough that even our late beans were already at full seed, and out run the threat of yield loss. As of September 2nd, rust had not yet been found in Arkansas and had only been reported in 4 counties in Mississippi.

Please let us know if you find a suspect field with rust, so we can check leaves for signs of the disease. The decision to use a fungicide should be based upon disease presence/threat, crop growth stage, and field production status. We encourage you to pay close attention to your late crop. You can always go to the Soybean Rust website for an update:

http://sbr.ipmPIPE.org/cgi-bin/sbr/public.cgi

Sampling For Nematodes Promoted
Dr. Terry Kirkpatrick, Extension Plant Pathologist for the U of A, says the nematode survey is on again for a second year. We encourage you to collect soil samples to send in for the free screening service.

A pint of soil will need submitted for screening. Place it in a plastic bag and keep in a cooler (without ice) so the nematodes will stay alive. Go to this web site for more tips on proper handing and sample submission

http://courses.uaex.edu/course/index.php?categoryid=63

Last year over 40 % of the samples submitted tested positive for soybean cyst nematodes (races 2, 5, and 6), while 20 % tested positive for root knot nematodes. The survey is funded by the Arkansas Soybean Check Off program.

When To Stop Irrigating
We finally hit a dry spell and producers have stayed busy keeping soybeans watered. Some later maturing fields may need irrigation into late September.

Dr. Chris Henry, Irrigation Engineer with the U of A, advises maintaining good soil moisture through growth stage R6.5 (seed is knuckled up in pod (top four nodes) and easy to separate from pod membrane). If soil moisture is lacking at this point, irrigate one last time.

Henry says the goal is to have soybeans to use the subsoil moisture to finish off the crop. Some growers that have been irrigating up to R7 (beginning maturity) may be able to save the expense of a late irrigation.
**CORN**

Don’t Let Pigweed Go To Seed

Corn yields reported so far have been good on most fields. Pigweed in those same fields is ready to make its own crop of seed.

Producers need to be vigilant to keep the soil weed seed bank clear if possible, especially from glyphosate tolerant pigweed. The main burn down herbicide listed in the MP44 (AR Extension Weed Control Guide) is paraquat. Residual herbicides listed include Valor, Dual Magnum, metribuzin, and Sharpen. Also listed for emerged pigweeds (4-6 inches tall) is 2,4-D amine. Remember to avoid drift to sensitive crops (cotton) and to follow state plant board regulations.***

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**GRAIN SORGHUM**

White Sugar Cane  Aphids, Worms, and Disease Eat Into Milo Profits

Favorable prices drove grain sorghum acreage to increase 5 fold in Greene County this season. If records were checked, the 7500 acres produced this year could top the list.

Those who had never grown grain sorghum or who had not grown it for years, were loaded with more pest control expenses than had been expected. Sooty stripe and target spot set in with the rainy season causing many to apply a fungicide. Soon after heading, a hungry bunch of worms had to be controlled with insecticide on many fields. Finally, to keep from getting into a sticky situation, many growers have had to spray for the white sugar cane aphids 1-2 times on most of their fields.

The good news is it looks like a great crop. We need it after all the extra pesticide expenses this season!***
WHEAT

Variety Results Available

According to Dr. Jason Kelley, Arkansas Extension Feed Grains Specialist, one of the key decisions a wheat producer faces to achieve top yields, is which varieties to grow. University trials provide an objective source of information to help producers sort out the best varieties for their operation.

Go to U of A’s Arkansas Variety Testing website at [http://arkansasvarietytesting.com/](http://arkansasvarietytesting.com/) to review results of the Arkansas Wheat Cultivar Performance Tests. Two year yield averages should be studied to help determine a variety’s yield consistency. One year yield data is also available to help you review newer varieties.

Pay close attention to the disease package of varieties you compare. To reduce the need for foliar fungicides, check to see if a variety is rated resistant to potential problem diseases like stripe rust.***

October Prime Planting Window

In Northeast Arkansas, October is the optimum window to seed winter wheat. Seeding rate can range from 1-3 bushels per acre depending on variety seed size, soil type, and seedbed preparation. A seeding rate chart is listed on the 2015 Arkansas Wheat Quick Facts publication available at the U of A Extension website [http://www.uaex.edu/](http://www.uaex.edu/) ***

Enjoy harvest,

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