March 28, 2014

Prairie County Producers:

The wind is blowing and planters and drills are rolling. Soil temperatures have been slow to increase, but are increasing. The weather forecast is for rain, but somewhat warmer (normal) temperatures. Spring may actually occur before summer.

Rice DD50 Card Enclosed

The rice DD50 program is made available by the University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture for use in managing rice production. Growers, consultants, and agri sales personnel may go online to enter field information at http://dd50.uaex.edu/ or by filling out and returning the enclosed DD50 card to the Extension office. A report will be created outlining plant development and specific application windows for crop inputs. The DD50 print out is created using climate data reflecting accumulated growing (heat) degree units.

Flag the Technology Flags Available

Each Extension office has a supply of multi-colored bicycle flags that can be used to identify each producer field according to crop herbicide chemistry. The flags are “Free” while supplies last and are made available by grant funds received through the Arkansas Soybean Promotion Board. Yellow flags indicate ALS chemistry (STS Soybean or Clearfield Rice), Red is conventional, White is glyphosate (Roundup), and Green is glufosinate (Liberty).

Early Season Weed Control for ALL Crops Starts with a Pre-Emerge

Referencing the wind earlier in the letter, it seems to blow harder longer and more frequently during the spring. An economical and clean crop begins by getting out in front of emerging weeds. The development of herbicide resistant weeds makes this point very real. Farmers should consult UA Extension publication MP44 for recommended pre-emergent herbicides. The “Good Ole Days” of applying a single product have gone by the wayside. No matter what crop, a residual herbicide will likely yield a wider window for later herbicide applications should weather conditions become unfriendly.

Rice Variety Seeding Rate Table enclosed along with Rice Nitrogen by Variety Worksheet

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