



Arkansas Rice Update

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DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE
RESEARCH & EXTENSION

University of Arkansas System

Crop Outlook / Progress

The state now has over 10% of the rice acreage in the ground – a lot of which is under water after the week’s rainfall events. Percent of rice planted by March 31 from 2011-2015 was 7, 18, 0, 0, and 0% for an average of 5% planted. It’s tough to guesstimate what the official percent planted mark will be on Monday due to the wide range of variability throughout the state. While many haven’t started planting, some are already finished.

If any rice is up, I haven’t seen it, including rice I planted at RREC 10 days ago on 3/22. In the words of Judge Smalls from Caddyshack: “well, we’re waiting!”

The big issue right now will be the slow progress of the crop that’s already in the ground. On top of that, add the rain and potential levee erosion or destruction associated with it. It could be interesting as the currently planted rice begins to emerge. That emergence could take anywhere from 7-21 days when planted during the last 2 weeks of March.

If already seeded levees need to be re-pulled we could be in for differences in maturity between the paddy and levee. However, if the rice in the paddies is slowed by current mild temperatures it all may come out in the wash.

The last two weeks of March saw plenty of rice ground being prepared and finished.



Unfortunately, heavy rains made a mess of some of the good work already completed – areas of the state received 4-7 inches of rain in less than 24 hours.



Prospective Plantings Report

The survey results are in and they point to a 21% increase in rice acreage compared to 2015 (Table 1). That is the equivalent of putting last year’s prevent planted rice acreage back on the pile. If realized, this would be the 5th highest rice acreage ever for the state. The early planting progress may suggest that an even higher number is now possible, but the weather looks like it will its usual say in that.

Medium grain acres fell off considerably with the lack of price support or contracts. This too has the potential to move considerably if some planting delays occur as medium grains perform well when planted late.

Table 1. USDA-NASS Prospective Plantings for 2016 (with 2014-2015 acres).

Crop	2014	2015	2016
Rice	1,486,000	1,306,000	1,581,000
LG	1,270,000	1,060,000	1,430,000
MG	215,000	245,000	150,000
Corn	540,000	460,000	790,000
Cotton	335,000	210,000	330,000
Sorghum	170,000	450,000	140,000
Soybean	3,230,000	3,200,000	3,050,000

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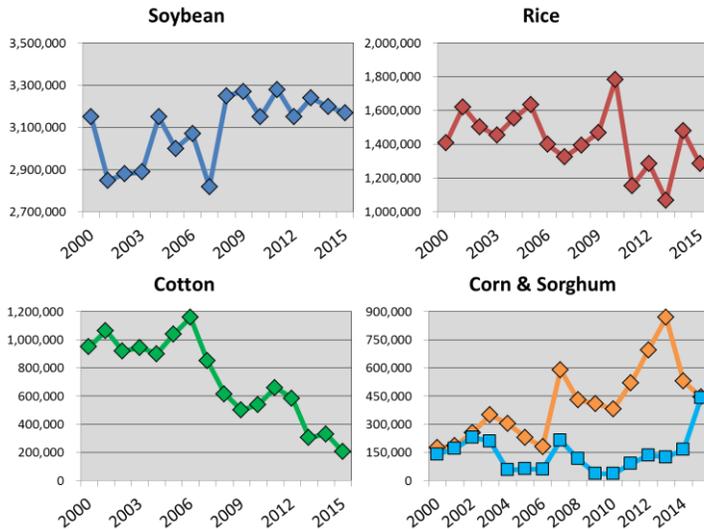
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Fig. 1. 2000-2015 Harvested Acreage for Soybean, Rice, Cotton, and Corn/Sorghum.



Seed Treatments in Water-Seeded Rice

With flooding going on as a result of heavy rains, some growers are moving to water seeding to keep the planting progress going. **When doing so – remember that seed treated with CruiserMaxx Rice, NipsIt INSIDE, or NipsIt Rice Suite CANNOT BE WATER-SEEDED. PERIOD.**

Seed treated with a fungicide (e.g. Apron, Maxim, Dynasty) is not prohibited from being water-seeded based on those products labels, but likely won't provide much benefit.

Dermacor is the only insecticide seed treatment labeled for water-seeding in rice. Dermacor does a great job against rice water weevil – which is typically worse in water-seeded systems.

Any seed that has any seed treatment cannot be pre-soaked and must be flown on dry.

Causes of Seed Rots and Seedling Diseases of Rice

<http://www.arkansas-crops.com/2016/03/23/causes-seedling-diseases/>

Strike the Right Balance to Reduce Rice Diseases in 2016

<http://www.arkansas-crops.com/2016/03/24/balance-reduce-diseases/>

Additional Information

Arkansas Rice Updates are published periodically to provide timely information and recommendations for rice production in Arkansas. If you would like to be added to this email list, please send your request to rice@uaex.edu.

This information will also be posted to the Arkansas Row Crops blog (<http://www.arkansas-crops.com/>) where additional information from Extension specialists can be found.

More information on rice production, including access to all publications and reports, can be found at <http://www.uaex.edu/rice>.

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