



# Arkansas Rice Update

Dr. Jarrod Hardke & Scott Stiles

April 10, 2020 No. 2020-04

[www.uaex.edu/rice](http://www.uaex.edu/rice)

## A Crack of a Window

“In spite of ourselves, we’ll end up a’sittin’ on a rainbow, against all odds, honey, we’re the big door prize.” Godspeed John Prine.

We interrupt the above average temperatures so far to bring you a cool spell. Oh, and more rain. Saturday and Sunday the state is expected to see anywhere from 1-3” with south Arkansas expected to fair the worst again (Fig. 1). Next week calls for high temperatures fall as low as the upper 40s with overnight lows down to 33(!) in far northeast AR. That’s definitely a double whammy as wet + cold doesn’t dry very fast.

On the positive side of things, rice planting has actually seen some progress with a 1% planted recorded as of Monday (Fig. 2). This week will likely see a jump to around 10% as a number of areas found dry ground and dodged the rain Wednesday night. Others weren’t as lucky and caught 1” or more.

As we continue through these variable weather conditions, and what may ultimately be suboptimal seedbed conditions, remember to keep the seeding rate up. Planting early under cool, wet conditions exaggerates problems with stand establishment. Combining that with poorer seedbed conditions will reduce our ability to achieve a successful stand.

Fig. 1. 7-day precipitation forecast, NOAA.

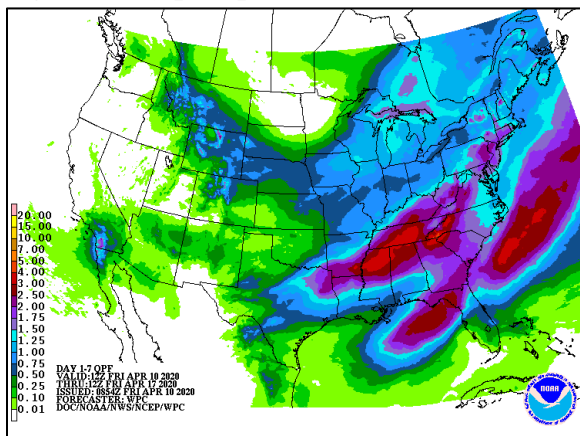


Fig. 2. AR Rice Planting Progress 2010-2020.

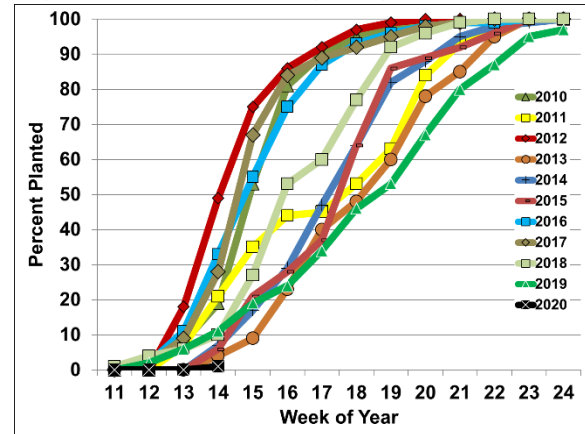


Fig. 3. Rice planted March 27 emerging on April 9.



## Farming Through COVID-19

Listen to a special edition of Arkansas Row Crops Radio for information on keeping our agriculture workforce safe and productive during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://arkrowcropsradio.podbean.com/e/ep-011-staying-safe-on-the-farm-through-covid-19-4-7-20/>

For more information on COVID-19, please visit: <https://uaex.edu/covid19>.

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## Seeding Rate Recommendations

In **Table 1** are seeding rate recommendations for selected cultivars. First, compare the listed number of seed per pound in the table to that on your seed. Listed table values are averaged from the last few years and may differ across years and lots and impact seeding rate.

Keep in mind these rates are based initially on soil type with 30 or 36 seed/ft<sup>2</sup> for varieties on loam or clay soils, respectively; and 10 or 12 seed/ft<sup>2</sup> for hybrids on loam or clay soils, respectively. Seeding rate studies continue to indicate that these base rates are needed to consistently maximize yield and economic return.

Lower seeding rates can be used, but at times do not provide consistent stands field-wide. The goal is to achieve a final plant stand of 12-18 plants/ft<sup>2</sup> for varieties and 5-8 plants/ft<sup>2</sup> for hybrids. If you can achieve those plant stands with seeding rates lower than those listed here, then you still have optimum yield potential while reducing input costs, but the margin for error is lower should conditions reduce expected stands.

**Table 1. Seeding Rate Recommendations for Selected Cultivars.**

Cultivar	Seed Per lb	Seed Rate (seed/ft <sup>2</sup> )			
		10	12	30	36
lbs seed / acre					
CL151	19,346	--	--	67	81
CL153	19,146	--	--	68	82
CLL15	19,102	--	--	68	82
CLM04	18,880	--	--	69	83
Diamond	18,843	--	--	69	83
Jupiter	17,584	--	--	74	89
PVL01	19,270	--	--	68	81
PVL02	20,816	--	--	63	75
Titan	16,470	--	--	79	95
RT 7301	19,899	22	26	--	--
RT 7321 FP	18,579	23	28	--	--
RT 7521 FP	18,498	24	28	--	--
RT Gemini 214	20,630	21	25	--	--
CL					
RT XP753	19,647	22	27	--	--

For more information on seeding rate recommendations, please see the [2020 Rice Management Guide](#). Also visit the [Rice Advisor](#) website, particularly the [Seeding Rate Calculator](#) for more specific recommendations based on a range of planting factors.

## Use Caution When Planting Pureline Varieties in Row Rice Fields

As planting is underway, a number have indicated they intend to grow varieties (non-hybrid) in a furrow-irrigated (row rice) system. Last week we listed conditions for rice cultivars to be eligible for crop insurance when grown with furrow irrigation.

It's important to keep in mind that while cultivars may be listed as Moderately Susceptible (MS) for blast and are insurable, effort must still be taken to mitigate blast pressure – particularly neck blast. For example, Titan is rated as MS for blast, but fungicide applications will be needed to effectively manage blast for this variety. CLL15 and CL153 are rated MS for blast and carry the Pi-ta gene which provides broad (but incomplete) blast resistance – these varieties will also need fungicide applications.

These varieties are just a few examples. They have the potential to be grown effectively in a row rice environment, but there is still legitimate risk of neck blast for varieties not fully resistant to neck blast. Plan to make a minimum of one fungicide application for neck blast prevention.

## Arkansas Crop Insurance Planting Dates

Federal crop insurance rules include an “early” or “initial planting date” for most crops. This refers to the date when insurance coverage begins. In Arkansas, it's April 11 for grain sorghum and April 16 for soybeans.

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If a crop is planted before the “initial planting date”, the cost for replanting any early planted acres won’t be covered by crop insurance.

Weather continues to be volatile this month with another round of much cooler temperatures entering the state this week. Low temperatures could dip into the upper 30s over the next 5 to 7 days in some areas. Under these conditions, replanting may be needed due to poor stands or other issues that negatively impact emergence.

Any acres planted before the earliest planting dates lose replant coverage, even if the entire farm or insurance unit hasn’t been planted. However, early planting doesn’t affect a farm’s actual production history (APH) yield or revenue guarantee, as long as best management practices are followed throughout the growing season.

Growers are encouraged to contact their crop insurance agent with any particular questions regarding replant provisions.

supplies, the projected 2019/20 long-grain season average farm price was raised \$0.20 to \$12.20 per cwt. or \$5.49 per bushel. After trading sharply lower Tuesday, the May futures contract closed 20 cents higher Thursday to settle at \$14.52.

U.S. Long-Grain, Supply, Demand, and Price.		
Unit: million cwt.	2018/19	April 2019/20 proj.
Production	163.6	125.6
Beginning Stocks	20.3	32.6
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>207.3</b>	<b>183.7</b>
Domestic Use	109	99
Exports	65.7	71
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>174.7</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>Ending Stocks</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>13.7</b>
<b>Avg. Farm Price (\$/bu.)</b>	<b>\$4.86</b>	<b>\$5.49</b>

Source: USDA, April 2020

No adjustments were made this month to the 2019/20 medium and short grain balance sheet. Ending Stocks of 13.7 million cwt. are 34% above last year’s 10.2 million. The midpoint of the 2019/20 season average farm price was unchanged at \$11.90/cwt. or \$5.36/bu.

**Table 2. Rice Crop Insurance Planting Dates for Arkansas.**

Earliest Plant Date	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends
April 1	May 25	June 9

For more information on crop insurance planting dates for other crops, please see: <http://www.arkansas-crops.com/2020/04/09/arkansas-insurance-planting-dates/>.

U.S. Medium/Short Grain, Supply, Demand, and Price.		
Unit: million cwt.	2018/19	April 2019/20 proj.
Production	60.3	59.1
Beginning Stocks	7.6	10.2
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>75.7</b>
Domestic Use	34.8	34
Exports	27.8	28
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Ending Stocks</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>13.7</b>
<b>Avg. Farm Price (\$/bu.)</b>	<b>\$5.54</b>	<b>\$5.36</b>

Source: USDA, April 2020

## Rice Market Update

In USDA’s April supply/demand report long-grain imports were lowered by 0.5 million cwt. on expected reduced volume in restaurant usage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Projected 2019/20 ending stocks were reduced by 0.5 million cwt. to 13.7 million, which is down 58 percent from last year. Reflecting tighter

The next USDA WASDE report will be released on May 12, 2020. This will include the first balance sheet for the 2020/21 marketing year. Planted acres from the March Prospective Plantings report and trend yields will be used as a starting point for 2020 production.

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## Price Loss Coverage (PLC) Update: 2019 Projected PLC Payment Rates, Rice. (as of April 2020)

	A	B	C	(A minus higher of B or C)
Unit: \$/bu.	Reference Price	Loan Rate	Mktg. Year Avg. Price	Proj. PLC Pmt. Rate
Long- Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$5.49	<b>\$.81</b>
Med.- Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$5.36	<b>\$0.94</b>

The final 2019 marketing year prices and PLC payment rates for rice are expected to be released October 30, 2020. Projected 2019 PLC payment rates are updated monthly on the USDA Farm Service Agencies' ARC/PLC website at this link: [ARC/PLC Program Data](#).

### Crop Progress:

The table below includes rice planting progress for individual states as of April 5th. Planting in Louisiana and Texas has been running ahead of the historical average this year. However, wet soils have kept Arkansas, Mississippi and Missouri well behind the five-year average pace. Historically, rice planting in Arkansas has been around 12% complete by April 5th. By April 12th, planting in Arkansas averaged 34% complete in the years 2014-2018—not the case in 2019 and 2020.

U.S. Rice Planting Progress, 2020.				
State	April 5 2020	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg.
<i>Percent Planted</i>				
AR	1	-	10	12
LA	70	52	64	64
MS	2	1	11	11
MO	-	-	4	3
TX	73	56	32	42
Source: USDA, NASS.				

## Arkansas Waterfowl Rice Incentive Conservation Enhancement

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is partnering with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to offer bonus conservation incentive payments to landowners up to \$150 per acre. To qualify for the payments, the landowners must have rice fields within 10 miles of specified public lands within the Delta, Arkansas River Valley, and Red River Corridor. They must be willing to cooperate with practices that increase waterfowl food in harvested rice fields without financial burden, provide limited waterfowl hunting opportunities through permit hunts on fields in the program. This opportunity also is open to public hunting and wildlife-viewing opportunities on Wetland Reserve Easement / Program properties within these regions. Payments range from \$50 to \$150 per acre, depending on the practices agreed upon. Visit [www.agfc.com/habitat](http://www.agfc.com/habitat) and contact an AGFC private lands biologist to learn more and apply for this competitive grant opportunity.

- North Delta
  - Bo Reid – 870-291-1281
- Central Delta
  - Daniel Greenfield 870-638-0831
  - David Graves – 870-319-0668
- South Delta
  - Bubba Groves – 870-224-3334
- Arkansas River Valley
  - Michelle Furr – 479-222-5894
- Red River Valley
  - Ricky Chastain – 870-331-1297.

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## DD50 Program is Live

While planting progress has only just begun, we do have rice emerged. With that in mind, the DD50 Rice Management Program is live and ready for fields to be enrolled for the 2020 season. All log-in and producer information has been retained from the 2019 season, so if you used the program last year you can log-in just as you did last year. Only field data from 2019 has been removed. Log-in and enroll fields here:

<https://dd50.uaex.edu/>.

Here's a recent article on the DD50 program: [Use the DD50 Rice Management Program to Say Ahead in 2020](#).

## 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](mailto: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>.

## Acknowledgements

We sincerely appreciate the support for this publication provided by the rice farmers of Arkansas and administered by the Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board.

The authors greatly appreciate the feedback and contributions of all growers, county agents, consultants, and rice industry stakeholders.



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