



Arkansas Rice Update

Dr. Jarrod Hardke & Scott Stiles

May 3, 2019 No. 2019-10

www.uaex.edu/rice



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Without a Paddle

“I’m no stranger to the rain, I’m a friend of thunder, Friend is it any wonder lightning strikes me.” Different verse, same as the first. It’s wet again and what now?

Planting progress for this past Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday were exceptional this week. So, when the next progress report comes out we should be over 50% planted for the state. If true that will mark our biggest single week jump of the year.

The current system giving us rain is supposed to be followed another providing us with rain chances for much of next week. Depending on how that shakes out, we could be staring down May 15th before we can get back at it. Depending on the year and the cultivar that’s a 10-15% reduction in expected yield compared to mid-April or earlier.

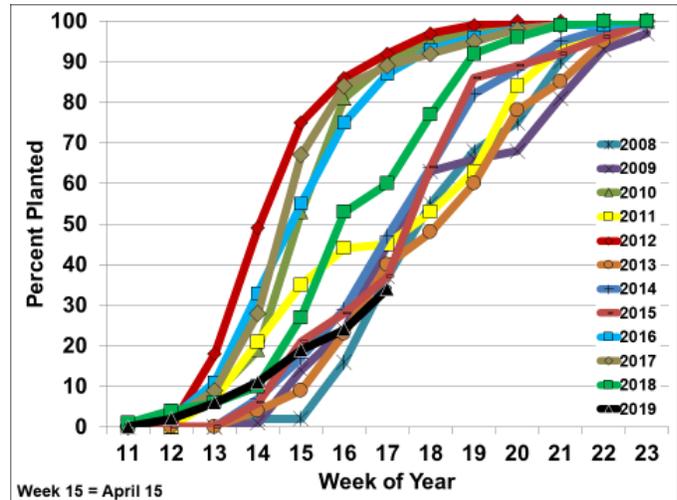
Acres will likely fall dramatically from the originally reported 1.4 million acres in the state. How far is a difficult guess based on a range of factors at the individual producer level. Ultimately soybeans don’t look like a good trade-off so that should hold some acres. However, low-lying areas will now likely never dry in time, so substantial prevented planted acres are highly likely.

Looking way back, this year represents the slowest planting progress in 25 years through Week 17. **Fig. 1** only shows back to 2008 so it doesn’t look like spaghetti but you can still see we’re behind (in case you hadn’t noticed).

Conditions have the rice that is planted growing slowly. The positive side is that residual herbicides are working extremely well with the extended wet weather and may be much cleaner than 2018 fields as a result.

All we can do is wait and be ready for the next window.

Fig. 1. AR Rice Planting Progress 2008-2019.



Rice Advisor Now Available

We’ve been working on a new site with links and calculators that is now posted for you to check out: <http://www.RiceAdvisor.com>.

This site was built “mobile first” so that it will work great on your phone or tablet. This will hopefully serve as your landing spot for DD50 login, calculators for seeding rate, drill calibration, and fertilizer, and links to videos and publications. Let us know what you think!



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Water Seeding

There's more than one way to get rice planted and conditions like this tend to get those conversations stirred up. A few immediate concerns go back to the fact that the majority of our rice has a range of seed treatments on it.

- CruiserMaxx Rice cannot be used in water-seeded rice and cannot be broadcast by air.
- NipsIt INSIDE can be broadcast by air, but seed must be covered with soil. Dry seed only.
- Dermacor is labeled for water-seeding.

The majority of our labeled fungicide seed treatments do not prohibit aerial broadcast or water-seeding. However, remember that if seed has a seed treatment on it, it can't be pre-soaked even if it's legal to fly on or water-seed.

Always check and follow the label!

Replant Considerations

While we're not doing much planting of any kind now or possibly for a while, there's ample time to evaluate stands of what's currently planted. Some fields are underwhelming thanks to all the rain and issues from it.

Work performed in 2017 emphasized our relative cutoff points for keeping rice stands. **Fig. 2** shows LaKast at various stand densities and supports our recommendation to keep a variety if the stand is 5 plants/ft² or greater which provides ~90% or better of optimal yield potential. **Fig. 3** shows similar data for XP753, but instead a cutoff of 3 plants/ft² providing 90% or better of optimal yield potential.

Since XP753 is generally going to have higher yields, keeping an even lower stand than recommended may be justifiable, but is riskier. To answer a question early – no, these stands were not evenly distributed. Stand counts were variable and were a good representation of what

is often encountered in grower fields. However, fields with a large range of stands including many 0s are difficult to replicate in research.

A major point of consideration is the date of replanting. The weather pattern points toward mid-May for our next opportunity. Mid-April planting dates are generally 10-15% greater in yield potential versus mid-May planting dates. So, if you replant in mid-May you're already likely to only achieve a similar yield to your current reduced stand (5 for variety, 3 for hybrid) assuming you get an optimal stand on the replant. You probably want to keep it at that point.

Fig. 2. Percent of optimum grain yield for LaKast at suboptimal stand densities, 2017.

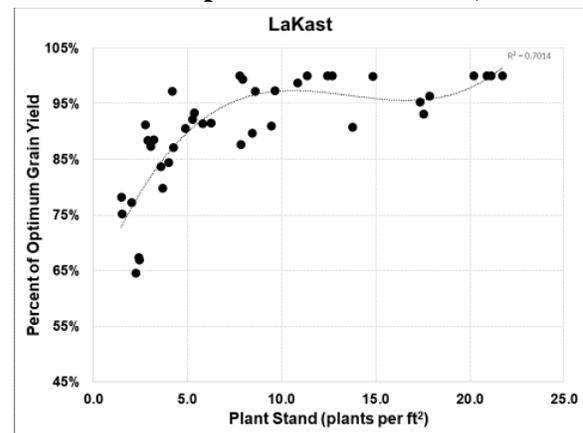
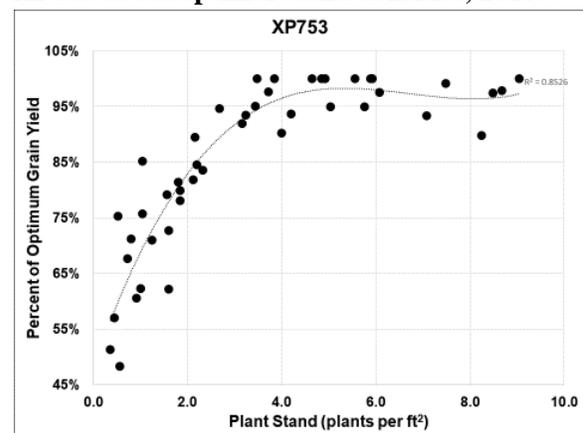


Fig. 3. Percent of optimum grain yield for XP753 at suboptimal stand densities, 2017.



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Rice Market Update:

Chicago rice futures turned higher this week on continued planting delays and forecasts for more rain in the week ahead. Both the July and September CME contracts gained roughly 25 cents/cwt. this week. As of mid-morning Friday (5/3), the July contract was trading at \$10.70 ½ with the September contract at \$10.79 ½. New crop basis for fall delivery continues to hold around 40 cents/cwt. under futures at mills and 60 to 70 cents under futures at dryers.

CME July 2019 Rice Futures, Daily Chart.



All counties in Arkansas are now past the crop insurance “Final Plant Date” for corn. Decisions on “Prevented Planting” are well underway. The activity in the soybean market over the past month adds some complexity to the decision making process—or maybe not. The November soybean contract has traded lower for four straight weeks, losing over 66 cents, and made new life of contract lows at \$8.63 this week.

CME Nov19 Soybean Futures, Daily.

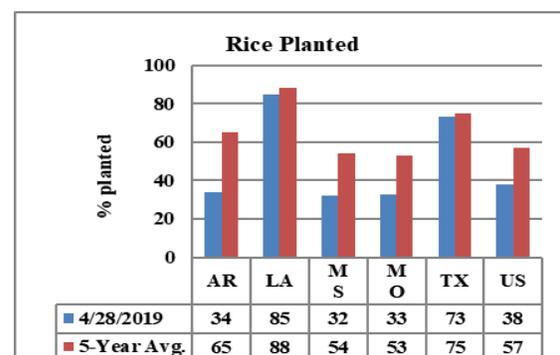


Depending on delivery location, the basis for new crop soybeans is anywhere from 22 under to nearly 60 under November futures. Thus, new crop bids at some locations are barely above \$8 per bushel. Soybean prices, as they are today, will likely extend corn and rice planting in the state further than preferred.

Another option being considered is taking 100% of the prevented planting payment on insured acres. However, to do this the ground must remain idle for the remainder of the crop year. Insured acres are also eligible for a 35% prevented planting payment if ground is planted to a 2nd insurable crop. There are restrictions on when prevented planting acres can be planted to a 2nd crop—consult your crop insurance agent. Given today’s soybean prices, switching intended corn and rice acres to soybeans involves some careful consideration of all options available on prevented planting acres.

U.S. Crop Progress:

The graph below includes rice planting progress for individual states as of April 28th. Planting progress in Louisiana has tracked closely with the historical average this year. The remaining Midsouth states were generally one-third planted at the start of the week. This year is the slowest start for Arkansas rice planting since 1993. In that year, planting was only 15% complete in the final week of April.



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Crop Insurance Planting Dates:

Corn and Grain Sorghum:

Counties	Corn			Grain Sorghum		
	Earliest Plant Date	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends	Earliest Plant Date	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends
All counties except those listed below	March 11	April 25	May 10	April 11	May 15	June 9
Clay, Craighead, Greene, Independence, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph	March 11	May 1	May 16	-	-	-

Source: USDA, Risk Management Agency (RMA).



Rice and Cotton:

Counties	Rice			Cotton	
	Earliest Plant Date	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends
All counties except those listed below	April 1	May 25	June 9	May 25	June 9
Clay, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Greene, Independence, Jackson, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett, Randolph, St. Francis, Woodruff	-	-	-	May 20	June 4

Source: USDA, Risk Management Agency (RMA).



Soybeans:

Practice	Soybeans		
	Earliest Plant Date	Final Plant Date	Late Plant Period Ends
Not Following Another Crop	April 16	June 15	July 10
Following Another Crop	April 16	June 25	July 15

Source: USDA, Risk Management Agency (RMA).



Upcoming:

May 10 – USDA Supply/Demand Report.

May 17 - ***EXTENDED*** Last day to certify production for Market Facilitation Program (MFP).

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>.

Acknowledgements

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

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