



Arkansas Rice Update

Dr. Jarrod Hardke, Dr. Tommy Butts, & Scott Stiles

May 31, 2019 No. 2019-14

www.uaex.edu/rice



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Headed for a Slowdown

“Sometimes nothing can be a pretty cool hand.” Keep your head on a swivel, you’ll know when it’s time to shut it down. That signal seems to be looming this coming week.

Next week’s forecast appears to be holding the white flag on rice planting season. Starting some on Tuesday and continuing through Saturday which will push us through the first week of June. That’s my recommended cutoff on planting rice. Last week I said we had two weeks left to plant rice – we got #1 in and #2 seems to be leaving town.

Planting progress (Fig. 1) has reached 80% as of last Monday, but should be 95% by the next report. Some of that will be actual planting, some will be from folks waving the white flag. Either way, the end is near.

Everything planted recently has come up rapidly with the warm temperatures and is off and running. Be aware that this will move the rice forward considerably and we’ll have to be right on top of management. More on that here: [Late Planted Rice – Management Considerations](#).

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

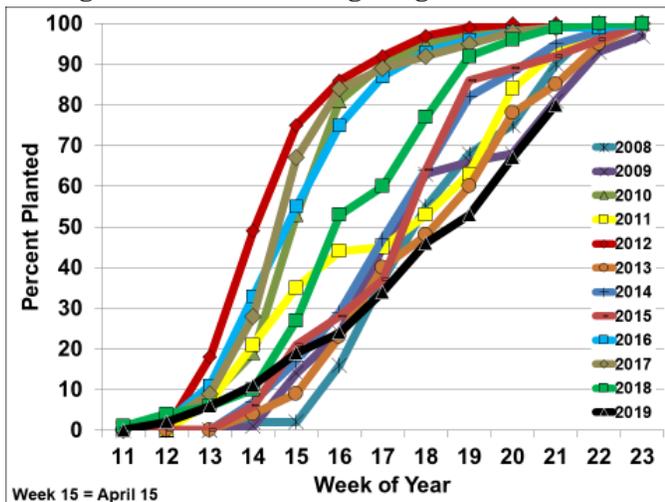


Fig. 2. Rice still being planted next to flooded rice.



Herbicide Resistance Traits Quick Reference Guide

We’ve had several questions regarding the different herbicide trait technologies across crops, and what herbicides those traits actually provide resistance to. We created a new publication that can be used to quickly identify this information for rice, corn, cotton, and soybean. This publication can be found here: <https://www.uaex.edu/publications/PDF/MP544.pdf>. Contact your local county Extension office if you’re interested in a laminated copy.

Range of Issues Associated with Weather Conditions

High winds and rapidly drying conditions are to blame for a lot of woes out there. Loss of herbicide efficacy has been among the issues or lack of residual activation on later planted fields. With these winds and high temperatures, salt issues (Fig. 3) have shown in places that don’t usually have a problem.

We also have a lot of stressed rice that has shallow roots from constant wet weather now struggling to handle the extreme dry conditions (Fig. 4). It’s easy to say flush but at the moment

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rain is in the near forecast – make the call that’s best for you. For the sake of time we can move the crop along the sooner you flush or get a rain. In some instances herbicide injury from intended applications or drift have exaggerated these issues. A lot of rice out there could use a drink! Simple rule of Arkansas weather, wait a minute and it will change.

Fig. 3. Salt injury showing up on levee tops.



Fig. 4. Rice plants struggling in dry conditions and high winds (and herbicide at times).



Crop Insurance “Late Planting Period” Ends June 9th for Rice

Anytime during the late planting period (May 25 to June 9), rice can be planted. However, the crop insurance guarantee will decrease one percent per day during this 15-day window. At the end of the late planting period, the insurance guarantee will be 55% of the original coverage amount.

Crop Insurance Planting Dates, Arkansas.

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).



On insured acres, growers are also eligible to receive 35% of the rice prevented planting (PP) payment and then plant soybeans for example after the late planting period (June 9). In a “normal” year soybeans would be the alternative crop, but the significant price rally in corn has enticed some growers to extend corn and sorghum planting well beyond the usual cut-off dates. Also, the 2019 MFP program requires growers to plant a “covered commodity” to qualify for payments.

As a reminder, a farmer can decide to take a prevented planting payment anytime during the late planting period. Field conditions after May 25th do not matter. Once a PP decision has been made, the crop insurance agent should be notified within 72 hours. Growers can notify their crop insurance agent from May 25 to 72 hours after the end of the late planting period (June 9). Good

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record keeping is helpful in PP claims. Pictures of field conditions are useful as well as records of seed and input purchases that indicate an intent to plant.

Diesel Prices Turn Lower

Since making a mid-month high near \$2.14, NYMEX diesel futures have been on a steady decline. As of mid-day Friday, nearby diesel futures were trading near \$1.85/gallon.



Diesel futures have traded from a low of \$1.64 in January to a high of almost \$2.14 on May 16th. Technical traders would point out that a 50% retracement of the January to May range would be at \$1.89. A close below \$1.89 opens the possibility for trading down to the 62% retracement at \$1.83/gallon. Watch closely.

Rice Market News

New crop September rice futures came within 2 cents of \$12/cwt. on Wednesday when it was announced that Iraq bought 120,000 metric tons of U.S. rice. The sale will be recorded as an “old crop” sale. Given the timing, it is very likely that some of this transaction could be shipped in the new crop marketing year—which begins August 1. The terms stipulate that shipment can be taken through September. Link to sale announcement.

Rice Advisor Now Available

Visit <http://www.RiceAdvisor.com> for your DD50 login, calculators for seeding rate, drill calibration, and fertilizer, and links to videos and publications. Let us know what you think!



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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