



Arkansas Rice Update

Dr. Jarrod Hardke, Dr. Nick Bateman, Dr. Yeshi Wamishe, Dr. Tommy Butts, & Scott Stiles
August 14, 2020 No. 2020-21 www.uaex.edu/rice

Crop Progress

“We been waiting on Lane ever since we recall, we started in April and it’s coming on fall...”

Some fields are just waiting on a combine to get to them and everyone is ready to see what the earliest fields harvest to set the tone for the harvest season.

Rainfall has been scattered and sporadic over the last few days, good for some and less so for others. Without these rains we could have possibly seen some rice harvested, but that will certainly happen this coming week.

The extended forecast appears very good for rice with mid to upper 80s for highs and lows in the 60s. This is again ideal for maturing rice and its quality. The latest planted rice probably needs a little more heat to keep speeding along, but temperatures are still solid for progress to be made.

One thing that was announced this week was FSA acreage data. Details are included in the Rice Market Update.

2020 Virtual Rice Field Day Next Week

On August 20 at 6 p.m. we will host the 2020 Online Rice Field Day. Information on presenters and registration can be found here: [Rice Field Day](#). You’ll get to see several presentations from rice researchers as well as a live Q&A session.

For more information on field days for other commodities including corn, soybean, and cotton, visit: [Online Field Days](#).

Comparing DD50 Program Dates to Actual Rice Response in 2020

The success and accuracy of the DD50 Rice Management Program starts with an accurate emergence date. From there, the program is based

on multiple years of data for each cultivar. Sometimes, we don’t have multiple years of data on new cultivars which makes them a little off, and sometimes you get a year like 2020 that bucks the multi-year data a little more than expected.

In **Table 2** we compare the DD50 program projected dates of 50% heading versus data collected from plots this year for rice in Arkansas County emerged April 9. For the most part, all cultivars are very close the projections – we usually say the program is accurate within a couple of days. There are a couple of cultivars with notable differences between projected and actual observed 50% heading. For example, if you had XP753 planted beside RT 7321 FP the program would say XP753 should head first, when in reality this year it could be similar.

Note that you should adjust your drain and harvest dates accordingly. The drain dates are based on 25-30 days after 50% heading and 10 days after draining to reach 20% grain moisture. Many environmental factors beyond just temperatures impact final grain development and dry-down, so be prepared to adjust like every year.

Table 2. Comparison of DD50 projected 50% heading date versus observed date in 2020 for rice emerged 4/24 and 5/15.

Cultivar	DD50	2020	DD50	2020
	Actual		Actual	
	Emerged 4/24		Emerged 5/15	
Diamond	7/18	7/18	7/31	8/1
Titan	7/14	7/15	7/27	7/29
RT XP753	7/13	7/18	7/25	7/29
CLL15	7/18	7/18	7/31	8/1
Jupiter	7/18	7/22	7/31	8/3
RT 7321 FP	7/16	7/18	7/28	7/29

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White Margin Sedge ID and Control

A new article on white margin sedge has been posted and can be viewed here: [White Margin Sedge ID and Control](#).

Rice Stink Bugs

Call have picked up this week on rice stink bugs. Although still spotty, some fields are running 20-30 RSB per 10 sweeps. This year has been a very slow RSB year, but there is still a large amount of acres that have not headed yet, and are still susceptible to rice stink bug.

Our threshold for the first two weeks of heading is 5 RSB per 10 sweeps. During the second two weeks the threshold is increased to 10 RSB per 10 sweeps. Based on assays and efficacy trials conducted this summer, lambda is still working fine and is the cheapest option for control of RSB.

Disease Update

Leaf blast in the 2020 season to date appears mild. The first report of leaf blast came in at the end of June. Until the end of July only 7 counties reported mild blast situation. We have not received leaf blast reports in the last two weeks.

Sheath blight was reported in quite a number of rice fields both in flooded and furrow-irrigated more in the first three weeks of July. Some fungicides have gone out to fields at threshold to slow it down. In the last two weeks, the progress of sheath blight has been slow in our artificially inoculated research plots at RREC at Stuttgart.

Smuts: Several fields with a history planted with susceptible cultivars have received protective fungicides for kernel smut and false smut.

Neck/panicle blast: Some fields with a history planted with a susceptible cultivar have received at

least a one-time application for neck/panicle blast suppression.

Tips for late planted rice: Regardless of the mild disease situation in relatively earlier planted rice, please continue to scout for **sheath blight** in your late planted rice. Sometimes, excessive nitrogen fertilization applied to enhance the development of rice can favor the disease. The weather forecast for next week shows temperatures in the 80s. Such temperatures with humidity are favorable for sheath blight. Make sure the upper three leaves including the flag leaf are clean until the crop reaches at least 50% heading.

Neck/panicle/collar blast (Fig. 1) are often severe in late planted rice. Flood depth in fields with a history cultivated with susceptible rice need to be maintained to at least 4 inch flood depth and at least one fungicide application is advised.

Cercospora narrow brown leaf spot (NBLS) (Fig. 2) has been more in late planted rice. If you happen to apply protective fungicides (triazoles) at boot stage to protect your rice from the smuts, those fungicides can help reduce the severity of NBLS.

Panicle discolorations: various colors may be detected on glumes within panicles as rice crop matures. Florets that failed pollination/fertilization are the first to get discoloration by saprophytic microbe. Florets fed on by stink bugs also show distinct brownish color with tan center. Panicle discoloration are often more after several rains. Examples of floret discolorations are shown [here](#). Molds such as sooty mold show dark colors over the glumes and can be confused with kernel smut. Differences between the two are shown [here](#).

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Fig. 1. Collar blast on flag leaf and neck blast dried the flag leaf and blanked the panicle.



Fig. 2. Cercospora narrow brown leaf spot (NBLS) affects leaves, flag leaf sheath and the panicles and is more prominent late in the season.



Rice Market Update

The August supply/demand report was friendly to the rice market. The new crop balance sheet adjustments featured lower production and slightly lower ending stocks. This pushed September and November futures 10 to 12 cents higher in Wednesday’s trading. The technical (chart) picture is looking more constructive with new crop futures now 55 to 60 cents above the July 28 low. For the September contract, \$11.80/cwt. is acting as resistance; \$11.85/cwt. is nearby resistance for the November contract.

To recap the supply/demand numbers, Total Supply was reduced 1.7 mln. cwt as a 2.7 mln. cut in production offset a 1 mln cwt. increase in imports. Long-grain production is now forecast at 159.1 million cwt. compared to 161.8 last month. The survey-based production estimate used in August implied lower yields than those forecast in previous months. This was a bit surprising given the impressive early yield reports from Texas and Louisiana. But, planting stretched over a much wider window in AR, MS, and MO.

Domestic use was unchanged this month at 109 mln. cwt. Exports were lowered 1 mln cwt to 69 million. On expectations of larger production this year, exports are however projected to increase 4 mln. cwt. in 20/21. USDA continues to see strong competition from South America curtailing U.S. exports to some degree. A weaker U.S. Dollar should improve our export competitiveness. Projected ending stocks were lowered to 24.3 mln. cwt., down 0.7 million from last month. The 2020/21 season-average farm price was unchanged at \$11.60 per cwt or \$5.22 per bushel.

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U.S. Long-Grain Supply and Demand				
unit	2019/20	2020/21	2020/21	Change
million cwt.		July	August	July to August
Beginning Stocks	32.6	14.2	14.2	0
Production	125.6	161.8	159.1	-2.7
Imports	29.5	28.0	29.0	+1.0
Total Supply	187.7	204.0	202.3	-1.7
Domestic Use	108.5	109.0	109.0	0
Exports	65.0	70.0	69.0	-1.0
Total Usage	173.5	179.0	178.0	-1.0
Ending Stocks	14.2	25.0	24.3	-.7
Farm Price (\$/bu.)	\$5.40	\$5.22	\$5.22	0.00

Source: USDA WAOB, August 2020.

Projected Price Loss Coverage (PLC) Payments:

The tables below include the season average farm prices and projected PLC payment rates per bushel for 2019 and 2020. The 2019 long-grain and southern medium-grain average farm prices were unchanged this month at \$5.40 and \$5.27 per bushel respectively.

2019 Projected PLC Payment Rates, Rice.

	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	\$5.40	\$.90
Med.-Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$5.27	\$1.03

Source: USDA, August 2020.

The final 2019 marketing year prices and PLC payment rates for rice are expected to be released October 30, 2020. As a reminder, for ARC and PLC payments a sequestration percentage will be applied to the payment rate. In recent years the sequestration reduction has been in the range of 6.2 to 6.6 percent.

The 2020 crop year farm prices were also unchanged this month at \$5.22 per bushel for long-grain and \$5.18 per bushel for southern medium-grain. The projected 2020 PLC payment rates are shown in the table below.

2020 Projected PLC Payment Rates, Rice.

	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	\$5.22	\$1.08
Med.-Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$5.18	\$1.12

Source: USDA, August 2020.

Projected PLC payment rates are updated monthly on the USDA Farm Service Agencies' ARC/PLC website at this link: [ARC/PLC Program Data](#)

FSA Crop Acreage:

Arkansas: Also released Wednesday was the first 2020 certified acreage data from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). As of July 31, Arkansas growers had certified 1,266,650 planted acres of long-grain and 119,540 planted acres of medium grain. This compares to 1,250,000 and 180,000 acres respectively in the June NASS Acreage report.

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Other Rice States: The table below provides a comparison of FSA long-grain planted acres and the results of the June *Acreage* survey. Of note, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi growers have already certified more long-grain acres than shown in the June *Acreage* report. However, additional rice acres in these three states could end up being offset by lower acreage in Missouri.

long-grain and 128,563 medium). Note that medium-grain PP acres actually exceed the planted acres of 119,540. This is particularly interesting since Arkansas’ medium-grain acres in the NASS’ *Acreage* survey were 180,000 planted.

U.S. Long-Grain Planted Acres, 2020.			
Million acres	FSA August	NASS Acreage	Difference
Arkansas	1.267	1.250	+.017
California	.008	.012	-.004
Louisiana	.400	.390	+.010
Mississippi	.164	.150	+.014
Missouri	.169	.210	-.041
Texas	.177	.180	-.003
U.S. Total	2.185	2.192	-.007

Source: USDA.

Monthly updates of FSA certified acreage will be released through January 2021. The next update will be provided on September 11th. Under “normal” circumstances we could expect little change in certified rice acreage from here forward. FSA data from the past 5 years indicate over 99% of Arkansas’ rice acreage is generally certified by the time the August numbers are released. Normally, certified rice acres would increase another .5% (one-half of 1 percent) from the August to final January report. Due to COVID-19 and the added reporting challenges, comparing 2020 August data to historical norms is more complicated than usual.

Dates to Remember

09/11/2020	Final Date to file application for Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)
09/30/2020	Final Date to update yield for Price Loss Coverage (PLC)

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) Signup Deadline Extended.

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) will now accept applications through September 11, 2020 for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). **Also, FSA will automatically issue the remaining 20 percent of the calculated payment to eligible producers.** Recall that producers with approved applications initially received 80 percent of their payments. Going forward, producers who apply for CFAP will receive 100 percent of their total payment, not to exceed the payment limit, when their applications are approved.

As of August 10th, FSA has already approved more than \$99 million in payments to Arkansas producers who have applied for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program. Additional information and application forms can be found at www.farmers.gov/cfap

Prevented Planting: As expected, 2020 prevented planting (PP) rice acres are down sharply from last year’s record 511,819 acres. To date, Arkansas has certified a total of 362,729 acres as PP (234,166

One-Time PLC Yield Update – Deadline Sept. 30

Farm owners have a one-time opportunity to update PLC yields of covered commodities for a farm, regardless of Agriculture Risk Coverage

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(ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program election. **The deadline to request a PLC yield update is September 30, 2020.**

Average yields per planted acre for the years 2013-2017 will be needed. PLC yields may be updated on a covered commodity-by-covered commodity basis using FSA form CCC-867. The updated yield will be equal to 90 percent of the average yield per planted acre in crop years 2013-2017 (excluding any year where the applicable covered commodity was not planted), multiplied by a crop-specific yield adjustment factor. If the reported yield in any year is less than 75 percent of the 2013-2017 average county yield, then the yield will be substituted with 75 percent of the county average yield.

It is the owner's choice whether to update or keep existing PLC yields. If a yield update is not made, then no action is required to maintain the existing PLC yield. An existing or updated PLC yield will be maintained and effective for crop years 2020 through 2023 (life of the 2018 Farm Bill).

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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