



# Arkansas Rice Update

Dr. Jarrod Hardke, Dr. Yeshi Wamishe, & Scott Stiles  
 September 13, 2019 No. 2019-28 [www.uaex.edu/rice](http://www.uaex.edu/rice)



DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE  
 RESEARCH & EXTENSION

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## Harvest Progress

“Good day sunshine, good day sunshine, I need to laugh, and when the sun is out, I’ve got something I can laugh about.”

Yield conversations remain more positive than negative. Always a good sign the deeper we move into harvest. The weather continues to hold and it appears the latest disturbance in the Atlantic has made a “Duke turn” up the east coast instead of heading our direction.

Further planting dates have been harvested at Stuttgart and Pine Tree (**Tables 1 and 2**). Signs continue to be positive based on this data. Late April rice at Stuttgart continues to hold steady while early May rice at Pine Tree has only seen a modest decline.

We still have more planting dates to harvest and a large amount of our rice is planted further into May. But the fact that the numbers are holding up so far bodes well that we may maintain solid yields even on later rice.

Harvest progress as of Monday was at 23% for the state. However, many more are finding dry enough rice to really get moving, so we should see a substantial increase over this week and the next.

**Table 1. Preliminary data for small-plot planting date studies, RREC, Stuttgart, 2019.**

Cultivar	Grain Type	Planting Date			
		March 21 2019	April 3 2019	April 16 2019	April 29 2019
ARX7-1087	L	222	221	219	211
CL153	CL	226	224	202	188
CLL15	CL	222	222	220	193
CLXAR19	CL	245	255	231	226
Diamond	L	233	235	223	220
PVL01	PL	199	194	187	179
RT 7301	L	269	258	258	261
RT 7501	L	261	263	277	265
RT 7321 FP	FL	237	239	256	257
RT 7521 FP	FL	230	240	252	232
RT CLXL745	CL	203	231	226	224
RT Gemini 214 CL	CL	250	260	271	243
RT XP753	L	259	251	271	264
ARX7-1121	M	253	243	225	231
CL272	CM	232	220	236	192
CLM04	CM	230	209	226	208
Jupiter	M	248	229	238	227
RT 3201	M	219	222	225	212
Titan	M	239	226	230	217
ARoma17	LA	201	186	178	171
<b>MEAN</b>	--	<b>234</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>221</b>

Grain Type: L = long-grain, M = medium-grain, CL = Clearfield long-grain, CM = Clearfield medium-grain, FL = FullPage long-grain, PL = Provisia long-grain.

## USA Rice Leadership Program

Producers, consider applying for the 2020 Rice Leadership Program this year. More information and the application link can be found here:

<https://www.usarice.com/foundation/leadership-program>

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**Table 2. Preliminary data for small-plot planting date studies, PTRS, Colt, 2019.**

Cultivar	Grain Type	Planting Date		
		April 2 2019	April 24 2019	May 8 2019
ARX7-1087	L	160	215	185
CL153	CL	134	178	164
CLL15	CL	163	237	202
CLXAR19	CL	169	230	204
Diamond	L	159	236	199
PVL01	PL	149	180	165
RT 7301	L	161	259	210
RT 7501	L	177	234	197
RT 7321 FP	FL	157	266	215
RT 7521 FP	FL	157	266	227
RT CLXL745	CL	147	231	207
RT Gemini 214 CL	CL	171	255	214
RT XP753	L	175	266	218
ARX7-1121	M	199	245	227
CL272	CM	123	207	183
CLM04	CM	167	208	210
Jupiter	M	159	231	210
RT 3201	M	171	208	192
Titan	M	137	232	189
ARoma17	LA	155	197	166
<b>MEAN</b>	--	<b>160</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>199</b>

Grain Type: L = long-grain, M = medium-grain, CL = Clearfield long-grain, CM = Clearfield medium-grain, FL = FullPage long-grain, PL = Provisia long-grain.

## False Smut Concerns

There have been quite a few questions about false smut this week. We often talk about false smut and kernel smut collectively but they are quite different.

Later planted rice is more prone to these smuts in general. Usually only a few grains in a panicle are infected. In very susceptible cultivars several grains may be affected. Generally speaking, false smut alone is not likely to result

in noticeable losses of grain yield or milling yield. In contrast, kernel smut can have very noticeable negative impacts on both.

The reason for this difference has to do with how the two behave. The false smut fungus can transform infected kernels into greenish spore balls and the smut ball is very “showy” outside of the grain, usually leading to an overestimation of the number of kernels affected. In addition, since typically not all grains are filled, the plant may be able to compensate for the few kernels lost.

Kernel smut, however, replaces all or only part of a kernel inside the hull. So it is less likely that the plant can compensate. This results in lower yields and an increase in the number of broken or partially filled kernels that reduce milling yields.

Kernel smut, by forming inside the hull, is also very difficult to remove in the milling or cleaning processes. It may end up in the milling process resulting in a reduction in grade and is more concerning to rice used to parboil. False smut, however, will dry down and can be removed in these processes.

We still need to keep false smut under control, but it will always be worse in later planted rice, and even worse in very susceptible cultivars such as Diamond, RT Gemini 214 CL, RT XP760, and PVL01 to name a few cultivars. Additionally, even higher rates of propiconazole may only reduce false smut by 50-70% if an application is properly timed. In the future, consider rotating fields and avoid excessive nitrogen rates on susceptible cultivars.

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## Rice Market Update

USDA released its monthly WASDE and *Crop Production* reports Thursday. The outlook for 2019/20 long-grain this month included sharply lower production, lower domestic use and exports, and lower ending stocks. On the supply side, new crop beginning stocks were reduced by 1 million cwt. on better old crop domestic use.

The big supply story however was a massive 22.4 million cwt. cut to 2019 production. Long-grain production was reduced from 149.1 in August to 126.7 million on lower harvested area and yield. Of note, Texas saw a 600 pound per acre reduction in yield this month. Arkansas' state average yield was unchanged at 7,450 pounds. Total long-grain supply was lowered 22.9 million cwt to 183.3 million.

U.S. Long-Grain, Supply and Demand, 2019/20.			
Unit: million cwt.	August	September	Change
Beginning Stocks	33.6	32.6	-1
Production	149.1	126.7	-22.4
<b>Total Supply</b>	<b>206.2</b>	<b>183.3</b>	<b>-22.9</b>
Domestic Use	105	98	-7
Exports	72	66	-6
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>-13</b>
<b>Ending Stocks</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>-9.9</b>
Avg. Farm Price (\$/bu.)	\$ 4.95	\$ 5.40	+45

Source: USDA, September 2019.

NASS incorporated FSA certified acreage data in the September *Crop Production* report. Arkansas' total harvested acreage was reduced by 150,000 from last month. Since the June *Acreage* report, Arkansas' long-grain harvested acreage has slipped from 1.125 million to 935,000. Medium grain acreage has increased by 40,000 to 190,000 total.

Domestic use and exports were lowered a combined 13 million cwt. on lower supplies. However, new crop export sales are outpacing last year by a wide margin. Bear in mind it is early in the new crop marketing year, with only five (5)

weeks of data reported. But, at this early stage long-grain rough rice exports are 79% percent ahead of last year's pace and long-grain milled exports are 75% ahead of last year. It seems unlikely this type of export momentum will last with production down 23% from last year, rice futures 13% higher and the Dollar up 3.5% over the past year.

Lastly, long-grain ending stocks were lowered 9.9 million cwt. to 19.3 million and the season-average farm price was raised \$1.00 to \$12 per cwt. or \$5.40 per bushel. The complexion of the 2019 long-grain balance sheet has changed dramatically since USDA's initial outlook in May. At that time, ending stocks were projected to be the highest since the mid-80s at 37.9 million cwt. The average long-grain producer price for the 2019 marketing year was projected then to be \$4.50 per bushel.

The next USDA WASDE report will be released on October 10, 2019.

## 2018 PLC Projection:

### 2018 Projected PLC Payment Rates (as of September 2019).

	A	B	C	(A minus higher of B or C)	-6.8%
Unit: \$/bu.	Ref. Price	Loan Rate	Mktg. Year Avg. Price	Proj. PLC Payment Rate	Net PLC Pmnt. Rate
Long-Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$4.86	\$1.44	\$1.34
Med.-Grain	\$6.30	\$2.925	\$5.54	\$0.76	\$0.71

The final 2018 marketing year prices and PLC payment rates for rice are expected to be announced in October 2019. Projected 2018 PLC payment rates are updated monthly on the USDA Farm Service Agencies' ARC/PLC website at this link: [ARC/PLC Program Data](http://www.ars.usda.gov/arc/plc)

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Look under the heading “**Program Year 2018 Data**” for “**Projected 2018 PLC Payment Rates**”.

## 2018 Farm Bill ARC/PLC Enrollment

As a reminder, producers can now enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs for the 2019 crop year. Enrollment for the 2019 crop began Sept. 3, 2019. The deadline to sign up is March 15, 2020.

The ARC/PLC program election applies to both the 2019 and 2020 crop years. If a 2019 election is not submitted by the deadline of March 15, 2020, the election defaults to the current ARC/PLC elections of the crops on the farm established under the 2014 Farm Bill. **No payments will be earned in 2019 if the election defaults.**

Once the 2019 election and enrollment are completed, producers on the farm for 2020 can complete an enrollment contract for the 2020 crop year beginning Oct. 7, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020.

Although 2019 enrollment began Sept. 3, 2019 and must occur first, a producer waiting until Oct. 7, 2019 to enroll can simply enroll in both 2019 and 2020 during the same office visit. During this time, farm owners also have a one-time opportunity to update PLC payment yields that takes effect beginning with the 2020 crop year.

## Farm Bill Decision Tools

In partnership with USDA, the University of Illinois and Texas A&M University are offering web-based decision tools to assist producers in making ARC/PLC election decisions. Tools include:

- [Gardner-farmdoc Payment Calculator](#), the University of Illinois tool that offers farmers the ability to run payment estimate

modeling for their farms and counties for ARC-County and PLC.

- [ARC and PLC Decision Tool](#), the Texas A&M tool that allow producers to analyze payment yield updates and expected payments for 2019 and 2020. Producers who have used the tool in the past should see their user name and much of their farm data will already be available in the system.

**Reminder:** The deadline to sign up for the 2019 Market Facilitation Program (MFP) is December 6, 2019.

More information at:  
[Market Facilitation Program](#)

## 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>.

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