

Corn and Grain Sorghum Research Verification – Chuck Capps (Corn & GS Verification Coordinator)

Prairie County Corn Verification Field has emerged as of 4-12-18. It took quite a few days to accumulate the heat units needed with a few of the cold spells we had. In Mississippi County, the land leveling work may be completed late this week to allow planting to begin next week or when it dries out after the rains this weekend. Jackson County was planted 4-10-18, and Clay County field was planted on 4-11-18. Plans are for Arkansas, Jefferson, and Chicot Counties to be planted on Thursday 4-12-18.

Land leveling on the Grain Sorghum Verification Field in Cross County was completed this past week and chicken litter was put out on 4-11-18. We are waiting for the soil temp to rise just a bit before we plant it.

River Valley Update – Kevin VanPelt (Conway County)

Some producers in the River Valley started planting corn a couple of weeks ago, but it has been slow to emerge due to cold soil temperatures. The cool temperatures have not allowed for much heat unit accumulation. More corn was planted earlier in the week. However, with rain and freezing weather in the forecast for this weekend, the majority of producers are waiting until next week.

Central Update – Brett Gordon (Woodruff County)

The earliest planted corn emerged ahead of last weekend's freezing weather. Fortunately, the growing point was below ground, and the crop should hopefully recover. This week has brought much needed dry and warm weather. Planting has been in full swing with the majority of acreage being planted the past few days. I would estimate three quarters of the corn crop will be planted before more rain arrives on Friday night (April 13).

South Central Update – Steven Stone (Lincoln County)

Corn looks a little rough due to the frost, but the new leaf coming out looks to be fine. Some of the last planted was just spiking out of the ground yesterday (4-11-18). The current warmer weather will help a lot with recently planted corn. Corn will be planted through the rest of the week with the Lincoln County Standardized Corn Hybrid trial planted 4-12-18.

North East Update – Stewart Runsick (Clay County)

Northeast corner finally missed a rain and planting is in full swing. Most producers started planting corn Tuesday of this week. The wind has been blowing furiously delaying herbicide applications. It's good to get started, and we are looking forward to good season.