



# LOUISIANA RICE NOTES

Drs. Dustin Harrell & Michael Deliberto

May 29, 2018

No. 2018-04

## Rice Field Days Begin Tomorrow

### Upcoming

May 30	Southwest Louisiana Rice Field Day, Iowa
May 31	Evangeline Parish Rice Field Day, Mamou
June 5	Vermilion Parish Rice Field Day, Lake Arthur
June 13	Acadia Parish/South Farm Field Day, Crowley
June 27	LSU AgCenter H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station Field Day, Crowley
July 16	St. Landry Rice and Soybean Field Day, Palmetto
July 18	Northeast Louisiana Rice Field Day, Rayville

## Time to begin thinking of your disease management plan

This year we moved out of the cold and cool conditions of March and moved straight

into summer, bypassing any of the gradual warming typical of spring. The summer temperatures have our rice developing at a fast and steady pace this year. Most of the rice in southwest Louisiana has received its mid-season nitrogen fertilizer and it is now time to shift gears and begin thinking of our disease management plan.

The winter was long and we have had hot conditions with little rainfall and a lower than normal humidity so far this year. These conditions suggest that disease potential will be lower-than-normal. However, we are having trouble keeping water on the field in some places which increases the potential for blast. We also have several thick stands of rice which increases the potential for sheath blight. Weather conditions can change overnight too, so our low rainfall, low humidity and clear blue skies can change to frequent showers, extended overcast conditions and high humidity which favors disease development. The bottom line is that we should be sure to scout for disease and apply fungicides when needed to prevent any disease outbreaks.

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Figure 1. Rotten neck blast in rice.

Blast can be one of the most devastating diseases in rice. Strobilurin (Group 11) fungicides are labeled for use in rice to manage blast. These include Quadris, Equation and Gem. They are also available mixed with propiconazole fungicides which include Quilt, Quilt Xcel, Stratego and Amistar Top.

If a one-shot application of a fungicide is to be used for blast control, it should be applied when 50-70 percent of the panicles are just beginning to emerge from the boot. This is sometimes referred to boot split. This cannot be seen from the truck and must be observed from the in the field. This is not to

be confused with 50-70 percent fully headed rice.

If significant leaf blast is observed in the late tillering stages or during the booting stages, a two-shot fungicide application strategy should be considered. A prophylactic two fungicide application strategy should definitely be considered when growing a variety which is very susceptible to blast such



Figure 2. Late boot (left) and emerging panicle/boot split (right). A fungicide application for blast is recommended when 50- to 70-percent of the panicles are emerging from the boot (boot split).

as CL151 or CL163. The best timing for the first application is when the rice is in the boot stage and has a 2- to 4-inch panicle. This 2-shot prophylactic strategy should also be considered for varieties which are susceptible

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to blast like the new Provisia variety PVL01. This is especially true for PVL01 since we have to apply more nitrogen to this variety (150 to 180 pounds per acre recommended) to maximize its yield potential as compared to most other varieties (120 to 150 pounds per acre).



Figure 3. Sheath blight in rice.

Sheath blight is another disease we need to scout for and apply a fungicide to manage. Applications of a strobilurin and carboxamide fungicides (Elegia and Sercadis) can be used. However, for if you have strobilurin resistant sheath blight you must use Elegia, Sercadis or the new fungicide Amistar Top. Applications from the boot stage

to 50-70 percent of the panicle emerging from the boot (boot split) are both effective.

Cercospora, kernel smut and false smut protection in rice is best achieved with a propiconazole (Tilt, Bumper, PropiMax) fungicide. Propiconazole can also be found in the mixed fungicides such as Quilt, Quilt Xcel, Stratego and Amistar Top. Remember, to control kernel and false smut the fungicide application must be applied *before* the panicle begins to emerge from the boot (boot split). The recommended application timing for the smuts is 2- to 4-inch panicle. For Cercospora, application can be made from boot up to heading, with earlier applications recommended when rice is planted late.

## Louisiana Rice Text Group Surveys

The LSU AgCenter's Louisiana Rice Text Message Group is often used to provide important information to growers, consultants and rice industry



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personnel during the growing season and throughout the year. Information provided can include such things as a disease or insect outbreak, new weed control information, updates on availability of new educational materials, meeting reminders, current rice yields during harvest, and other general rice updates.

The text message group has also been used to gather important survey information. This information is critical to help move our rice extension program forward. For example, this past winter, a survey was used to find out if Louisiana growers were interested in having a young rice farmer developmental program focused on educating future rice producers in all phases of the industry. Data gathered indicated that there was an overwhelming support for this type of program in Louisiana. The data was used to support a USDA-NIFA grant proposal to secure funding for the project. While there has been no word yet on the outcome of the proposal, the importance of the information was extremely valuable.

This past Friday's survey asked if well or surface pumps used by Louisiana producers



Figure 4. Irrigation water flooding a rice field. A recent survey asked if the pumps used to supply irrigation water were powered by electricity or diesel/ gas (natural gas or propane).

were powered by electricity or by diesel/gas (natural or propane). There were responses from 50 farming entities which represented 520 pumps. The results indicated that approximately 53 percent of the pumps were run by electricity and 47 percent were run by diesel/gas (natural gas or propane). Many respondents separated the diesel from the gas (natural or propane) with their responses and this information suggested that approximately 4 percent of the pumps in that category were powered by natural gas or propane.

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## Rice Drying Survey Results

In an attempt to approximate the percentage of Louisiana rice that is dried on-farm, an SMS text survey was released through the LSU AgCenter Rice Text Message list service during the week of May 21.

Of the 39 responses, 38 were included in this descriptive analysis. Respondents were categorized into five farm groups by farm acreage. The number of responses per farm group are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1. Survey responses, as of May 25, 2018.**

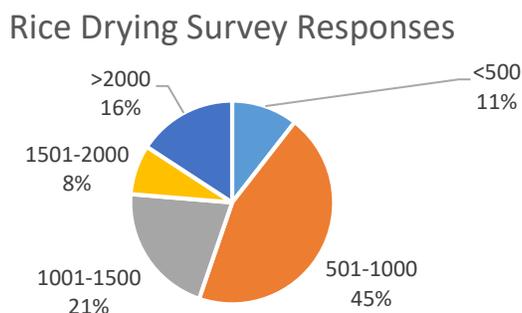
Farm Size	No. of Responses
<500 acres	4
501-1,000 acres	17
1,001-1,500 acres	8
1,501-2,000 acres	3
>2,000 acres	6

Responses from Table 1 indicate that the majority of survey respondents (45%) farmed between 501 to 1,000 acres of rice. Farms



between 1,001 to 1,500 acres accounted for 21% of total responses. Combined, these two farm groups (501-1,000 acres, 1,001-1,500 acres) comprised 61% of respondents. Figure 1 illustrates the share of responses by farm size (acreage).

**Figure 1. Survey respondents by farm size.**



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The average percentage of a producer’s rice crop that is dried on-farm is presented in Table 2. The largest percentage of rice dried on-farm is indicated to be on farms between 1,501 to 2,000 acres (87.8 percent), although this farm group represented the lowest share of survey responses (8 percent). For the 501 to 1,000 acre farm category, 72.8 percent of the rice crop is dried on farm. Overall, the average percentage of rice dried on-farm in Louisiana is 71.6 percent among all reporting farms.

Table 2. Average percentage of rice crop dried on-farm, survey responses as of May 25.

Farm Size	Average Percent of Rice Dried On-farm
<500 acres	37.5%
501-1,000 acres	72.8%
1,001-1,500 acres	70.0%
1,501-2,000 acres	87.8%
>2,000 acres	74.1%



Figure 5. Channeled apple snails gathering near a drain at the edge of a rice/crawfish field.

## New Survey on Channeled Apple Snail

The Channeled Apple Snail has been found in great numbers in southwest Louisiana. This new survey is to help us find out the extent of its movement, its potential impact and how to move forward with education. To take the survey please click this link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SC8JBST>

## Join Louisiana Rice Text Group List

If you would like to join the Louisiana Rice Text Group, simply text **@larice** to **81010**. To unsubscribe to the group, simply text back “unsubscribe@larice” to the group.



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If you would like to get the text messages by email, send an email to [larice@mail.remind.com](mailto:larice@mail.remind.com). If you would like to unsubscribe to the email messages, simply email [larice@mail.remind.com](mailto:larice@mail.remind.com) with “unsubscribe” in the subject line.

## Additional Information

Louisiana Rice Notes is published periodically to provide timely information and recommendations for rice production in Louisiana. If you would like to be added to this email list, please send your request to [dharrell@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:dharrell@agcenter.lsu.edu).

This information will also be posted to the LSU AgCenter website where additional rice information can be found. Please visit [www.LSUAgCenter.com](http://www.LSUAgCenter.com).

**Louisiana Rice @LouisianaRice**

**LSU AgCenter H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station**

**Louisiana Crops Website @ [www.louisianacrops.com](http://www.louisianacrops.com)**

**LSU AgCenter Official Website @ [www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)**

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