



Leadership and Innovation Within the Field of Rice

Stand Establishment

Garrison Hardke

Many factors contribute to the yield potential of any rice field, and stand establishment is certainly one of the most important. Seeding date, seed treatments, and environmental conditions all play key roles in determining the final plant population. All RiceTec hybrids are treated with Zinc as well as broad-spectrum multiple fungicides combined with gibberellic acid to enhance early growth and provide protection that is crucial to ensuring an adequate plant population.

With uncertainty in the rice market, and the rising cost of inputs, the consensus from growers is that we need **big bushels** this year. While there are many factors that we can't control, we do have some tools at our disposal to maximize our stand density. Rice, like any crop, needs an adequate plant population to reach full yield potential. We have been fortunate to get an early start at planting this year, and we all need to follow through on making sure we get every possible plant out of the ground.

In many situations flushing can solve a whole host of problems. Inadequate moisture following germination combined with the decision not to flush has two outcomes, and both cost more money per acre than flushing. The first is uneven emergence that can lead to uneven maturity dates. This leads to having multiple growth stages in the same field and management decisions are now based on only part of the field. The second is having to replant because seed dried out or the plant could not get to the soil surface before leafing out underground. RiceTec has an excellent stand guarantee program, but if you have to replant, your potential profits are significantly reduced from costs associated with replanting.

Where stand establishment is a concern, flushing in most cases will increase plants per square foot by 2 or 3 plants. Flushing is an added expense and takes time, but don't risk your crop by deciding not to flush.



New RiceTec Toolbox App Available

Dr. Brian Ottis

RiceTec is happy to announce the release of RiceTec Toolbox 2.0 app for iPhone and iPad, and soon for Android devices. Toolbox 2.0 is a free app available from the App Store. To download, simply search in the App Store for 'RiceTec' and choose download. You must have an Apple ID to download apps from the App Store. New for Toolbox 2.0:

- Seeding Rate Cost Calculator
- Hybrid rice management guidelines
- Drill calibration video demonstrations
- Weather
- RiceTec product information
- Latest Rice Industry News

•To sign up for the RiceTec podcast, email Dr. Brian Ottis at bottis@ricetec.com

•Remember to check our website frequently for updates, information and details on programs.

Early season 2012

Double-Cropping Rice Behind Wheat?

With abnormally warm conditions this spring, the Southern wheat crop is on pace for an early harvest. This has some growers considering planting rice behind wheat instead of soybeans. This could be the rare opportunity to plant behind wheat in late May, rather than mid-June.

As you are probably aware, RiceTec Hybrid rice consistently outperforms varietal rice not only in “normal” situations, but also under stressful/late-planting situations. Late planted rice is usually stressed during pollination due to increased temperatures and disease pressure. These factors typically lead to yield loss. Hybrids often perform significantly better than varieties in stressful situations such as late plantings. The extensive tillering capacity, hardy disease package and overall hybrid vigor put more dollars in the growers’ pockets when environmental stress increases.

The chart to the right illustrates multi-year data by planting date. The hybrid advantage is apparent in both the Gulf Coast and Mid-South growing regions. Talk to your local technical representative for more details and planting recommendations.

Garrison Hardke

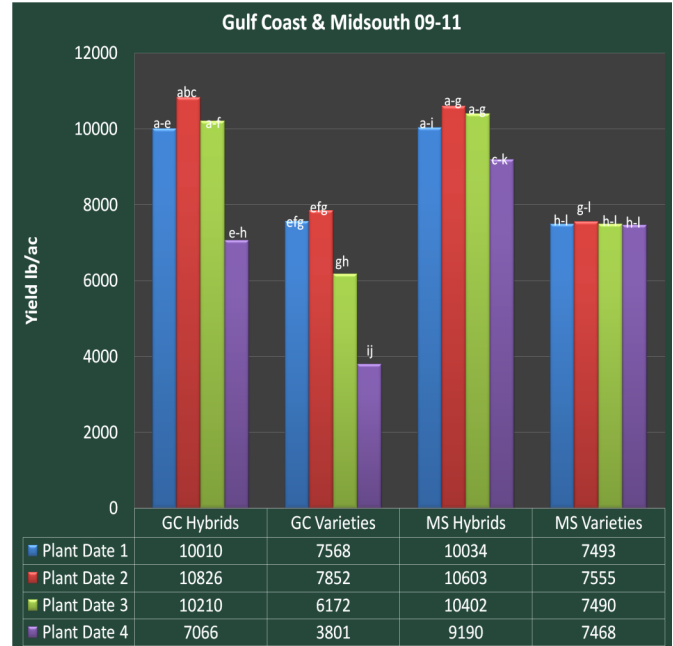


Table. 1. Gulf Coast target planting dates are March 1st, March 15th, April 15th and May 15th.
MidSouth target planting dates are March 20th, April 1st, May 1st and June 1st.

Return Unused RiceTec Seed To Your Service Partner

Chris Tilley

With planting season in full swing in all areas and well ahead of schedule, it is important to remember RiceTec’s return policy. Any unused (unopened) RiceTec seed that was purchased under the spring program can be returned as long as it falls under the 10% of total spring purchased seed. Any Fall Program priced seed is not returnable. Below is a quick summary of the return program, as with all RiceTec programs if you have any questions or concerns please give us a call at 877-580-7423.

Seed eligible for return must be in unopened, undamaged, mini-bulks or paper units and returned by June 15, 2012 to the RiceTec Service Partner location from which the seed was purchased.

- All seed must be returned to the Service Partner location no later than **June 15th, 2012**. Any exceptions must be approved by RiceTec Customer Service in advance and in writing.
- Any seed approved for return by RiceTec on or after **June 16th, 2012 until June 22nd, 2012**, is subject to a restocking fee of 15% of customers original purchase (invoice) price per each unit returned.
- After **June 22nd, 2012**, “NO” returns will be accepted.
- Service Partner must prepare a signed “return” ticket showing customer information, units and lot numbers, and send by mail, email or fax to RiceTec’s Customer Services Department within two (2) days after the return is made or seed return is subject to revocation.

New Technical Rep. For District 2

Stewart Runsick

RiceTec is excited to announce the addition of Stewart Runsick as the new Tech Services Rep. for District 2. In this role, Stewart will coordinate RiceTec yield trials, as well as providing support to area growers throughout the year. Many of you may recognize Stewart from his most recent role with The University of Arkansas Extension Service, where he served as Rice Research Verification Coordinator.

Stewart received his BS in Agriculture Education from ASU in 1995 and a Masters degree in Agronomy from U of A in 2002. He and his wife Kathy live in Walnut Ridge, and have two children, son Kyle and daughter Taylor.



Rotation is Key to Resistance Management

Dr. Brian Ottis

As you begin thinking about your weed control plan this season and booking herbicides, try to be proactive about managing herbicide resistance on your farm. In order to keep resistance from building on your farm, there are a few practices that you need to consider implementing in your farming operation. These practices all revolve around **ROTATION**.

ROTATE CROPS. The easiest way to manage resistance is crop rotation. It is not hard to predict that herbicide resistance will develop first in continuous rice. The resistance that is most obvious at this point is red rice that has been allowed to survive and outcross with CLEARFIELD® Rice. However, barnyardgrass could be close behind in developing resistance to ALS herbicides. Some has already been confirmed in Arkansas, but this could spread rapidly in coming years. Therefore, rotate to soybeans, or some other crop, so that you are forced to rotate cultivation practices and herbicides.



ROTATE CHEMISTRY. You might be saying, “Well, the soybean and cotton guys are dealing with all the resistant pigweed and horseweed, and they rotated crops.” Yes, they did in many cases, but they didn’t rotate chemistry. Relying solely on glyphosate for weed control for the last several years has taken its toll on cotton and soybean acres. This past winter, we heard a lot about propanil and thiobencarb (active ingredient of Bolero and also included in RiceBeaux). Bolero was a fairly standard herbicide prior to Command hitting the scene in the late ‘90s, but over the last decade the CLEARFIELD® production system has become a prominent player in the southern rice market. We’ve shifted our reliance heavily to ALS chemistry (Newpath, Permit, Grasp, Regiment, Londax) for weed control in the last 10 years, with the exception of Clincher. ALS herbicides each have a unique weed control spectrum that can really do a nice job controlling weeds. The problem is that weed susceptibility to ALS herbicides is usually dictated by a simple change in a single gene in the plant, which can theoretically occur much faster than resistance to glyphosate. Therefore, consider mixing things up a little bit this year. Don’t just stick to what has worked in the past, because you could be stuck with resistant weeds before you know it. And you think weed control is expensive now?

CLEARFIELD® Stewardship

Garrison Hardke

This year’s rice crop has been planted in a short window, and that means weed control decisions will come in a flurry as well. It is important to have a plan so that we can take full advantage of the Clearfield® Production System. Here are some guidelines and tips for success this year.

Apply two applications of NEWPATH as labeled or one application of NEWPATH followed by one application of CLEARPATH or vice versa. CLEARPATH may only be substituted for one application of NEWPATH, but not both. BEYOND may be applied as a second application only after an initial application of NEWPATH or CLEARPATH.

Other tips include:

- Flush within 2 days of first application
- Initiate flood within 2 days of 2nd application
- Maintain weed-free levees and red-rice-free turnrows
- Control red-rice escapes with BEYOND
- Rogue for red-rice escapes
- DO NOT ratoon if red-rice present at harvest

Ratoon Cropping

Garrison Hardke

With the Mid-South rice crop being planted as early as many growers can remember, we may have the rare chance in 2012 to harvest a ratoon crop on a significant number of acres. Ratoon cropping has long been common practice in the Gulf Coast and Lower Delta growing regions, but is rare in the Mid-South. Gulf Coast growers have experienced planting delays due to weather this year, but are still within their window of opportunity. The combination of early maturing Hybrids and early planting dates gives us reason to consider strong ratoon potential. You can contact your local RiceTec Rep for tips and guidelines on ratooning hybrids. RiceTec has an enormous amount of expertise in this area, and we will discuss more extensively in future newsletters. Stay tuned!



RiceTec, Inc.

**P.O. Box 1305
1925 FM 2917
Alvin, TX 77511**

**15847 Highway 1
Harrisburg, AR 72432**

**877-580-7423
Fax 877-588-7423**

**RiceTec Newsletter
Early season 2010**

- Stand Establishment
- RiceTec App Update
- Double-Crop Rice Behind Wheat
- Return Unused RiceTec Seed To Your Service Partner
- New Technical Rep. For District 2
- Resistance Management
- Clearfield® Stewardship
- Ratoon Cropping

RiceTec Service Contacts

Technical Services

District 1	Barry Barnett	870-273-4988
District 2	Stewart Runsick	870-571-6069
District 3	Kurt Johns	870-243-4696
District 4	William Hutchens	870-273-9291
District 5	Whitney Jones	501-516-6904
District 6	Garrison Hardke	501-772-1715
District 7	Jeff Branson	870-578-8436
District 8	Jay Burchfield	662-402-2781
District 9	Cullen Minter	337-499-6498
District 10	Derrol Grymes	281-381-9371

Sales

Districts 1 - 2	DJ Shipman	870-273-9286
Districts 3 - 4	Brian Graf	870-243-2603
Districts 5 - 6	Jeff Reeves	870-919-6944
Districts 7	Wes Long	870-830-0160
Districts 8	Jeff Mosley	662-719-1034
Districts 9	Mike Worthington	337-263-4297
Districts 10	Mark Spilman	281-389-3527

Customer Services

Toll-Free	Rebecca Wright	877-580-7423
-----------	----------------	--------------

