



# Rice Production Update

Volume 19, Issue No. 1

February 16, 2006

## *In this Issue...*

CCP Payment Rate .....	1
Rice Disease Survey .....	1
Early Flooding .....	2
Insect Control Update .....	2

### **Counter-cyclical Payment Rate Expected to Fall for 2005 Rice Crop** - *Dr. Lawrence L. Falconer - Professor and Extension Economist - Management; Texas Cooperative Extension*

The total rice Counter-cyclical Payment (CCP) rate for the 2004 crop will be \$0.82 per cwt. The rate is based on the final market year average rice price of \$7.33 per cwt, according to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service Agricultural Prices, published Jan. 31, 2006. The rate is the effective price of \$9.68 subtracted from the target price of \$10.50. The effective price adds the farm price of \$7.33 to the direct payment rate of \$2.35.

The current USDA-Economic Research Service forecasted season average farm price for 2005/2006 of \$7.80 per cwt would result in \$0.35/cwt CCP for the 2005/2006 crop. The marketing year for rice begins August 1st of each year.

Global rice production for 2005/06 is projected at 406.9 million tons (milled basis), more than 1 percent larger than a year earlier. However, world ending stocks are expected to be drawn down again this year as consumption exceeds production. Ending stocks are projected at 66.1 million tons, smallest since 1982/83. Tighter world stocks will probably support the Adjusted World Price and keep pressure on Loan Deficiency Payment rates for the 2005/2006 crop.

### **Area-wide Exotic Rice Disease Survey** - *Dr. Joseph P. Krausz, Extension Plant Pathologist; Texas Cooperative Extension*

In cooperation with the USDA - APHIS, an area-wide survey for exotic rice diseases was conducted in Texas and other rice-producing states during the 2005 growing season. Frequently, rice plant pathologists in Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana are asked to help Federal officials to obtain phytosanitary permits for exporting U.S. rice to foreign countries. Often the country intending to import U.S. rice will have import restrictions to prevent introduction of plant pathogens that supposedly does not exist in the importing country.

The survey in Texas included Colorado, Jackson, Wharton, Matagorda, Liberty, Jefferson, and Chambers Counties. Three exotic rice diseases included in the survey were bacterial leaf blight (*Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzae*), bacterial leaf streak (*Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzicola*), and bakanae (*Gibberella fujikuroi*). Bakanae, often called "foolish seedling disease", is a foreign rice disease that recently was discovered in California in 1999 and has spread throughout most of the California rice-production area. It is seed-borne and could easily be introduced into the southern U.S. rice region. Bacterial leaf blight and bacterial leaf streak are very damaging rice diseases in the tropics. In 1987, a bacterial disease of rice foliage was found in Texas and Louisiana. With the diagnostic tools available at the time, researchers identified the bacterial pathogen as *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv *oryzae* and the disease it was causing as bacterial leaf blight.

Unlike bacterial leaf blight in Asia, this American version of the disease never caused any significant yield loss. With the development and use of new molecular diagnostic techniques over the past decade, it appears that the reported Texas - Louisiana strain of

the bacterial leaf blight bacterium is significantly different from the aggressive Asian strain of the bacterium, and probably should be called a different name. The fact that bacterial leaf blight was once considered being in the United States means that it is often listed in the literature as being present in Texas and Louisiana. This causes difficulty in trying to export rice to some countries where the disease is on their quarantine list.

The 2006 area-wide survey did not detect any of the above-mentioned exotic rice diseases. This may be a first step in convincing other countries that neither of these diseases presently exists in Texas.

**Early Flooding Can Provide a Rice Yield Benefit on Clay Soils** - *Dr. Lee Tarpley - Assistant Professor of Plant Physiology, Mike Jund - Research Associate, and Dr. Fred T. Turner - Retired Professor of Soils and Plant Nutrition; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station*

Research conducted from 2003 to 2005 by the Soils and Plant Nutrition Project at the Texas A&M Center at Beaumont indicates that flooding at the 4-leaf stage can provide a yield benefit vs. flooding at the 6-leaf stage. These benefits are best seen on clay soil that is precision-leveled. Several nitrogen fertility treatments of 150 pounds N per acre were evaluated at the two flooding times, including fluid fertilizer applied during planting, dry granular urea applied just prior to planting, a 2-way split (100 lbs as fluid at planting followed by dry at panicle differentiation), and a 3-way split (25 lbs pre-plant, 75 pre-flood, and 50 panicle differentiation; all dry). Based on the three years of study, the early flood treatment outyielded the conventional flood treatment for each fertility regime, with an overall average yield increase greater than 400 lbs/acre.

**Insect Control Update** - *Dr. M. O. Way - Associate Professor of Entomology; Texas Agricultural Experiment Station*

The Entomology Project is completing a Section 18 regional request for Orthene7 90S and Orthene7 97 for rice stink bug. Currently labeled insecticides do not provide sufficient residual activity which forces growers to treat multiple times. Our data indicate that

Orthene7 active ingredient acephate provides 7-10 days residual control. Registration of Orthene7 would drastically reduce the pesticide load in the rice agroecosystem environment and provide better control of rice stink bug. This regional request involves all the southern rice-producing states AR, LA, MS, MO and TX (see Fig. 1) and is supported by the USA Rice Federation and US Rice Producers Association. Many of you producers, consultants and county Extension agents have written support letters which are included in the submission. We believe the request is justified and hope the State Departments of Agriculture and United States Environmental Protection Agency will review the request quickly. I will keep you posted of the status of this important request.

You will be planting soon which means be on the lookout for seedling pests of rice. As soon as rice emerges, scout fields frequently for aphids, fall armyworms and chinch bugs. These insects will stunt and sometimes kill rice. Plants will take on an off-color appearance usually yellow, orange or tan. If you find lady bird beetles in your rice, you probably also have aphids which secrete honeydew. Lady bird beetles are good aphid predators. If you have seedling insect pests, contact your County Extension Agent or me. The Rice Production Guidelines has more detailed information on identification and management of early season rice pests.

**Newsletter Available on Website** - *Kelby R. Boldt, County Extension Agent - Agriculture, Jefferson County*

Current and past issues of this newsletter are available at <http://jefferson-tx.tamu.edu/Publications.cfm>. I welcome your input on these newsletters. Contact me at (409)835-8461 or email at [k-boldt@tamu.edu](mailto:k-boldt@tamu.edu) or through your local County Extension Agent.

Commercial products and trade names are given for information purposes only. Texas Cooperative Extension does not endorse or guarantee any product or recommend any product over another that might be similar.