

LOUISIANA RICE NOTES

Dr. Dustin Harrell

August 18, 2016

No. 2016-09

A Plan of Action for the Rice Remaining in the Field

As the flood waters begin to recede, many producers have been asking *if* and *how* they should go about harvesting the rice that was damaged from the flood. I contacted a few rice buyers and had conversations with other rice experts to help answer some of these questions. From those conversations I have put together a few recommendations to help in your decision making process. Please note that these recommendations are only a starting point for tackling the remaining rice in the field. Information provided by your crop insurance agent and your rice buyer will supercede any general recommendations that I can provide you.

The most important thing to do initially is to ***document all the damaged and lodged rice in the field with pictures and accompany these with your notes.*** This information will be needed if an insurance claim will have to be made. Remember, it may be several days before an agent will be able to visit your field. Therefore, the pictures and notes will be invaluable to the claims process.

Second, and arguably the most important recommendation I can make to you is that ***you should not comingle the damaged rice with your high quality rice.*** Trying to blend the damaged rice with a higher grade rice will



cause the higher grade rice to possibly fall to a lower grade and be discounted. The end result could cost you more money in the long run. It is best to market

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the damaged rice separately from the higher quality rice.

When it is time to harvest the remaining rice in the field, try to *separate the good standing rice that was not in the water from the rice that was lodged or submerged in the water* for an extended period of time. These two types of rice will probably fall into separate grades and you will likely come out better financially in the long run. I realize that drier space and equipment limitations may not allow you to do this. *It would be best to harvest the standing, premium market rice first and tackle the damaged and lodged rice second.*



If rice has sprouted in the field, harvest this rice as soon as possible and get it in the drier. The longer you wait, the more damage and lower grade the rice will have. Typically, this rice will be

discounted for water damage and stain. Sour rice with an odor will be a lot more difficult to market. However, after Hurricane Gustav in 2008, a lot of rice was even sold at a “salvage” grade. This rice was sold on a per ton basis. While a lot of questions will surely be asked about the potential price that they could get from this damaged rice, there is simply not an easy answer for this. Everyone’s situation and rice quality will surely be different. Every rice load sold will be evaluated on a case-by-case, load-by-load, lot-by-lot basis by your rice buyer. In almost all cases there should be an avenue for you to sell this rice if it has not rotted yet and does not have an odor.

The last bit of advice I can give you at this time is to **remember to take care of your premium rice that you have in the bins** that you harvested prior to the flooding. With everything that is happening now, this rice can easily be forgotten and if not monitored, stain and heat issues could result in diminishing the value of this rice.

There is a proposed crop insurance change in the definition of “Practical to Replant” - Your comments are needed by August 22

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) is trying to revise the definition of “practical to replant.” The FCIC is revising the definition to provide a clear, known deadline for when replanting of a crop is considered to be practical and *if not replanted, coverage will not be provided for the initial crop*. The practical to replant definition by RMA is as follows:

Practical to replant. Our determination, after loss or damage to the insured crop, based on all factors, including, but not



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limited to moisture availability, marketing window, condition of the field, and time to crop maturity, that replanting the insured crop will allow it to attain maturity prior to the calendar date for the end of the insurance period. **It will be considered practical to replant within or prior to the late planting period, or on or prior to the final planting date if no late planting period is applicable,** unless we determine it is physically impossible to replant the acreage or there is no chance of seed germination, emergence, and formation of a healthy plant.

RMA has proposed to change the Final Planting Date (FPD) for rice to be **June 10** in Louisiana. According to the [USDA-RMA 2016 Crop Year Louisiana Rice Fact Sheet](#), the FPD's for rice in Louisiana are currently:

- 8 May (southwest)**
- 15 May (south central)**
- 25 May (north)**

This change has potential fiscal losses associated with it (which RMA has not addressed) if we delay seeding dates beyond the optimum planting periods recommended by the LSU AgCenter. Published guidelines by the LSU AgCenter recommend that rice be planted between March 10 and April 15 in southwest Louisiana and between April 1 and May 5 in northeast Louisiana. Planting rice after this time is not an LSU AgCenter recommended practice due to the greatly reduced grain yield potential. Dr. Mike Salassi estimated

these potential financial losses for rice using date of planting research conducted by Dr. Steve Linscombe and other scientists at the H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station, as well as other locations in northeast Louisiana, since 2011. The resulting figures are considered to be very conservative estimates that do not include the additional production input costs associated with late-planting of Louisiana crops. Dr. Salassi's information for rice, soybeans, corn, cotton, and grain sorghum are included in the tables below. This information can be used to formulate your comments to the RMA to stop this change. Changes to other crop FPD's are as follows:

Crop	Final Planting Date (Current)	Last Day of Late Planting Period (Previously optional and now the proposed FPD)
Corn	April 20	May 5
Cotton	May 25	June 10
Soybeans	June 15	July 10
Rice	May 25	June 10
Grain Sorghum	May 15	June 9

Remember, that the field is not generally released for planting other crops until 10 days after the FPD of the insured crop.

Steps to commenting on RMA's forum for the change in definition of "Practical to Replant."



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Visit the website: www.regulations.gov

In the search bar, enter FCIC-16-0002. This is the Docket Number.


The first link that is generated will say “Common Crop Insurance Regulations, Basic Provisions (Double Cropping and Practical to Replant). You may click on this link if you would like to read about this change.

There is a blue box underneath the title, “Comment Now!” Click here and you will be provided a space to give your opinion.

Emergency Response Meeting Tomorrow in Crowley

There will be a meeting tomorrow regarding emergency response for businesses and farmers. It will be held at the Opera House in Crowley at 1 p.m. Important information will be provided as well as answers to many questions that you may have. This is a very important meeting where farmers can get information on what is/isn't available for crop damage. Growers outside of Acadia Parish are welcome.

Your attendance at this meeting will help with needs assessment moving forward!




IMPORTANT EMERGENCY RESPONSE MEETING FOR ALL BUSINESSES & FARMERS THIS FRIDAY!

Parts of Acadia Parish are in different stages, with the north and eastern portions entering recovery while the central and southwest areas continue to battle active flooding. While much has been said about relief for families and individuals, it is important that the needs of businesses and farmers be equally addressed. Therefore, with Acadia Parish leaders, we've put together this important gathering for you. Please share the invitation below with ALL Businesses and Farmers in Acadia Parish. It is open to everyone, not only OneAcadia Partners. Area Chambers of Commerce and their members are also invited to attend this united effort.

Laurie Suire, President & CEO

THIS FRIDAY, AUGUST 19 @ 1PM

Acadia Parish **BUSINESSES & FARMERS** are asked to join Acadia Parish Leadership and Emergency Response Officials for an UPDATE on search & rescue; recovery & rebuild efforts; and local, state & federal resources available to the business and agricultural communities. Your attendance will allow leaders to assess the specific challenges and needs of the agricultural and business communities going forward.



Friday, Aug. 19th at 1PM

Contact Information

Dustin Harrell	Rice Specialist & Research Agronomist	(337) 250-3553 dharrell@agcenter.lsu.edu
Don Groth	Rice Pathologist	(337) 296-6853 dgroth@agcenter.lsu.edu
Eric Webster	Rice Weed Specialist & Assistant Southwest Regional Director	(225) 281-9449 ewebster@agcenter.lsu.edu
Steve Linscombe	Senior Rice Breeder & Southwest Regional Director	(337) 296-6858
	slinscombe@agcenter.lsu.edu	
Mike Stout	Rice Entomologist	(225) 892-2972 mstout@agcenter.lsu.edu

Corn in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates	Corn Planting Dates			Change Compared to March 19 Planting Date		Change Compared to April 14 Planting Date
	March 19	April 14	May 16	April 14	May 16	May 16
	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	167.0	150.3	80.2	-16.7	-86.8	-70.1
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-10.0%	-52.0%			
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$877	\$789	\$421	-\$88	-\$456	-\$368
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$5.25	-10.0%	-52.0%			

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state corn yield = 167.0 bushels per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state corn price = \$5.25 per bushel

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research and are the average over irrigated and non-irrigated studies.

4/ Non-irrigated planting dates: 2011 - March 19, April 14, and May 16, 2012 - March 20, April 20, and May 18

Non-irrigated yields were 4% less in April and 41% less in May, compared March planting.

5/ Irrigated planting dates: 2011 - March 19, April 14, and May 16, 2012 - March 20, April 20, and May 18

Irrigated yields were 16% less in April and 63% less in May, compared March planting.

Cotton in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates	Cotton Planting Dates				Change Compared to May 1 Planting Date			Change Compared to May 20 Planting Date
	May 1	May 20	June 1	June 10	May 20	June 1	June 10	June 10
	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)	(lbs/acre)
Yield	1110.6	906.2	841.8	545.3	-204.4	-268.8	-565.3	-360.9
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-18.4%	-24.2%	-50.9%				
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$822	\$671	\$623	\$404	-\$151	-\$199	-\$418	-\$267
Market price (\$/lb) =	\$0.74	-18.4%	-24.2%	-50.9%				

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state cotton yield = 1110.6 pounds per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state cotton price = \$0.74 per pound

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.

4/ Compared to a May 10 planting date, cotton yields were 18.4% less with a May 20 planting date,

24.2% less with a June 1 planting date, and 50.9% less with a June 10 planting date.

	<u>Rice Planting Dates</u>					<u>Change Compared to April 1-16 Planting Date</u>				<u>Change Compared to May 14-16 Planting Date</u>
	April 1-16	May 1-2	May 14-16	May 28 - June 1	June 16 - July 1	May 1-2	May 14-16	My 28 - Jn 1	Jn 16 - Jl 1	My 28 - Jn 1
	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)	(cwt/acre)
Yield	68.2	58.1	53.9	38.7	31.3	-10.1	-14.3	-29.5	-36.9	-22.6
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-14.8%	-20.9%	-43.2%	-54.1%					
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$929	\$791	\$735	\$528	\$426	-\$137	-\$194	-\$401	-\$503	-\$308
Market price (\$/cwt) =	\$13.62	-14.8%	-20.9%	-43.2%	-54.1%					

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state rice yield = 68.2 cwt. per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state rice price = \$13.62 per cwt.

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.

4/ Compared to a April 1-16 planting date, rice yields were 14.8% less with a May 1-2 planting date,

20.9% less with a May 14-16 planting date, 43.2% less with a May 28-June1 planting date, and 54.1% less with a June 16 - July 1 planting date.

Soybeans in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates

	<u>Soybean Planting Dates</u>					<u>Change Compared to April 15 Planting Date</u>				<u>Change Compared to May 15 Planting Date</u>
	April 15	May 1	May 15	June 1	June 15	May 1	May 15	June 1	June 15	
	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	45.7	44.6	41.5	37.4	20.9	-1.1	-4.2	-8.3	-24.8	-20.6
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-2.3%	-9.1%	-18.2%	-54.3%					
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$555	\$542	\$505	\$454	\$254	-\$13	-\$51	-\$101	-\$301	-\$251
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$12.15	-2.3%	-9.1%	-18.2%	-54.3%					

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state soybean yield = 45.7 bushels per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state soybean price = \$12.15 per bushel

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research studies.

4/ Compared to a April 15 planting date, soybean yields were 2.3% less with a May 1 planting date,

9.1% less with a May 15 planting date, 18.2% less with a June 1 planting date and 54.5% less with a June 15 planting date.

Sorghum in Louisiana - Expected Yield and Revenue for Alternative Planting Dates	Sorghum Planting Dates				Change Compared to April 22 Planting Date			Change Compared to May 13 Planting Date
	April 22	May 13	June 4	June 12	May 13	June 4	June 12	June 12
	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)	(bu/acre)
Yield	94.4	73.6	68.0	58.5	-20.8	-26.4	-35.9	-15.1
<i>Change from Recommended Planting Date</i>		-22.0%	-28.0%	-38.0%				
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Gross Revenue	\$487	\$380	\$351	\$302	-\$107	-\$136	-\$185	-\$78
Market price (\$/bu) =	\$5.16	-22.0%	-28.0%	-38.0%				

1/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state sorghum yield = 94.4 bushels per acre

2/ Previous 5-year average (2011-15) state sorghum price = \$5.16 per bushel

3/ Yield declines based on LSU AgCenter Research and are the average over irrigated and non-irrigated studies.

4/ Compared to a April 22 planting date, sorghum yields were 22.0% less with a May 13 planting date, 28.0% less with a June 4 planting date, and 38.0% less with a June 12 planting date.