

Regional Rice Report

Nov.

2009

IN SEASON UPDATE

CLEARFIELD® Variety Performance Drives Increased Demand for Seed in 2010

Harvest activities are finally concluding across the rice belt, and what has been the most challenging rice crop in recent memory will actually close on more of a positive note than anyone expected. Horizon's CLEARFIELD® varieties have again shown their value on the farm and in the face of very trying conditions. Growers continue to report yields that have met expectations for the 2009 crop.

LOUISIANA REPORT FROM MICHAEL FRUGE

Some excellent ratoon yields with CL151 are being reported. Growers in south Louisiana are reporting second-crop yields with CL151 ranging between 14 and 18 barrels, which are some of the best ratoon crops on the farm. Yields have been significantly better than some of the CLEARFIELD hybrids and CL151 seed bookings for next season are very strong. Dr. Johnny Saichuk at LSU, in his recent verification report, shows CL151 to be the highest yielding variety of anything in his trials. Growers are very excited by the performance seen in these trials as they finally see a variety with high yield potential and a lower seed cost which reduces input expenses at planting.

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The second crop harvest of CL111 in Danbury, TX and at the LSU RRS South Farm started this week, and yields there have been excellent as well. We're seeing second crop CL111 yields between 16 and 25 barrels in this production. Grower demand for this variety is quickly increasing because they now have an early maturing variety that appears to have very good yield potential, and the grain quality looks outstanding too.

ARKANSAS AND MISSOURI REPORT FROM LANCE SCHMIDT

Every year it seems like we catch ourselves saying "I am sure glad to have this year behind me." But after the weather events surrounding getting this rice crop in and out, I honestly hope I never see another like it. For all intent and purposes, I would say we are 95%-plus finished with the rice harvest in Arkansas and Missouri. The dry weather the past two weeks was much needed and it allowed a lot of catching up on rice harvest. It actually allowed some much needed field work to be done as well.

To summarize the performance of our CLEARFIELD® varieties this season, I would say they performed very well. CL151 was a leading variety over much of Arkansas and Missouri and surprised a lot of growers who had grown a lot of hybrid rice in the past. Even some of the later crop CL151 made some of the best yields on the farm. Some yields from late May and June plantings were ranging from 165 to 180 bu/A. Milling yields with CL151 have been good and have remained average or above, according to some of the mills.



CL131 has to be one of the most resilient varieties on the market and stood through some pretty harsh weather conditions this past season. In some areas, yields were said to be "off" with CL131 this season, but after it was

all said and done they were actually very respectable compared to the other rice on the farm. Some of the later plantings of CL131 were yielding in the 160 bu/A range and still standing, which offsets a lot of the harvest cost seen this year associated with picking up downed rice. CL131 has continued to mill very well and is one of the leading varieties this year with whole kernel millings in the mid 60s. CL161 and CL171-AR also continued to perform well when planted at the earlier planting dates and maintained excellent milling yields this season.

I know no one wants to think about next year at this point, but I do want you to make sure and to keep an eye out during the 2010 growing season for CL111, CL142-AR, CL181-AR, and CL261 (medium grain). These new lines will be available full scale in 2011.