



# Evangeline Ag News

News and information for our parish's agricultural producers and dealers

April - May 2006

## E-MAIL LIST UPDATING

If you have an e-mail address, please call our office at 363-5646, or send an e-mail to me at ([kfontenot@agctr.lsu.edu](mailto:kfontenot@agctr.lsu.edu)), or my secretary, Susan Fontenot at ([sfontenot@agctr.lsu.edu](mailto:sfontenot@agctr.lsu.edu)). We will put you on our electronic mail list to receive this newsletter as well as other informational rice bullets that we receive during the year. Also, this is a very convenient way to send in **DD-50** information and also to receive the printouts on the field.

You may also visit the LSU AgCenter home page at ([www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)) where you may find information on many different and varied topics. For rice-specific information go to the following site , ([www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops/rice](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/rice)) where you will find current information dealing with many facets of rice production and the industry itself.

## CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

- May 4 Rosepine Research Station Forage & Beef Cattle Field Day
- May 1 Deadline for 2,4-D private applications
- May 23 Evangeline Parish Rice Disease & Insect Clinics –
- June 29 Rice Field Day – Crowley, La.
- Early July Evangeline Rice Field Tour – Kody Bieber Farm, Mamou
- August 1 Private applicators may use 2,4-D

## CROP SUMMARY

This year it appears Rice acreage will see large reductions in acreage across the state. In some areas estimates are as high as 50 % others about 30 % reduced acreage. In Evangeline, I feel we will easily have a 35% reduction, based on cutbacks producers have talked about, and estimates from seed dealers. We will try to keep you informed once we get more accurate figures.

The rice is moving well with the increased warm weather. Problems are here in the form of no rain for a prolonged period, and moisture robbing winds, that also inhibit aerial applications.

## SPECIAL THANKS:

To **Central Farmers Flying Service**, in Vidrine, for hosting an airplane calibration fly-in, and preparing a delicious meal for all the pilots, and workers assisting in the calibration. Our Thanks, & appreciation to Mr. Craig Gautreaux, and Mrs. Mignone Marcantel for setting up and hosting this event.

## VARIETY PLOTS

In Early April, Dr. Steve Linscombe, with the cooperation of Mr. Kody Bieber, will plant one of his off-station rice variety test plots just west of Mamou, about one mile west of Highway 13 on Bieber Road.

Included will be several commercial type varieties, several Clearfield variety plots as well as some hybrid plots.

These plots are planted at off-station sites to observe and test their performance in the real world, away from the research station. We hope to keep you up to date on this test and have the parish rice tour to observe these plots later this year.

## ROSEPINE RESEARCH STATION FIELD DAY

The LSU AgCenter's Rosepine Research Station Field Day will be held Thursday, May 4 on the station grounds. Listed below is a schedule of activities and also an abbreviated map with general directions.

Topics to be discussed include: Replacement heifer development; herd health recommendations; horn fly resistance; forage research; ryegrass grazing strategies; and pasture weed control.

Both tours will cover the same topics. Exhibits will remain open during the field day tours.

I encourage all of our beef cattle and hay producers to attend the tour and demonstrations. This station's field day always has very practical and useful information for the working cattleman and hay producer. See map on bottom of left column.

For more information contact :

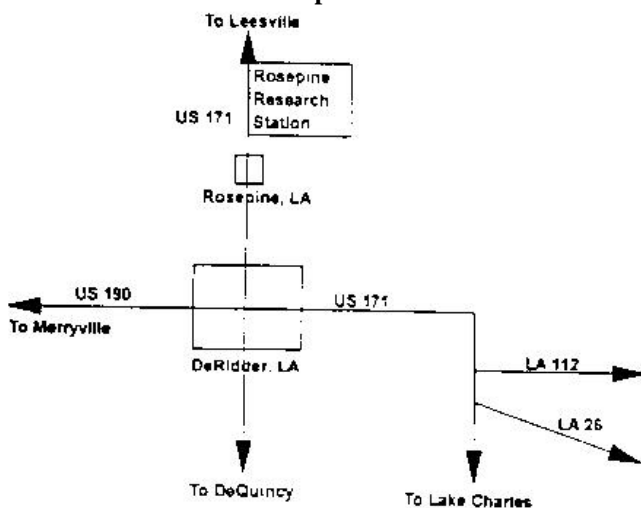
Danny Coombs (318)-473-6528  
Rosepine Station (318)-463-7708

### Rosepine Research Station Field Day

Thursday, May 4, 2006  
2 miles north of Rosepine, LA on US Highway 171  
(337) 463-7708

7:00-11:00 Exhibit Set Up  
12:00-1:00 Exhibits open, registration and refreshments  
1:30-3:00 First field tour  
3:00-4:00 Extension Demonstrations  
4:00-5:30 Second field tour – same topics  
5:30-7:00 Meal & Door Prizes

### Directions to Rosepine Research Station



## BRONZING

Zinc Deficiency is a very common micro nutrient problem which occurs in rice. Early symptoms include: Chlorosis - light green off-color; weakened, stretched plants (which in severe cases leaves will be floating on the surface of the water); dark brown to rusty-(bronze) colored spots on the leaves - hence the name bronzing. In severe cases partial stand loss can occur.

Deficiencies most often occur in early planted and water seeded rice, due in part to cool to cold temperatures, slowing down seedling growth and root growth along with it. High pH soils, inadequate Zinc in soil, removal of topsoil as in some leveling operations, and deep water during seedling growth also are situations in which Zinc deficiency will show in the plant. Plant uptake of Zinc is affected by the temperature and adequate root growth. Even if Zinc is put down pre-plant in fertilizer, the deficiency symptoms can still occur, due in large part to weather conditions, or pH problems.

Plenty of sunlight and warm temperatures will correct mild deficiency problems. If deficiency is severe, Zinc needs to be applied in the foliar absorbed-chelate form at the rate of .5 - 1.0 lb. of active Zinc per acre. Use the higher rate when deficiency is severe.

Remember to check the weight of the Zinc product you will be using as this will determine the amount of product to use to get .5 - 1.0 lbs. of active ingredient per acre.

**Example:** If a gallon of the Zinc Chelate weighs 10 lbs. and is a 10% material -  $.10 \times 10 = 1.0$  active ingredient. Whereas a 15 lb. material that is 10% would equal  $.10 \times 15 = 1.5$  active ingredient. At .5 lb./acre, the first gallon would treat 2 acres and the second gallon 3 acres.

Another example for amount needed per acre: using 7% Zinc at 11 pounds per gallon

$$\frac{\#AI \text{ needed } (.5)}{\% \text{ Zn} \times \# \text{ gal.}} = \frac{.5}{.77} = .549 \times 8 \text{ pts./gal.}$$

$$= 5.19 \text{ pints/acre}$$

This example used 7% Zn at 11 lbs. per gallon. We would apply 5.2 pints per acre of this material.

**2,4-D APPLICATION RESTRICTIONS**

The following restrictions have been and will remain in effect for 2, 4-D product applications for the following dates in 2006:

**April 1 - May 1** - LDAF permit or waiver for aerial or ground commercial applications

**May 1 - August 1** - No applications by private or commercial applicators of 2, 4-D products.

**August 1 – September 15** – Waiver for commercial air or ground application.

This includes 2, 4-D and all products containing 2, 4-D such as Grazon P & D, Weedar, Weedmaster and Crossbow as well as other products. This ban includes all of Evangeline Parish except: area south of La. 104; North of Highway 190; and west of Highway 13, where permitted applications may be allowed.

This ban also includes parts of Allen, Avoyelles, Pointe Coupee, Rapides and St. Landry Parishes and other parishes in the state, a total of 29 parishes affected.

**2006 LRRVP**

Richard Fontenot of the Vidrine area is participating in the Rice Research Verification Program this Spring. Richard’s field is located on the East side of Hwy 13, about 1 mile South of Mamou.

The 27-acre field was conventional water planted with 120 pounds per acre of Cheniere seed, around April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Weed problems include Sedges, Water Bermuda, Duck Salad, and Fall Panicum. We shall keep you up to date as this season progresses, with this field with periodic reports. A water flow meter is in place on the field. With the dry season we have started this should prove an interesting cost analysis for this field, especially this year.

**MASTER FARMER, MODEL FARM FIELD DAY PROGRAM**

Many of you are familiar with the Master Farmer Program that was initiated several years ago, and you may have even gone through the Phase 1 instructional hours of the program. Phase 2 involves touring a “Model Farm” as selected and set up by the AgCenter in cooperation with NRCS personnel, to view Best Management Practices at work. This farm tour was held in our area on Thursday March 23 at Ville Platte Rice Drier.

Kenneth LaHaye’s farm in Chicot was selected in this drainage area as a model farm and discussion and presentations at the field day centered on work being done there to monitor nutrient runoff, as well as Best Management Practices in place on the farm. Presentations were given on Rice Production, Forage & Grazing mngmnt., and NRCS nutrient management program guidelines, as well as Kenneth telling a little about his Cattle, Crawfish, and Rice Operations. All speakers did an excellent job. Kenneth did an outstanding job, considering he was speaking “cold turkey” with no notes, and answered several questions about his operation in most professional way. He represented our Growers and Evangeline Parish Exceptionaly Well!!!

**DD-50 RICE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Below is a DD-50 card used to call in the different fields and information. To enter fields in the program, call our office (363-5646), or send in the completed card. Susan, my secretary, will take the information and run the program. She will then mail a copy of the computer predictions with growth stages listed by dates as they will occur. Also attached will be a printout matching growth stages and expected management practices to be carried out. You may also access the DD-50 program online at the LSU AgCenter Website or the Rice Home Page mentioned in the first article of this newsletter.

**Louisiana DD50 Rice Field Enrollment Card**

Producer (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Field Name	Field Acres	Water Seeded (Y/N)	Variety Planted (mo/day)	Date of Emergence
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Should you have any questions, feel free to contact us at (363-5646) 230 Court Street in Ville Platte.**

**Sincerely,**

**Keith Fontenot  
County Agent  
Evangeline Parish**