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Rice Update  
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Rainfall from last weekend was for the most part hit or miss. However, it appears that everyone got at least a half of inch of rain or more during the past couple days. These rains have been quite welcome in most of the areas and has kept the flushing to a minimum. I am estimating we are a little over 90% planted. All of the stands of rice that are up, look good. The weather could not be any better for growing rice. The temperatures have been for the most part above average, which has lead to good weather for killing weeds.

Fields that had Command applied to them look good, but some fields are beginning to break and grass is starting to emerge. Picking a herbicide treatment to follow Command will depend on the weeds present and size. I generally follow Command with a Facet based program and add what ever else that is needed. For grass and broadleaf weeds, I will add propanil to the program. If just broadleaf weeds up, I will add Aim. If there is nutsedge, I will add Permit. For weed control recommendations for key weeds, please consult our weed control recommendations guide for rice. Here is the link to the web page: <http://msucare.com/pubs/publications/p1532rice.pdf>

With good weather conditions so far, we are setting ourselves up to have a clean crop going into the flood. We have had some good opportunities to take care of the weeds in excellent moisture conditions. Even with these good conditions, we cannot afford to miss an opportunity or let the weeds get ahead of us. In every situation we need to have a clean crop going into the flood. Anything less will be sacrificing yield and your expensive investment in trying to grow a rice crop.

Next week we will begin starting to put a flood on some rice. For all varieties on we are recommending a total of 180 lb N/A on clay soils and 150 lb N/A on silt loam soils. Since we have had some wetter weather, we have had a few calls about using Agrotain on wet soils. If you are thinking about doing this, you will need to let the soil dry somewhat so that the nitrogen can move into the root zone. If the field is soupy wet, nitrogen will not have much room to move into the root zone and would essentially being apply nitrogen in the flood where it is less efficient. Therefore, allow the soil air out a bit before making the application.

If you want to be added to my direct emailing list, email me at [nathanb@ext.msstate.edu](mailto:nathanb@ext.msstate.edu). Also, feel free to contact me at 662-822-7359.