



Nathan Buehring
Extension Rice Specialist
Rice Update
06/09/06



This has been a fairly normal week in terms of temperatures and accumulating DD50's. The one thing that has been absent in the weather is rainfall. Some areas of the Delta have not received a significant rainfall since the middle of May. This has led to a lot of flushing on rice that has not made to the flood yet and above normal pumping on fields that have been flooded.

The rice water weevil reports this week have been high. On fields that have a thin stand, it has been almost been a standard recommendation to apply a pyrethroid insecticide either seven days before flood establishment with a pre-flood herbicide application or once the flood has been established. In some isolated cases, we have recommended a second application of a pyrethroid if another flush of rice water weevils have infested the field again.

Determining an economic threshold for treating rice water weevils has been hard over the years. If you have any one of the following, this is where I have been recommending treatment: 1) thin stand, 2) presences of adult(s) at each stop within a field, or 3) feeding scars on the newest leaf.

Last year within the RITE program, we used the 60% fresh feeding scars threshold and found that it was not a good indicator of potential damage from rice water weevils. We had two fields last year that both averaged 30% fresh feeding scars on the newest leaf and resulted in severe root pruning in areas within the fields.

Once again, here are the pyretheroids I have been recommending for use and their respective rates: Karate Z (1 gallon/50 to 80 Acres), Mustang Max (1 gallon/32 to 40 Acres), and Prolex (1 gallon/62 to 100 Acres).

For the most part, we have begun to put mid-season nitrogen out on rice in the southern part of the Delta. I have been getting some questions on how critical is it to apply the mid-season nitrogen at "green ring" or panicle initiation. If the field is beginning to show signs of a lack of nitrogen, the application needs to be made as soon as possible to get the crop back on track. If the rice is still nice and green, it is not as critical and as long as it is made before panicle differentiation (internode elongation).

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