

2008 Foundation Rice Seed Advisory Committee Report

(April 3, 2008)

Randy indicated that based on advance foundation seed orders received, foundation seed needs for 2009 include two public varieties, Cocodrie and Bowman.

Bowman seed production ---- Verona (sufficient water exists for 5 acres) * approved
Cocodrie seed production ----- Randy presented four possible options
(1) Cold store excess seed produced from 2007 production
(allocation at 91% would be necessary)
(2) Plant 1 additional acre to compliment option (1)
(3) Acquire additional seed from LSU to compliment option (1)
(4) Plant new production to accommodate all new orders

* The committee recommended that FSS implement option (1)

Randy led a report to the committee regarding recent work by the ad-hoc committee appointed to draft a quality assurance protocol for seed rice varietal purity in Mississippi. Final changes have been made and the policy has been recommended for immediate adoption here in Mississippi. The goal of this policy is to further enhance seed purity of both current and future public rice varieties. If approved, its directives will compliment Mississippi Crop Improvement Association standards already in place and will have application within the head-row, breeder, and foundation seed generations. Progress will be reviewed in a timely manner which will address and discuss any needed changes to the policy.

Tim discussed the reasonable prospect of the Delta Research and Extension Center acquiring a piece of property north of the station which would provide needed additional land for use in rice varietal development and maintenance which will include work in head-row seed production.

Randy commented on good progress toward securing a promising new seed production site at the main (North) farm on the MSU campus beginning in the 2009 growing season.

Those in attendance were:

Louis Weeks
Dwight Kanter
Randy Vaughan
Nathan Buehring
Tim Walker
Jason Bond
Tom Allen
Gary Fioranelli
Gip Carter