

Missouri Ag News

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Arkansas Rice Performance Trials

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Crops	Horticulture
Engineering	Livestock
Forestry	Other



Variety selection is one of the most important management decisions made each year by rice producers. This choice is generally based upon past experience, seed availability, agronomic traits and variety yield potential. When choosing a rice variety, grain and milling yields, lodging, maturity, disease susceptibility, seeding date, field characteristics, the potential for quality reductions due to pecky rice, and market strategy should all be considered. Variety performance data included in this publication are from the Arkansas Rice Performance Trials (ARPT), disease observation plots in grower fields, and from seeding date studies conducted during 2009-2011.

Varieties grown in the Arkansas Rice Performance Trials (ARPT) in 2011 averaged **162** bu/A of rough rice compared to the state average yield of **152** bu/A as reported by the USDA Crop Reporting Service. Data averaged over years and locations are more reliable than a single year of data for evaluating rice performance for such important factors as grain and milling yields, kernel size, maturity, lodging

resistance, plant height and disease susceptibility. It becomes more critical to evaluate as many years of information as possible, particularly when extreme heat is experienced such as during 2010 and 2011.

Descriptions of the varieties tested in the 2011 ARPT are provided at <http://www.aragriculture.org/crops/rice/PerfTrials/arpt0911.pdf>. Table 5 shows new varieties that were included in the 2011 Arkansas Rice Performance Trials such as Caffey, CL 152, CL 162, Jazzman2, Rice Tec XP753, XP754, and CL XP 756.

Growers are encouraged to seed newly released varieties on a small acreage to evaluate performance under their specific management practices, soils and environment. Growers are also encouraged to seed rice acreage in several varieties to reduce the risk of disease epidemics and environmental effects. Varieties that have been tested under Arkansas growing conditions will reduce potential risks associated with crop failure.

Charles E. Wilson, Agronomist-Rice, University of Arkansas.



Financial Incentives Available for Livestock Producers While Funds Last!

- Cost Share grants up to 75% of the total project cost, not to exceed \$12000 to be used on the farm, home, or a combination of both.
- 3% Interest Rate on Financing (up to \$50,000) and 75% Loan Guarantee for loans (up to \$50,000)
- Farm Energy Management Plans
- Free Technical Assistance for the farm
- Home Energy Assessment

For Assistance call the MAESTRO TEAM at (800) 732-1399 or visit MoAgEnergySavings.org

Energy Saving technologies must be installed no later than November 30, 2012.

Annual 2012 Rice Growers Meeting

When: **Thursday, February 16, 2012.**

Where: **Eagles Lodge HWY 25 Dexter, MO.**

Time: **8:00 am through lunch;** Registration at 8:00 am
CEU's applied for.

Speakers include: Donn Beighley, Joe Henggeler, and Dwight Roberts USRPA marketing.

To register call Sam Atwell at (573) 748-5531.

Missouri Cotton Production & Outlook Conference

When: **Thursday, February 7, 2012.**

Where: **MU T.E. "Jake" Fisher Delta Center**, Portageville, MO.

Time: **8:30 am to Noon**; Registration at 8:00 am
CEU's applied for.

Speakers include: David Dunn with the Delta Center, Anthony Ohmes with University of Missouri Extension, Earl Vories with the Delta Center and David Reinbott with University of Missouri Extension.

To register call Andrea Jones at (573) 379-5431.

Annual Peach and Fruit Meeting

When: **Tuesday, February 28, 2012.**

Where: **Harry L. Crisp Bootheel Educ. Center**, Malden, MO.

Time: Registration and Dinner at **5:30 pm**

Speakers include: Dr. Martin Kaps and John Avery with the State Fruit Experiment Station, Dr. Elena Garcia with Arkansas State University and Sarah Denkler University of Missouri Extension.

To register call Sarah Denkler at (573) 686-8064.

FEEDING AT NIGHT PRODUCES DAYTIME CALVERS

Calving season is one of the most time-consuming and stressful periods for a cow/calf operator. Supervising and assisting problem calvers is always easier during daylight hours, especially when a veterinarian needs to be called.



The Konefal Method helps insure a higher percentage of day born calves.

It never fails that the cow who will most often have calving problems will do so in the middle of the night. One way to reduce the number of nighttime calvings is called the Konefal Method. This method was developed by Gus Konefal, a Canadian Hereford breeder. He determined feeding

Pictures courtesy of Kendra Graham.

his animals at 11 a.m. and 9 p.m. one month before calving and through calving resulted in 79% of his calves arriving during daylight hours. Other studies, including one from Iowa State University using 1331 cows, verified this method only they fed once per day at dusk for one to two weeks before calving and had 85% of their calves born between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The reason why this method works is unclear but researchers theorize that it has something to do with rumen motility. Research has shown that rumen motility declines a few hours before calving. By feeding animals in the evening, digestion occurs during the night and less rumen motility will occur during the day because there is no feed to be digested.

Hormones may also be involved but it is unknown as to which ones. If you try out feeding late in the day or early evening, keep track of when the females calve and let me know your result.

Kendra Graham, Livestock Specialist, University of Missouri Extension, Greenville, MO.

Wheat Management: Spring Green-Up

If wheat tiller numbers are below target consider applying a green-up fertilizer application. Green-up is typically mid-February for southeast Missouri. You have approximately a 30 day window between green-up and jointing for additional tillering. In fields with thin stands a green-up application should be applied. However, with adequate tillering and plant development this should be delayed until pre-jointing, Feekes 5, around mid-March.

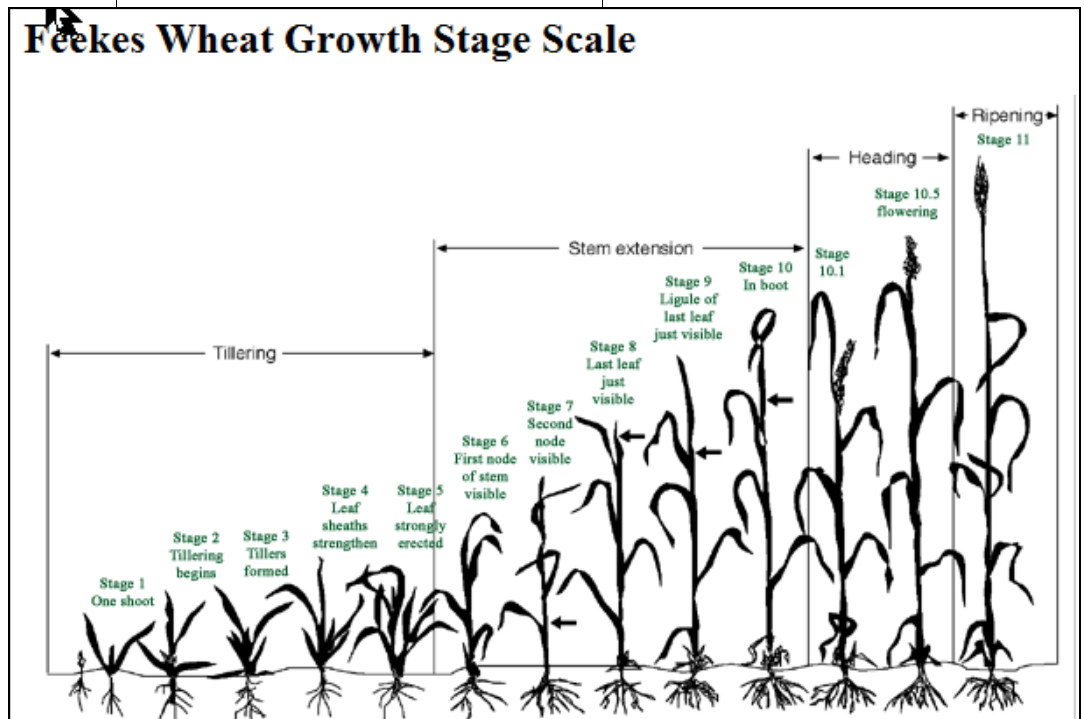
Specifically, in fields with less than 60 tillers per square foot at green-up, apply 30 to 40 pounds of nitrogen to increase tillering and head size. For fields with 60-80 tillers per square foot apply 20 to 30 pounds. Applying nitrogen at green-up in a field with over 90 tillers can lead to a thick lush canopy which may increase the risk of disease, lodging and injury from a late cold snap. The time of greatest nitrogen uptake is between jointing

(Feekes 6) and flowering. Therefore pre-jointing applications would supply this upcoming demand and reduce plant damage from ground applicators. Research shows a yield boost by splitting applications on less nitrogen efficient sandy and clay soils. Tissue tests just before jointing can help determine nitrogen needs at jointing.

Remember that low organic

program to prevent deficiency. Most low sulfur soils require 10 to 15 pounds per acre of sulfur.

For more information on wheat management during stem elongation contact your local MU Extension office and ask for IPM 1022 “Management of Soft Winter Wheat”. This publication can also be found online at <http://extension.missouri.edu/>.



matter, usually found in sandy soils of southeast Missouri, are also prone to low sulfur conditions and sulfur fertilizers should be part of the nutrient

Dr. Anthony Ohmes, Agriculture Specialist, University of Missouri Extension, Charleston, MO.

Local Food Linkages Project

“Locally food systems ... may enhance the prosperity of at-risk small and medium sized farms...”

The University of Missouri in cooperation with the University of Nebraska are conducting a study of local food linkages among producers and consumers in selected areas of Missouri and Nebraska.

Locally and regionally produced food is gaining in popularity among consumers and is attracting a growing number of producers. Local food systems are a promising entrepreneurial solution for rural development and may enhance the prosperity of at-risk small and medium sized

farms and improve the health and well-being of consumers. The local and

regional food market is evolving and reflects a variety of organizational and strategic models for both consumers and producers.

The first phase of this project is to survey farmers who have produced or are producing for local markets about what market channels they use, their reasons for selling local products, and their experiences with producing

for these markets.

The study is centered around anybody who sells any food product into what they consider a local market – to chefs, to schools, or to concerned moms at the farmers’ markets. Farmers who complete the survey will receive \$25 for their time and effort.

You can submit information to receive a survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ProducerInfo>. You can also find more information about the project, including the specific areas of interest by going to <http://localfoodlinkages.wordpress.com/producersurvey/>.

The goal of this grant is to better understand the market channels, motivations and experiences of farmers selling into local markets in order to understand the economic impacts of local food systems. In addition, the study hopes to better match rural consumers’ interests with farmer motivations to create information useful to farmers, consumers, communities and policymakers.

Mary Hendrickson, Associate Professor, University of Missouri Extension, Columbia, MO.



Food Safety Project

As food safety continues to be a hot topic for the media and in the consumers thoughts it is becoming more and more important for the producer to be prepared in the event that a food issue arises.

For many producers one big hurdle has been the preparation of the food safety plan. This document is the basic manual needed to prove that your operation is conscious of safety issues and working toward minimizing them. Producers may be doing what is needed to keep food safe but who wants to create more paperwork?

A new project has been completed that will aid small fruit and vegetable farmers to create a food safety manual and it is as easy as answering yes and no.

The development of this tool has taken a year. It allows growers to generate a customized on-farm food safety plan based on their input. This tool can be found at www.onfarmfoodsafety.org.

Here growers register and answer a series of yes or no questions, moving through the tool by hitting next. After completing each page, 'SAVE' the information and when finished the "Your Latest Manual' page allows producers to save and print the manual for use. Forms are also available that will aid in documentation of on farm practices.

This tool was formed in cooperation between the USDA, FDA, Institute for Agriculture and Trade, many farm associations, groups and alliances, Cornell University and others in the food chain. The tool is free to use.



On-Farm Food Safety Project

FamilyFarmed.org

About | How to Get Food Safety Certified | **Create a Food Safety Manual** | Forms/Training Materials | Resources | Press | Sponsors

Need Help Creating a Food Safety Plan?



The On-Farm Food Safety Project is a comprehensive national program that offers fruit and vegetable farmers, food safety professionals and agricultural extension specialists technical assistance to utilize and teach best practices in food safety.

This website includes the bulk of these resources including a free online tool, based on a comprehensive risk based framework, which generates customized on-farm food safety plans based on user input. The tool is designed for use by small to mid-scale fruit and vegetable growers and provides a full set of record keeping tools to document their food safety program and to provide training to their employees.

Search

PROJECT LAUNCH:
Washington DC Press Conference
with Kathleen Merrigan

Learn About Food Safety and Start Your Plan:

How to Get Food Safety Certified

Create a Food Safety Manual

We are grateful that many leaders in food safety contributed to the development of this tool as members of the technical advisory committee and advisory board.

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
 **Extension**

Donna Aufdenberg - Horticulture

aufdenbergd@missouri.edu 573-238-2420

Sam Atwell - Agronomy (Rice)

atwells@missouri.edu 573-748-5531

Van Ayers - Ag and Rural Development

ayersv@missouri.edu 573-568-3344

Sarah Denkler - Horticulture

denklers@missouri.edu 573-686-8064

Kendra Graham - Livestock

grahamkk@missouri.edu 573-224-5600 x8

Missouri Ag News is a publication of the University of Missouri Extension, compiled by Agriculture Specialists in the Southeast Region of Missouri. Contributions to this publication are made by:

Mike Milam - Agronomy (Cotton)

milammr@missouri.edu 573-888-4722

Anthony Ohmes - Agronomy (Corn)

ohmesa@missouri.edu 573-683-6129

David Reinbott - Ag Business

reinbottd@missouri.edu 573-545-3516

Frank Wideman - Ag Engineering

widemanf@missouri.edu 573-547-4504

If you are interested in receiving this publication via e-mail or being removed from the email list please send a request to denklers@missouri.edu.

Future Meetings & Events -

Missouri Organic Association Conference - February 2-4 at Union Station in St. Louis, MO <http://www.missouriorganic.org>

MNGA Nut Show and Meeting - February 3-4 at Nevada Community Center in Nevada, MO <http://missourinutgrowers.org/Meetings.html>

MU Extension Cotton Meeting - February 7, 2012 at the MU T.E. "Jake" Fisher Delta Center in Portageville, MO

Midwest Grape and Wine Conference - February 9-12 at St Charles Convention Center in St. Charles, MO <http://www.midwestgrapeandwineconference.com/>

MU Annual Rice Meeting - February 16, 2012 at The Eagles Club in Dexter, MO

MU Peach and Fruit Meeting - February 28, 2012 at the Harry L. Crisp Bootheel Education center in Malden, MO