

# RiceTec Development Representative Mason Wallace's Research

## Herbicide Tolerance And Planting Dates

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**M**ason Wallace, a RiceTec development representative, whose specific area of plot research deals with herbicide tolerance, purity and planting dates recently gave an overview of his latest work at the RiceTec Hybrid Rice Field Day.

Wallace's herbicide screening project uses the University of Arkansas's MP44 manual to select herbicides and includes any available experimental herbicides. "We take those herbicides and spray them at one X rates and two X rates on our rice test plots. This is to ensure that there are no tolerance problems with any of our rice. It is just a check to make sure that when a farmer gets RiceTec rice, we have checked it, we can guarantee that it is good for any herbicide out there to be used on it."

Wallace was asked about herbicide resistance. "The main herbicide resistance out there is Clearfield rice, utilizing Newpath and Beyond in rice. What we do here is take Newpath applied at one X rates, two X rates and three X rates, just to check that when you apply too much, it is going to be all right. All our research shows excellent yield at three X rates, excellent tolerance. We do the same with Beyond, applied from panicle initiation to boot. We check tolerance evaluating for any plant response. We have had excellent results at labeled timings."

Wallace also conducts planting date studies. "We take the rice and plant it in the entire planting window of rice. We want to know the performance of our rice. If the farmer would plant it at any time what is expected yield, how will it perform. We can tell the farmer, 'you plant this date, expect this yield'. When the farmer gets RiceTec rice he is going to know the optimum planting window and performance at varying planting dates."

Wallace shared his 2010 planting date results. "Early planting dates are the best. We have tried some March planting dates here in Arkansas but typically those do not fare too well. The environment has not warmed up enough yet but we try them. April 1st is the designated planting date for most rice in Arkansas. This is also when we have seen some of the best performance. Anywhere from April 1st to May

10th you are going to get the best performance of any rice planted in Arkansas. After May 10th to May 15th performance drops off in all lines."

Hybrid yields decrease less when planted in non-optimal planting dates. "We have seen that hybrids maintain higher yields when they are planted late. If you are going to plant late typically you may get an extra 50 bushel an acre more out of a hybrid," Wallace said.

Wallace's herbicide research reinforces the need for good stewardship. Wallace stated, "use



**Herbicide tolerance, purity and planting dates is the specific area of plot research of Mason Wallace, a RiceTec Development Representative.**

Photo by John LaRose, Jr.

Newpath and Beyond as needed according to the label. RiceTec has excellent tolerance to both products. Make sure and follow the Clearfield stewardship. We don't want to lose this technology in the future due to red rice resistance. Make sure and use the Clearfield system wisely including rotating out of rice. We want to keep this technology viable as a good weed control system."  $\Delta$

*REGINA LAROSE: Associate Editor, MidAmerica Farmer Grower*



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