

The Future Of Rice Tank Mixes

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Dr. Bob Scott, with the University of Arkansas, is experimenting with weed control in rice. "The focus of some of our newer weed control plots is looking at the concept of putting it all up front," said Scott. "We are looking at new compounds that are residual compounds. Companies are looking at these compounds to go into tank mixes with Command, either as a pre, delayed pre or possibly even an early post program."

"Most of the compounds pick up where Command leaves off, they pick up a lot of the broadleafs and the sedge's," said Scott. It will be awhile before the compounds are ready, "they are probably four or five years down the road."

Water management issues are one concern with pre emerges or delayed pre programs. "You really need to flush to get the benefit out of those programs so it is a concern."

The programs are fairly inexpensive according to Scott and will go well with a Command tank mix. They also allow more flexibility in application, "a lot of times the levees

haven't even been pulled yet so we are talking about ground and air applications for a lot of these treatments," said Scott.

Scott has also been working on a Permit label expansion. "The Permit label we are looking at is as a pre emerge or similar to a delayed pre in rice," said Scott. The Permit label may come as soon as early 2008. In the area of Clearfield rice, Scott worked with BASF on Clearpath, the Newpath and Facet premix. Scott said the Clearpath, "continues to look excellent in our plots, kind of a high end Cadillac program if you will, it looks very clean in broad spectrum."

Scott is looking at a couple of new premixes for Rice Co including Rice Beaux. Rice Beaux is Propanil and Bolero in a premix. Rice Pro, a

Propanil and Facet premix, is another area of interest. "There again they are loading up on the front end like an early post program," he said. "With residuals it seems to be the direction the companies are interested in going as they promote their products," he explained.

Scott is continuing with Beyond. "The company has expressed an interest in continuing work to get a section 3 label for Beyond herbicide," he said. "Right now all we have is a 24C label which allows for the late post applications to prevent red rice out crossing."

"A full section 3 would allow guys to use Beyond whenever they want in a Clearfield system," said Scott. "An advantage is, Beyond does have activity on red rice and it has almost no



Experimenting with weed control in rice is Dr. Bob Scott, with the University of Arkansas.

Photo by John LaRose

residual so you don't have to worry about carry over to conventional rice and other crops. It is strictly a post emerge herbicide."

Scott imagines the future, "I can see a time when we have some better Clearfield varieties with higher yielding potential such as the hybrids, which we already have, and I can see a farmer wanting to use Clearfield rice whether he has a bad rice problem or not just to have another mode of action. If he does have some red rice escapes he can go Beyond post and not get tied into some kind of crop rotational system."

Scott stated he is excited about continuing the local development work in cooperation with BASF on Beyond in Clearfield rice. Δ