

In this issue:

**Letter from
Randy Ouzts**
Page 1

OPP Checklist
Page 1

**Management
Recommendations for
CL171-AR**
Page 2-3

**2007 Rice Leadership
Development Class**
Page 3

**Horizon Ag Field
Contact Information**
Page 4

A Note to All Producer Processors

As we embark on another season of CLEARFIELD® rice sales and seed production, I wanted to take a moment and thank all of you for your support of not only the CLEARFIELD technology, but for your support of Horizon Ag. The last six months have been an extremely difficult for all of us and I think it's fair to say no one wants to endure another crisis of this kind ever again.

With any situation such as what we've recently experienced, there are always positives that can be found. It is often said and I wholeheartedly agree, "Nothing is ever as good or as bad as it seems."

The 2007 loss of CL131 and the delayed launch of CL151 represent a significant setback to all of us, but only in a short term sense. Horizon is very active in the planning process to resolve the issues we have encountered, and we fully anticipate every facet of our business

coming back to order in the future. We've taken the new challenges head-on and I can assure you this too shall pass.

We remain completely committed to bringing forward CLEARFIELD rice varieties that offer increasing value to you and your grower customers. Many

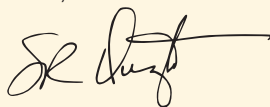
CLEARFIELD rice varieties currently being tested in university trials are showing very positive yield, milling and disease resistance characteristics. As you might expect, moving our business forward will take time and extra effort. The entire staff of Horizon realizes what needs to be done and we are moving forward with a clear understanding of the issues at hand and with complete dedication to the future of our business. It is not "our" business in a strict sense, as without the dedication and support of our CLEARFIELD Rice Producer Processors we could not achieve our goals.

It has been a long winter and spring, but the growing season is upon us and it's time to move on. We are doing exactly this, and I wanted to take the time to thank all of you for your patience, support and understanding. I remain personally committed to resolving all of the issues that have arisen this season, and I won't stop until we have full closure on the situation. As always, don't hesitate to contact me should you have questions or need assistance with any aspect of the CLEARFIELD rice business.

OPP Check List

- Send in production contracts
- Enter production records
- Certify growers
- Enter sales

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy Ouzts".

Randy Ouzts, General Manager

Management Recommendations for CL171-AR Similar to CL161

Although it has been widely described as “similar to Wells,” CL171-AR has shown its own unique characteristics that growers who planted it need to know about this season.

A mid-season, semi-dwarf, long-grain CLEARFIELD® variety, CL171-AR was developed by Dr. Karen Moldenhauer at the University of Arkansas. In university trials, CL171-AR has demonstrated a better disease package than CL161 and CL131, showing moderate resistance to both blast and sheath blight.

“Even though it is a little better on blast, I would still watch it for blast and maintain a good flood to reduce the chances of having problems with blast,” said Moldenhauer. “I think this is going to be a good variety for growers. Our trials have shown that yield on CL171-AR is in line with the other CLEARFIELD varieties.”

Maximizing yield potential in rice is related to the amount of nitrogen available to the plants as they begin to grow. Dr. Rick Norman, professor of soil fertility at the University of Arkansas, has completed one year of nitrogen rate studies on CL171-AR. He found that as little as 120

units of nitrogen per acre were enough to maximize yield potential on this new variety in his trials.

The normal recommendation on most rice varieties is 135 to 150 units of nitrogen per acre to maximize yield. But after studying CL171-AR, he found that on silt loam soil, it only required 120 units per acre, and on clay soils, it took a little more – about 150 units. With only one year of data, however, it is not time to recommend 120 units of nitrogen per acre for CL171-AR.

“Right now, I would recommend that growers apply 135 units per acre,” Norman said. “Even though it showed in our trials that 120 units were enough to maximize yields, that seems a little low and it is, after all, just one year of data. You want to get the most out of the variety, so I would recommend 135 units of nitrogen per acre for CL171-AR this year.”

Norman suggests growers go with 90 units pre-flood and 45 units at mid-season for a total of 135 units per acre on CL171-AR planted in silt loam soil. He recommends increasing the pre-flood rate to 120 units if the variety is planted in clay soil for a

total of, including the standard mid-season rate of 45 units, 165 units of nitrogen per acre.

Dr. Chuck Wilson, Extension rice specialist for the University of Arkansas, tested CL171-AR on a widespread basis in his Arkansas Rice Disease Monitoring Trials for the first time in 2004. He observed that CL171-AR had Wells plant type, but had the CL161 leaf color of pale green. CL171-AR has comparable yield potential and slightly better sheath blight tolerance than CL161, and better blast resistance in 2006 field observations than either Wells or CL161, he said.

“CL171-AR has Wells as a parent, but it is not Wells,” Wilson said. “It can compete with

(Continued on page 3)

Dr. Rick Norman's N Rate Recommendation for CL171-AR:

Silt Loam Soil

- 90 units pre-flood
- 45 units at mid-season

Clay Soil

- 120 units pre-flood
- 45 units at mid-season



Management Recommendations for CL171-AR Similar to CL161

(Continued from page 2)

CL161 in yield, but its main advantage is sheath blight resistance. I would describe this variety as CL161, but with better sheath blight resistance. Management-wise, it is probably going to be similar to CL161."

As part of the Arkansas Rice Performance Trials, Wilson looks at DD50 data in order to define maturity. The 2006 DD50 data on

CL171-AR showed similarities to CL161 with different seeding dates leading to different results. The earlier it was seeded, the longer it took to get to the half-inch internode elongation stage, said Wilson.

"Overall, I think CL171-AR is another strong option for growers," he said. "It offers excellent tolerance to the Newpath®

herbicide and has high yield potential. Based on our data, I'd say it should be managed closely to the way growers manage CL161, and remember that CL171-AR has demonstrated better resistance to sheath blight."

Influence of Seeding Date on Maturity

Seeding Date:	March 16	April 14	May 9	June 5	Mean	March 16	April 14	May 9	June 5	Mean
	(No. of Days After Emergence to Reach 1/2 Inch Internode Elongation)					(No. of Days After Emergence to Reach 50% Heading)				
CL161	70	61	48	46	56	102	93	79	78	88
CL171-AR	66	61	52	48	57	96	92	79	77	86

Source: 2006 University of Arkansas Rice Performance Trials.

Influence of Seeding Date on Yield and Milling

Seeding Date:	March 16	April 14	May 9	June 5	Mean	March 16	April 14	May 9	June 5	Mean
	(Bushels/Acre)					(Milling/Yield)				
CL161	123	154	109	110	124	62/69	58/67	63/69	61/71	61/69
CL171-AR	154	177	104	114	137	66/73	61/69	61/69	61/71	62/71

Source: 2006 University of Arkansas Rice Performance Trials.

Wells Named to 2007 Rice Leadership Development Class

Congratulations to Dr. Jennifer Wells of Horizon Ag, who was named to the 2007 Rice Leadership Development Class. John Deere and Syngenta Crop Protection sponsor the program through a grant to The Rice Foundation.



From left are: the Rice Foundation Director Chuck Wilson, John Deere Company sponsor Bob Malcolm, Jessica Lundberg, Dr. Jennifer Wells, Shelley Smith, Eric Leonard, Eric Unkel, John Fred Denison, Trent Dabb and Rice Foundation Chairman Dr. Ernest E. Girouard.

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Protect Your Investment

CLEARFIELD® rice varieties are protected under PVP Title V regulations, as well as one or more of the United States Patent Numbers 5,952,553, 6,274,796, 6,222,100 and 6,943,280; with additional patent applications pending. CLEARFIELD rice seed cannot be legally saved under any circumstances, and can only be purchased in "certified class" from Horizon Ag-approved ORYGEN® Seed Retailers.

Growers can not save CLEARFIELD rice seed from the previous crop for any planting purposes whatsoever, as clearly defined in stewardship agreements signed at purchase. Progeny seed may only be sold as a commodity and may not be saved for propagation in a subsequent season, nor sold for propagation by others, nor otherwise transferred without written permission from the patentee or its authorized licensee. Unauthorized use,

distribution, planting, harvesting or sale is strictly prohibited.

Report CLEARFIELD rice seed piracy by calling the Horizon Ag toll free number (888-429-2829) or notifying your local seed retailer. Please help us protect the most-exciting technology in rice by buying only certified CLEARFIELD seed from your ORYGEN seed retailer.

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Horizon Ag LLC designed the ORYGEN Seed Marketing System to coordinate the production and distribution of advanced seed lines for technology providers and public university breeding systems through Authorized Producer/Processor and Retailer partners. This novel approach provides efficient and economical development and marketing of new seed technologies.

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