

A.M.S. AG REPORT

June 21, 2009

AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.

Tim White, Walter Myers, Wil Miller,
Matt Myers, Lydia Ellett, Roger Carter

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

For the farming father, we wish for you a 2" rain. For all others, the same.

No rainfall. None. **But we are one day closer to a rain event than we were yesterday.** Driest areas are near and around Clayton in Catahoula and Concordia Parishes. All crops except those that have been properly irrigated showing the effects of both drought and heat. Most irrigation wells stretched to keep up with daily water use and loss for most crops including rice.

LOUISIANA FARM & AGRIBUSINESS RECOVERY GRAND AND LOAN PROGRAM

There will be a meeting to discuss this program on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 10:00 AM at the Concordia Parish Police Jury Meeting Room at the **new** courthouse building in Vidalia. Farmers may be able to apply for loans of from \$10,000 to \$100,000 to be repaid over five years at 1.5% interest.

CALL - Have you called any of your folks in Congress this week?

OFFICE	CONTACT	PHONE
Senator David Vitter	Chris Stanley	202-224-4623
Rep. Rodney Alexander	Jack Thompson	202-225-8490
Senator Mary Landrieu	Tom Michaels	202-224-5824
	Liz Craddock	

APOLOGY - We often mention product names in this newsletter. There is not enough room nor do we have enough time to mention all products by name. The ones that we list are the ones that are primarily being used in our area. This in no way means that those products are the best for the particular use for which they are mentioned. Additionally, this newsletter is put together by one old man and a staff who spend most of their time in the field, not writing newsletters. We do the best we can to hit the highlights and try to let folks know what may be happening in our area.

We are not paid to compose and send this newsletter, but feel it an obligation for the betterment of production agriculture. Thanks for you patience and understanding if we make a few mistakes.

- **GRAIN SORGHUM** - Fields being re-treated on 5th day behind first application of a good dose of pyrethroid for midge infestations. No webworms nor borers yet. Potential is for a good GS crop (95 - 100 bu/ac plus) if rain comes soon.

- **SOYBEANS** - Approximately 40% of the soybean acreage has reached R3 and 10%, R4. If it

rains in time to save a crop most of the acreage will be treated with a fungicide. And most applications will contain Topsin L in the mixture along with an economical rate of Headline or Quadris or Stratego. There will be some other fungicides applied, but on less acres. If soybeans have excellent potential, a second application of fungicide may be made within two weeks following our next rain event or on irrigated soybeans.

Stinkbugs will probably be at treatable levels this week on some acres. "Treatable levels" to us mean ½ threshold for 2 weeks if not a full threshold for one. Soybeans cannot stand constant pressure from stinkbugs. Cumulative damage from a sustained population of sub-threshold levels of stinkbugs is seldom if ever mentioned in the press, but can be more damaging than a single thrust of a 1X threshold. And our soybean crop is now at a very susceptible stage for severe stinkbug damage.

We are finding BLB and 3CAH, but not at worrisome levels. However, we did find a location in Franklin Parish that had several hundred acres infested with Green Cloverworms (GCW) at 50% threshold levels. And we have noted a more consistent population of GCW than we normally see this time of year. Grasshoppers are becoming increasingly more consistent across many fields and some leaf damage has been noted.

COTTON - Oldest cotton is at 16th node and the youngest has just been planted behind backwater in the Larto area. Some blooms found this week.

More aphids than plant bugs being treated this week, but most fields have a blend of both. Farmers are more concerned about the aphids than necessary because of the appearances rather than the actual damage. About 10 – 12 days of control is all that can be expected with one shot of any of the neonic insecticides including Carbine.

Spider mites are at treatable levels on a few acres. No worms other than a few yellow-striped armyworms and salt marsh caterpillars, but none at treatable levels.

Some growth regulators being applied to a minimum number of acres.

Layby time, but it is so dry that many farmers are opting to wait until a rain. Others are applying various combos of Direx, MSMA, Suprend, Aim, Valor, Dual, etc. When it does rain there will be a harsh flush of many weeds and grasses.

CORN - Majority of corn in the area will be dented by the end of the week. Some will be dented because of maturity, some from lack of water. Youngest corn is now tasseling.

We have heard reports of borers in non-Bt corn but have yet to find any in the corn we have scouted.

Corn crop will be good where there is water and even some of the dryland corn will cut in the 150 bu/ac range. However, the last planted and replanted corn will yield closer to 50 – 80 bu/ac or less.

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RICE - Water issues everywhere. Not enough to flood up the first time. And fields that were flooded last week are now just wet, not flooded. Wells and men working 24-7. Irrigation well drillers making overtime.

Second application of fertilizer being made too early on some rice. A third application may be necessary if the first is too early.

No disease or insect issues (except for chinch bugs on non-irrigated rice) noted at this time although some rice has been treated with fungicide already. Water weevils being treated at permanent flood in suspect fields.