

**AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.**

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Some rainfall to maybe several thousand acres I the area, but those that got some do not want to brag about it. According to any farmer the area he or she farms is the driest. We don't argue even though we think that we are the driest. The Clayton area is now known as the Little Sahara. Without rain soon it will expand into the Big Sahara.

It is a shame that the Corps of Engineers has not devised a way to divert some of the Big Ditch (Mississippi River) down the Tensas and Ouachita and its bayous and streams so that more irrigation would be possible. God gave us the Big Ditch filled with fresh water for a reason other than fishing and transportation.....think.

**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	

**GRAIN SORGHUM** - No webworms yet, but moths are present. Most GS fields will receive two applications of pyrethroid for midge this year. Most is on a 5-day interval.

GS potential is still good but a rain would help the younger GS to head and the older GS to fill and have better test weights.

- **SOYBEANS** - Approximately 50% of the soybean acreage has reached R3 and 15%, R4. Very little fungicide applied except on the most productive soils, irrigated fields, or fields where Cercospora is an annual event. Once the significant rain event arrives we can assess each fields potential and decide whether a fungicide is justifiable.

Stinkbug numbers were 5 - 8/100 sweeps last week jumped as we have never witnessed before. Some fields were up to 1/sweep, but most in the 35 - 60/100 sweeps area. Brigade at 1/25 gal/ac was applied to most of these first few thousand acres that were treated. It was questionable whether or not to treat. If it doesn't rain within a week then the stinkbugs will not be the most serious issue, however if we were to leave those heavy populations present for a week and then it rained, there may not have been enough good soybeans left to fill.

BLB and 3CAH numbers still somewhat low. Worms numbers low except for several fields that were over threshold with corn earworms.

Cercospora present in some fields, but symptoms limited in others. The stress level that soybean plants are currently experiencing can only cause Cercospora to be worse than it currently looks. If soybeans have potential of 20 bu/ac or greater, at least apply some Topsin for the Cercospora.

**COTTON** - Oldest cotton is at 17 node and the youngest has emerged. This is behind the

backwater at Larto.. Majority of cotton fields blooming.

Again more aphids than plant bugs being treated this week, but most fields have a blend of both. Some is cosmetic while some damage to younger cotton or severely drought stressed cotton in clay soils may justify applications. Regardless, most farmers do not want to see the honeydew and drooped terminals and are opting to treat.

Spider mites increasing in most of our area. Only a few fields have been treated thus far, but we expect to see thousands of acres treated for them this week.

Some scale insects noted on the bottom 3 – 6” of cotton stalks in no-till cotton south of Jonesville. Dr. Roger Leonard has also noted these insects several years ago in a similar situation. He believes they are coming from the trash, refuse, and weed species that may be present in no-till situations. Dr. Leonard does not believe they will injure cotton. We concur until it is proven otherwise. We did note that it is impossible to remove the scales without removing the bark.

Still a limited number of acres of being treated with growth regulators. And some of those acres are actually non-irrigated. Super strong soils.

We are again warning farmers that mixing glyphosate with Direx or similar based products may reduce the efficacy of glyphosate. The clay base in Direx ties up the glyphosate. Direx is the best overall layby product for control of broadleaves for light soils, but should be used with MSMA and/or Aim or ET, not glyphosate. Direx has some residual control of annual grasses. Valor is one of the best layby herbicides for broadleaf control, both contact and residual. However, it offers no residual control of grasses and must have Dual added to it to enhance residual grass control. Glyphosate can be used with Valor and/or Dual at layby with little to no effect on the efficacy of the glyphosate.

**CORN** – Corn harvest could begin in our area within two weeks. Most corn dented either from maturity or drought. Until we get paid for scouting the corn, we are predicting record yields.

**RICE** – Most fields finally got “some” water, but it is difficult to maintain a flood on some acres. Well-diggers and pump mechanics and salesmen working overtime. Water tables lowering quickly and reducing well flow. Even some lakes and bayous being used for irrigation are drying.

Weeds, you betcha. With water issues come weed issues. Costly applications being made where water was applied late.

Second application of fertilizer being timed within next week. Rice progressing rapidly.

No disease activity yet in most rice, although some fungicides have been applied.