Generalized Texas Rice Production Practices

- Prepare land in fall and spring
- Form levees (every \( \frac{1}{10} \) - \( \frac{2}{10} \) foot of fall)
- Drill plant at 30-100 lb seed/acre (about 7 inches between rows)
- Fertilize (\( \frac{1}{3} \) of total N); total N = 150-170 lb/acre
- Flush as needed until permanent flood (3-6 weeks after emergence)
- Apply herbicides early post-emergence (worst weeds = red rice, barnyardgrass, sedges, sprangletop, dayflower, alligatorweed, broadleaf signalgrass)
- Fertilize (\( \frac{1}{3} \) of total N) just before permanent flood
- Apply insecticides as seed treatments or before or after permanent flood to control rice water weevil, chinch bug, fall armyworm and rice stink bug
- Inspect for sheath blight, blast, narrow brown leaf spot, brown spot; apply fungicide if justified
- Fertilize (\( \frac{1}{3} \) of total N) at panicle differentiation
- Drain fields 2 weeks before harvest
- Harvest main crop
- Fertilize (100 lb N/acre)
- Apply permanent flood
- Harvest ratoon crop (“lagniappe”)

Useful Facts

1 acre = 43,560 ft\(^2\)
urea = 46% nitrogen
avg. yields in Texas = 5500 lb - 6500 lb/acre (range = 3000 - > 10,000 lb/acre)
plant in March/April, harvest main crop in July/August, harvest ratoon crop in October/November
Ratoon crop = \( \frac{1}{3} \) - \( \frac{1}{2} \) of main crop yield
AI = active ingredient
barrel = 162 lb
cwt = hundred weight
bushel = 60 lb
200,000 acres rice in Texas; 40% is ratoon cropped

As researchers and extension scientists, our goals are to:

1) increase yield and milling quality
2) decrease production costs
3) preserve/improve environment