Generalized Texas Rice Production Practices

- Prepare land in fall and spring
- Form the levees (approximately every $\frac{1}{10}$ - $\frac{2}{10}$ foot of fall in elevation)
- Drill plant at 30-100 lb seed/acre (about 7 inches between rows)
- Fertilize (a 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 (a of total N) just before permanent flood
- Inspect for sheath blight, blast, narrow brown leaf spot, brown spot; apply fungicide if justified
- Fertilize (a 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 = 7300 lb/acre (range = 4000 – >12,000 lb/acre)
- plant in March/April, harvest main crop in July/August, harvest ratoon crop in October/November
- Ratoon crop = 1/3 to 1/2 of main crop yield
- AI = active ingredient
- barrel = 162 lb
- cwt = 100 lb
- 170,000 acres rice in Texas in 2010; 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