Rice Briefs

July 2016

UC CE University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources | Cooperative Extension Colusa County

# DON'T FORGET THE RICE FIELD DAY!

## ★Wednesday, August 31, 2016★

The annual Rice Field Day will be Wednesday, August 31, 2016, at the Rice Experiment Station (RES), Biggs, California. You and your associates are cordially invited to join us to observe and discuss research in progress at RES. The Rice Field Day is sponsored by the California Cooperative Rice Research Foundation and University of California with support from many agricultural businesses.

**7:30 - 8:30 A.M.** **REGISTRATION**
- Posters and Demonstrations

**8:30 - 9:15 A.M.** **GENERAL SESSION**
- CCRRF Annual Membership Meeting
- D. Marlin Brandon Rice Research Fellowship
- California Rice Industry Award

**9:30 – NOON** **FIELD TOURS OF RICE RESEARCH**
- Variety Improvement
- Disease Resistance
- Insects and Control
- Weeds and Control

**NOON** **LUNCH**

The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. with a General Session that serves as the Annual CCRRF Membership Meeting. Posters and demonstrations will be in place during registration until after lunch. Field tours of research will emphasize progress in rice variety improvement, disease, insect, and weed control. The program will conclude at noon with a complimentary luncheon. The RES is located at 955 Butte City Highway (Hwy. 162), approximately two and one half miles west of Highway 99 north of Biggs, California.

## 2016 Rice Yield Contest

Do you think you have a good looking field of rice? Do you wonder how it might stack up against other fields? Well then join the 2016 UCCE Rice Yield Contest. This year we are expanding the Yield Contest from Butte County to the whole Sacramento Valley. We have divided the valley into four regions (using Hwy 20 and the Sacramento River –see rules for more details) so you are competing with growers in the same general area.

However, to join you must do so before **August 1st** by filling out the entry form located on our website UC Rice On-line (http://rice.ucanr.edu/files/239588.pdf) and send it back to us. Please make sure you read the rules before entering the contest. If you have questions please feel free to give us a call.

On the UC Rice On-line website you will also find information about last year's winners. http://rice.ucanr.edu/rice_yield_contest/#winners

### Rice Weed Course: September 16, 2016

This one-day course will include training on: 1) emerging weed problems, such as red rice and winged primrose willow; 2) planning an herbicide program for susceptible and herbicide-resistant weeds; 3) hands-on early weed identification; and 4) field component on new and standard herbicide programs. Stay tuned for the program agenda and registration information or call Whitney at 530-822-7515!

**Credit for CEUs requested**

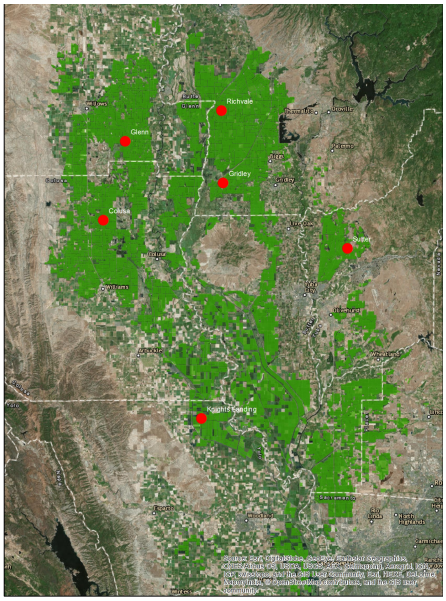
## Armyworm Update

*Luis Espino, UCCE Farm Advisor, Colusa, Glenn and Yolo Counties*

This year, armyworm infestations were not as severe as last year. Populations did not reach the very high numbers of 2015, but they were early. Growers and PCAs were scouting diligently, and were able to recognize infestations when the worms were small. This gave growers the upper hand and many were ready to make a treatment decision if necessary. Intrepid was used in some fields successfully.

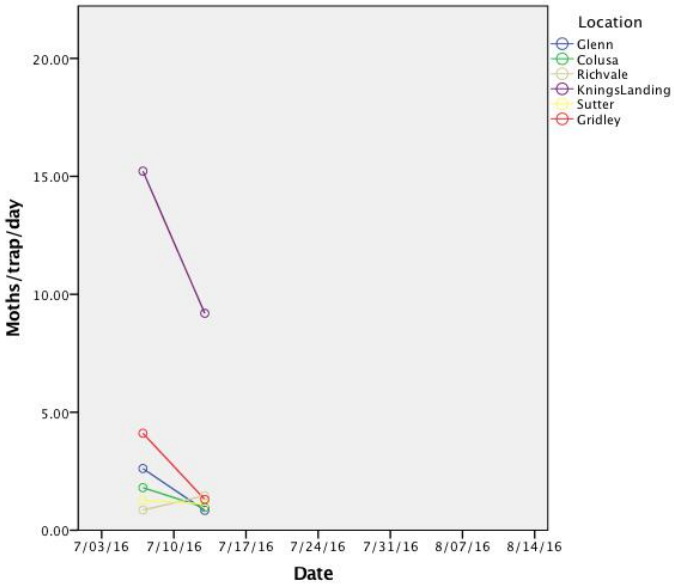
We are not totally off the hook yet. We usually get a second peak of armyworm activity during the late boot and heading stages. UCCE is monitoring moth populations in several areas of the valley using pheromone traps. The traps were set up in early July, and the trapping numbers will be shared in the UC Rice Blog and UC Rice On-line website.

Armyworm pheromone traps




Location of pheromone traps

So far, moth numbers are low, averaging 2.5 moths/trap/day during the week of July 11. Numbers have decreased since the previous week, when the average was 4.3 moths/trap/day. The location with the highest moth numbers is near Knights Landing, averaging 9.2 moths/trap/day. Work done by Larry Godfrey, UC Davis Extension Entomologist, found that peaks of 20-40 moths/trap/day might indicate an armyworm larvae peak 7 to 10 days later.




Number of moths/trap/day captured in armyworm pheromone traps across the Sacramento Valley

# Emerging Weed Issues

*Whitney Brim-DeForest, UCCE Farm Advisor, Sutter, Yuba, Sacramento and Placer Counties*
*Luis Espino, UCCE Farm Advisor, Colusa, Glenn and Yolo Counties*

## Weedy Red Rice

Weedy red rice was found in California in 2003 after many years of absence. It has been spotted again this year; currently we suspect it is present in 10-15 fields in Butte and Glenn counties. Although it has not been found in Sutter, Yuba, Placer or Sacramento counties, growers and PCAs should be on the alert. If infestations are spotted early, they are easy to manage.

It may be difficult to spot weedy red rice in the field before heading, as it is the same species of rice as our California varieties. The easiest way to tell it apart from our rice is to look at the size of the plant. It should be bigger than normal rice plants and may look somewhat similar to watergrass, as it often has many tillers.

***Red rice in a rice field, around panicle initiation***
***(photo credit: Luis Espino and Larry Strand,***

Weedy red rice will have some defining characteristics that can help you to distinguish it from watergrass and your rice variety:

- Leaves of red rice are pubescent (hairy on the underside), whereas all of our medium grain varieties are not pubescent

- Watergrass has no ligule but red rice has a ligule:

***Red rice ligule (photo credit: Luis Espino and Larry Strand, UCCE)***

- Red rice often has long awns in comparison to normal rice varieties:

***Red rice with long awns (left) and California medium grain variety with short awns (right).***

- Red rice has a reddish color when milled:

***Milled red rice with reddish color (left) and milled California medium grain variety (right)***
***(photo credit: Luis Espino and Larry Strand, UCCE)***

**If you suspect you may have weedy red rice in your field, please call Whitney Brim-DeForest at the UCCE Sutter-Yuba Office (530-822-7515), Luis Espino at the UCCE Colusa Office (530-458-0578), or Cass Mutters at the UCCE Butte Office (530-518-7201). This weed is of great economic and agronomic importance to California rice growers, and we need to contain it as quickly as possible.**

**Winged Primrose Willow**

The winged primrose willow (WPW) was recently upgraded to a Category A pest by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), meaning that it is subject to enforcement action if found in a field. Its presence in a seed field disqualifies that field from seed production.

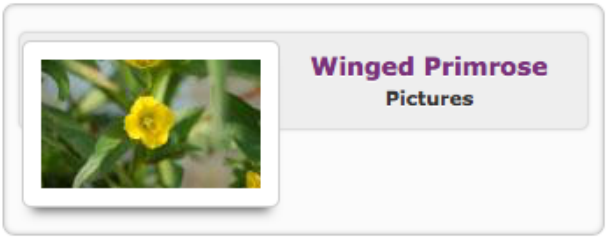
Be on the lookout for WPW, especially as you begin to prepare for harvest. If it germinated early in the season, it will start flowering in July or August, so the big, yellow flowers should be easy to spot if you have it in your field. It tends to grow in drained areas, or along field margins (levees, irrigation ditches, etc.) At this point in time, it has only been located in Butte County. However, the seed pods, roots, and stems can float, so until it is eradicated, there is a chance that it could end up in other areas. It propagates by seed, but parts of stems or roots can re-grow into plants. For more information on identification, visit the UC Rice On-line website.

The only means of dealing with it when it is large is by pulling it out and disposing of it. Herbicide applications are effective when the weed is small. If found, please contact your local farm advisor or county Ag Commissioner for instructions on how to properly spray or dispose of the plants, to ensure that the seeds or plant parts are not spread.

**All photos by Luis Espino and Larry Strand, UCCE**

***Winged Primrose Willow flower has four petals***

**For more information on weedy red rice and winged water-primrose, including pictures, presentations, and management guidelines, visit the UC Rice On-line website at http://rice.ucanr.edu**

## Meet Our New Rice Advisor in Sutter, Yuba, Placer and Sacramento Counties

Whitney Brim-DeForest is the newest addition to the UC Cooperative Extension Farm Advisor rice team. She will be based out of the Sutter-Yuba Office, but will serve Sutter, Yuba, Placer and Sacramento counties. She has a Ph.D. in Horticulture and Agronomy and an M.S. in International Agricultural Development (both from UC Davis), and a double B.A. in Biology and Music from Brown University. Before starting her graduate work, she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal, West Africa, for three years, where she worked with growers in a variety of crops, including rice, sorghum, corn, and cowpeas. Since 2012, she has worked at the Rice Experiment Station in Biggs, CA, managing the field trials for the UC Rice Weed Science program.

Contact Whitney at the Sutter-Yuba Office, at 530-822-7515, on her cell at 541-292-1553, or by email at wbrimdeforest@ucanr.edu