

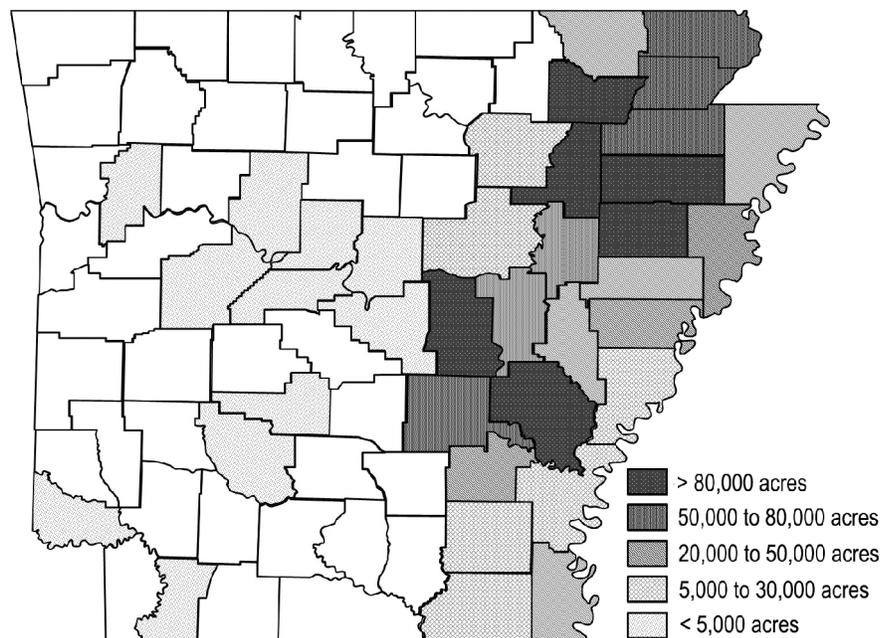
## Introduction

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Rice production reportedly began in Arkansas in 1902 with one acre of rice grown in Lonoke County. However, some historical records suggest that rice was grown in some parts of Arkansas prior to the Civil War. Official state records for rice production have been kept since 1905 for yields, harvested acres and prices (Table 1-1). Rice acreage gradually increased until 1955 when the first government acreage controls stabilized rice production on about 500,000 acres. Marketing quotas were lifted in 1974 and rice acreage increased, reaching a peak in 1981 at 1.54 million harvested acres, which was not surpassed until 1999. In 2010, Arkansas rice producers planted and harvested a record of 1.791 and 1.785 million acres, respectively. Currently, rice is

grown in 40 of the state's 75 counties and ranks as one of the top three crop commodities in cash receipts for Arkansas farmers.

The Arkansas rice-producing area is primarily in the eastern one-half of the state (Figure 1-1). Rice is also produced in the Arkansas River Valley and in the Ouachita and Red River valleys in southwest Arkansas. The state latitude range is from about 33° N where Arkansas borders Louisiana in the south to 36° 30' N along the northern border shared with Missouri. The state longitude ranges from 89° 36' W where Arkansas borders Tennessee and Mississippi to the east to 94° 36' W along the western border shared with Oklahoma and Texas.



**Figure 1-1. Rice acreage in Arkansas by county during 2015.**

**Table 1-1. History of Arkansas rice acreage and state average yield†.**

Year	Harvested Acres (1,000)	Yield (bu/A)	Average Price (\$/cwt)	Year	Harvested Acres (1,000)	Yield (bu/A)	Average Price (\$/cwt)	Year	Harvested Acres (1,000)	Yield (bu/A)	Average Price (\$/cwt)
1905	1	32.0	2.25	1942	265	48.0	3.56	1979	1020	96.0	10.60
1906	4	38.0	1.89	1943	257	47.0	3.80	1980	1280	91.3	12.30
1907	6	37.5	1.89	1944	287	52.5	3.87	1981	1540	100.4	9.37
1908	11	42.6	2.04	1945	281	47.0	3.84	1982	1330	95.3	8.61
1909	27	46.8	1.93	1946	320	44.5	5.04	1983	915	95.1	9.18
1910	60	45.0	1.51	1947	365	46.6	5.78	1984	1150	102.2	8.51
1911	72	44.0	1.80	1948	391	52.4	4.64	1985	1050	<b>115.6</b>	6.70
1912	91	43.5	1.98	1949	412	47.8	4.07	1986	1020	<b>117.8</b>	3.68
1913	105	42.0	2.04	1950	346	50.0	5.13	1987	1010	116.7	7.60
1914	93	42.5	1.91	1951	457	44.4	4.98	1988	1210	<b>118.9</b>	6.90
1915	100	46.0	1.89	1952	466	45.6	5.82	1989	1140	<b>124.4</b>	7.46
1916	125	50.5	2.20	1953	494	51.1	4.93	1990	1200	111.1	6.75
1917	152	45.5	4.20	1954	672	55.6	4.25	1991	1260	117.8	7.69
1918	170	42.0	3.51	1955	434	69.4	5.00	1992	1380	122.2	5.39
1919	160	47.5	4.93	1956	382	71.1	4.93	1993	1230	112.2	7.97
1920	180	49.0	2.38	1957	332	68.9	5.16	1994	1420	<b>126.7</b>	6.52
1921	140	53.5	2.00	1958	336	65.6	4.94	1995	1340	121.1	9.14
1922	163	48.0	1.98	1959	383	75.6	4.60	1996	1170	<b>136.6</b>	10.20
1923	143	39.5	2.29	1960	384	78.3	4.41	1997	1370	125.6	9.87
1924	166	43.0	2.78	1961	384	77.8	5.20	1998	1525	128.9	8.87
1925	176	43.0	3.16	1962	426	85.6	5.10	1999	1645	131.1	5.71
1926	196	52.8	2.29	1963	426	95.6	4.92	2000	1440	135.8	5.60
1927	179	43.0	1.91	1964	430	95.6	4.87	2001	1621	<b>141.1</b>	3.93
1928	173	47.9	1.89	1965	434	95.6	4.98	2002	1503	<b>143.1</b>	4.16
1929	156	51.0	2.11	1966	477	95.6	5.09	2003	1455	<b>146.4</b>	7.70
1930	173	47.5	1.76	1967	477	101.1	5.12	2004	1555	<b>155.1</b>	7.13
1931	177	55.0	0.98	1968	572	95.6	5.07	2005	1635	147.8	7.27
1932	163	51.0	0.84	1969	515	105.6	5.32	2006	1400	152.2	9.43
1933	147	49.0	1.78	1970	438	106.7	5.41	2007	1325	<b>160.7</b>	12.10
1934	141	47.2	1.82	1971	441	<b>112.2</b>	5.62	2008	1395	148.0	15.00
1935	138	44.0	1.82	1972	441	110.6	7.20	2009	1470	151.3	13.40
1936	160	54.7	1.82	1973	533	106.0	15.30	2010	1785	144.0	11.30
1937	189	56.0	1.33	1974	710	102.4	11.40	2011	1154	150.4	13.40
1938	189	51.4	1.38	1975	898	100.9	8.54	2012	1285	<b>166.0</b>	14.20
1939	171	50.0	1.67	1976	847	106.0	7.25	2013	1070	<b>168.0</b>	15.20
1940	191	50.2	1.80	1977	837	94.0	9.79	2014	1480	168.0	12.00
1941	212	51.5	2.73	1978	1090	98.9	8.47	2015	1286	163.1	11.60

†Information obtained from National Agricultural Statistics Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

Approximately 53, 43 and 4 percent of the rice grown in Arkansas is produced on silt loam, clay and sandy loam soils, respectively. About 80 percent of the rice is drill seeded and 20 percent is broadcast seeded (15 percent broadcast dry seeded; 5 percent broadcast water-seeded).

Arkansas produces approximately 48 percent of U.S. rice and ranks number one in acres planted and bushels produced. Arkansas has been the nation's leading rice-producing state since 1973. Other major rice-producing states include California, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and Missouri. Prior to 1973, no one state

dominated rice production. Arkansas, California, Louisiana and Texas each accounted for near equal proportions of rice production in the U.S.

Rice planting typically begins during the last week of March and continues into early June. Planting is approximately 50 and 95 percent completed by April 24 and June 1, respectively (Figure 1-2). Since most of Arkansas' rice is produced with a drilled dry-seeded culture, flooding of rice fields typically begins at the end of May and early June when the rice reaches the 4- to 5-leaf growth stage.

Rice harvest normally begins during the middle of August and concludes toward the end of October or early November (Figure 1-3). Planting progress statistics suggest that rice planting progress has not changed appreciably over the last 30 years. The five-year averages for rice planting progress by April 15 for the years 1969-1973 and 2011-2015 indicate that 24 and 31 percent of the rice acreage was planted, respectively. However, the five-year averages for rice harvesting progress by September 20 for the years 1969-1973 and 2005-2009 indicate that 16 and 52 percent of rice acreage was harvested, respectively. Improvements in harvest efficiency and the development of new shorter-season rice cultivars during the past 20 years are primarily responsible for earlier harvest.

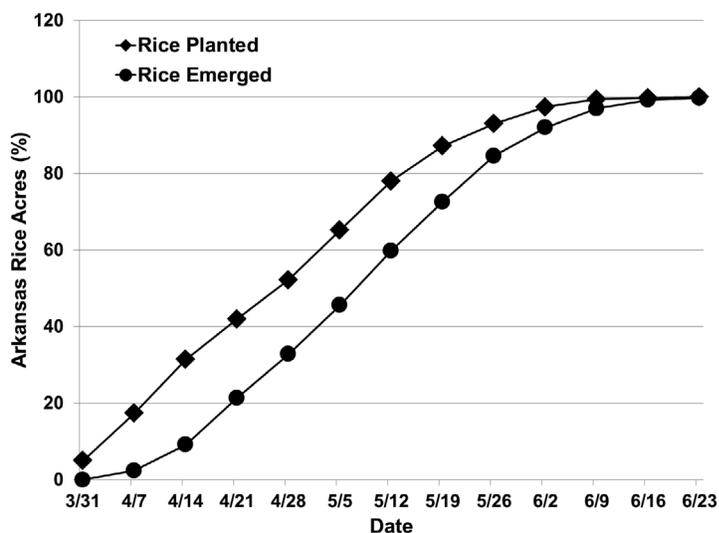
In Arkansas, rice yields have increased dramatically since the early 1980s. Prior to 1985, Arkansas' highest average yield was 112 bushels per acre in 1971. Since 1985, the state average yield record has been broken 11 times, including four consecutive years between 2001 and 2004. The current record of 168 bushels per acre (45 pounds rough rice per bushel) was set in 2013 and tied in 2014. The highest county average yield is 181.3 bushels per acre produced by rice growers in Mississippi County in 2014. The common range for rough rice yields in Arkansas commercial rice fields is 150 to 200 bushels per acre at 12 percent moisture.

Poinsett, Lawrence and Arkansas counties are the three largest rice-producing counties in the state and rank among the top five counties in the nation in acres planted and bushels produced. Over the past 10 years, from 2006 to 2015, Poinsett and Arkansas counties have averaged more than 100,000 harvested acres of rice. Lawrence, Jackson, Cross, Clay, Craighead and Lonoke counties rank next in number of harvested rice acres.

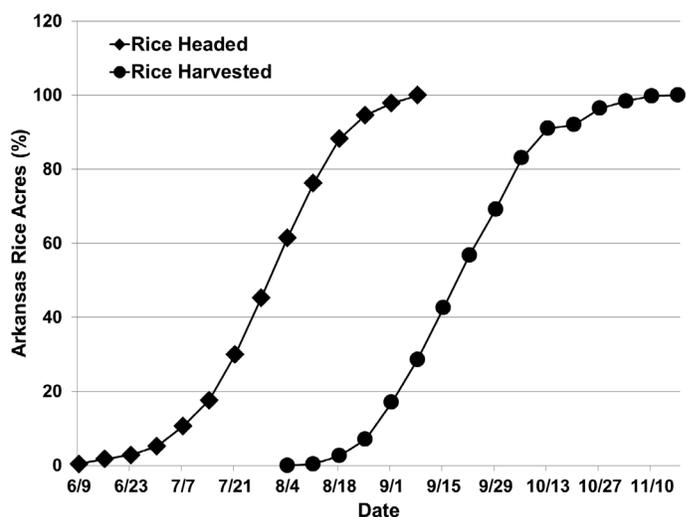
The history of rice production in Arkansas reveals four recent phases when yields increased dramatically over a two- to three-year period (Table 1-1). Each phase coincides with the release, subsequent acceptance and adoption and widespread growth of a new cultivar or cultivars (Tables 1-2a-e). Tables 1-2a through 1-2e show the cultivar distribution of Arkansas rice acreage from 1964 to 2015.

The first phase of noticeable increase in rice yield occurred following the 1967 release of Starbonnet by the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture. Prior to 1967, the highest average rice yield was 96 bushels per acre. Widespread adoption of

Starbonnet led to record yields from 1969-1971 (Table 1-1). Starbonnet replaced Bluebonnet as the most popular rice cultivar beginning in 1969 and remained the number one cultivar through 1984, during which time yields remained near or above 100 bushels per acre (Tables 1-2c, 1-2d and 1-2e). Newbonnet and Lemont were released in 1983 and 1985, respectively. State average rice yields increased an additional 10 bushels per acre when in 1985 - Newbonnet replaced Starbonnet as the most widely grown cultivar. In 1984, Starbonnet, Lebonnet and Labelle were planted on 80.7 percent of the state's acres. In 1985, these three cultivars were planted on less than 13 percent of the state's acreage. In comparison,



**Figure 1-2. Average planting and emergence progress for Arkansas rice acreage from 2011 to 2015.**



**Figure 1-3. Average harvest progress for Arkansas rice acreage between 2011 and 2015.**

**Table 1-2a. Distribution of rice varieties produced in Arkansas between 2007 and 2015†.**

Variety	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
	% of Total Acres								
AB647	0.3	0.6	<0.1	-	0.2	0.3	-	-	-
Ahrent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<0.1
Antonio	0.3	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Banks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<0.1	0.3
Bengal	-	-	<0.1	<0.1	-	0.4	1.9	1.0	7.5
Caffey	0.3	0.2	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Catahoula	-	-	-	<0.1	0.2	0.5	-	-	-
Cheniere	0.2	1.2	1.9	2.1	2.1	8.9	5.4	2.1	-
CL111	3.8	5.0	6.0	4.1	3.0	1.3	-	-	-
CL131	-	-	<0.1	0.2	0.8	2.9	3.7	0.3	-
CL142 AR	-	0.5	0.7	1.8	7.5	0.6	-	-	-
CL151	12.4	12.6	9.7	13.1	12.4	22.5	11.8	<0.1	-
CL152	0.4	3.3	7.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL161	-	-	<0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.7	5.3	10.2
CL162	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL163	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL171 AR	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.5	6.4	13.8	1.0
CL181 AR	-	-	-	-	1.7	0.4	-	-	-
CL261	-	0.6	0.7	1.1	5.8	-	-	-	-
CL271	3.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLXL8	-	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.2	2.2
CLXL729	3.2	4.2	7.4	11.4	7.0	6.5	15.1	14.7	5.2
CLXL730	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.9	9.4	4.1
CLXL745	19.9	22.0	22.3	28.4	29.4	19.5	8.1	1.9	-
CLXL746	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	-	-	-
Cocodrie	<0.1	<0.1	0.1	0.6	-	0.8	1.9	5.2	6.5
Cybonnet	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	1.2	3.7
Cypress	-	-	-	<0.1	<0.1	-	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Delrose	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Francis	0.7	1.3	1.9	3.7	1.7	6	9.6	11.8	11
Jazzman	-	0.1	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jazzman-2	0.2	<0.1	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jupiter	14.4	13.0	9.9	7.6	13.4	8.7	12.5	6.2	3.4
LaKast	5.0	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mermentau	4.1	4.9	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neptune	-	-	-	<0.1	1.2	1.5	0.8	<0.1	-
Rex	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
XL723	0.9	1.1	3.4	9.8	3.1	1.5	2.7	1.1	8.5
XL753	14.5	11.8	6.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
XP716	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<0.1
XP744	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	-
Roy J	13.1	12.6	13.8	6.3	2.1	0.1	-	-	-
Spring	-	-	-	<0.1	-	-	<0.1	<0.1	0.1
Taggart	0.5	1.2	1.0	2.1	0.7	0.5	-	-	-
Templeton	-	-	-	<0.1	0.2	0.6	-	-	-
Trenasse	-	-	-	-	-	-	<0.1	0.2	0.2
Wells	1.6	2.9	3.1	6.1	6.5	15	16.5	25.1	35.5

†Variety distribution data obtained from DD50 computer program.

Newbonnet and Lemont acreage increased from 6.5 percent in 1984 to almost 77 percent in 1985. During the 1990s, average rice yields increased an additional 10 bushels per acre as the number of available cultivars increased considerably. Cultivars

such as Bengal, Cypress and Kaybonnet dominated rice acreage during this time (Table 1-2b). A new era of rice cultivars and new yield records were realized during the first part of the 21st century. In 1999, Wells and Cocodrie were released and rapidly

**Table 1-2b. Distribution of rice varieties produced in Arkansas between 1996 and 2006†.**

Varieties	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
	% of Total Acres										
Adair	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.4	0.2
Ahrent	<0.1	0.3	0.9	2.3	2.5	0.1	-	-	-	-	-
Alan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	0.9	-	3.4
Banks	0.9	3.6	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bengal	6.2	4.8	9.9	11.2	9.3	9.1	20.0	17.1	13.6	18.2	22.0
Cheniere	10.6	6.6	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL121	-	0.1	0.5	0.3	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL131	13.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL141	-	-	-	-	0.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
CL161	6.7	18.2	13.2	4.7	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLXL8	5.6	2.5	2.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLXL729	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CLXL730	4.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cocodrie	4.4	9.1	15.3	21.8	29.3	30.1	16.4	0.8	-	-	-
Cybonnet	1.7	1.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cypress	<0.1	0.2	1.3	1.6	3.9	8.6	15.0	21.9	25.6	28.8	27.0
Drew	<0.1	0.2	0.7	0.9	4.5	13.0	27.2	35.1	37.0	3.0	0.1
Francis	9.6	10.7	11.3	6.3	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jackson	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.6
Jefferson	<0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	5.8	1.8	0.1	-
Jupiter	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Katy	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.4
Kaybonnet	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.9	2.4	4.9	8.4	33.8	33.4
Lacassine	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.8
LaGrue	-	0.1	0.8	2.6	3.4	5.8	10.4	9.9	10.2	9.8	7.0
Lemont	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.3	0.4	2.8	1.7	1.7	2.3
Madison	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-
Mars	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	0.1
Medark	0.3	1.5	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Millie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.7	0.1
Newbonnet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.6	1.3
Priscilla	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	0.3	-	-	-
Saber	-	-	-	0.2	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spring	0.1	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trenasse	<0.1	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wells	31.0	38.9	39.8	45.2	41.6	30.1	4.0	0.2	-	-	-
XL6	-	-	-	-	0.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
XL8	-	0.4	1.4	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
XL723	1.9	0.7	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
XL730	-	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
XP710	1.1	0.7	0.1	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
XP716	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

†Variety distribution data obtained from DD50 computer program.

increased to account for the majority of the total acreage (Tables 1-2a and 1-2b). After the release of those cultivars, record yields were achieved each year between 2001 and 2004.

New technology has begun to again raise the bar for rice yields in Arkansas. The first hybrid rice cultivars were first released in 2002-2003. These cultivars exhibited excellent yield potential and showed the ability to increase production but were initially limited by seed production. As of 2015, hybrid cultivars

represent 40 percent of rice acres. Clearfield rice, which has been bred through traditional techniques to be tolerant to imidazilane and imazamox herbicides, was first planted on limited acreage in 2002. The expansion of this technology has had a positive impact by allowing red rice-infested acres to be unaffected by the yield and quality-limiting effects of this weed.

From 1967 to 1985, rice acreage in Arkansas increased from 0.5 million acres to over 1 million acres (Table 1-1). This increase in rice acreage likely

**Table 1-2c. Distribution of rice varieties produced in Arkansas between 1986 and 1995†.**

Variety	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986
	% of Total Acres									
Adair	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alan	9.2	17.4	28.5	19.4	3.8	0.2	-	-	-	-
Bengal	13.6	7.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bond	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.8
Cypress	34.9	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gulfmont	-	-	-	-	-	2.3	2.9	1.8	0.2	-
Jackson	1.1	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Katy	8.6	11.9	18.8	20.8	12.5	5.5	0.3	-	-	-
Kaybonnet	4.3	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
L202	-	-	-	-	-	2.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	-
Labelle	-	-	-	-	-	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.9	0.7
Lacassine	2.9	4.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LaGrue	11.6	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lebonnet	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.6	1.1	1.3	1.2
Lemont	4.2	10.1	12.1	15.8	15.3	20.5	23.4	27.7	16.7	11.4
Mars	1.1	5.5	6.0	7.1	11.8	10.8	8.7	9.4	10.8	6.9
Maybelle	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	-	-	-	-
Millie	2.8	6.0	7.9	8.3	2.2	0.1	-	-	-	-
Newbonnet	4.1	10.4	8.4	19.3	38.3	39.5	44.5	32.6	54.5	68.9
Newrex	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.3
Nortai	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.1
Orion	0.1	1.6	5.9	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rexmont	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.1	-
Skybonnet	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.3	-
Starbonnet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.5
Tebonnet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.5

†Variety distribution data obtained from DD50 computer program beginning in 1981 and from Rice Millers Association Report prior to 1981.

resulted in lower yields during the late 1970s and early 1980s as a result of both marginal land being placed in production and producers adjusting to the difficulties inherent in managing additional acres. In addition to the availability of improved cultivars, other events have significantly impacted Arkansas rice production over the past 50 years. In 1975, 53 rice growers in 11 counties field tested an alternate method of timing mid-season nitrogen fertilizer applications. In 1978, the program became available to all farmers in Arkansas. The program, now known as the computerized DD50 program, helps farmers with 29 management decisions and is used on 30 percent or more of the state's acreage.

Other important events and dates in Arkansas rice production are listed below:

- 1961 – Propanil first used in commercial rice fields
- 1968 – Molinate first used in commercial rice fields
- 1975 – DD50 Program implemented
- 1982 – Collego labeled to control northern jointvetch
- 1987 – Discovery of poultry litter to reclaim precision-graded silt loam soils
- 1989 – Katy released as blast tolerant variety
- 1990 – Gibberellic acid seed treatment received label
- 1990 – Propanil-resistant barnyardgrass documented
- 1991 – Sheath blight treatment thresholds changed to account for cultivar tolerance
- 1992 – Facet labeled for weed control in rice
- 1997 – Quadris, first strobilurin-type fungicide, labeled for rice
- 1998 – Dale Bumpers National Germplasm Center completed
- 1999 – Facet-resistant barnyardgrass documented
- 2000 – Command labeled for weed control in rice
- 2001 – Clearfield rice introduced into Arkansas for red rice control
- 2002 – Hybrid rice introduced into Arkansas
- 2003 – First recommendation to amend pre-flood urea with an NBPT-containing urease inhibitor
- 2004 – Newpath-tolerant red rice first documented in Arkansas

**Table 1-2d. Distribution of rice varieties produced in Arkansas between 1975 and 1985<sup>†</sup>.**

Variety	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975
	% of Total Acres										
Bluebelle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.6	5.2	7.4
Bluebonnet	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.7
Bond	5.6	3.6	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bonnet 73	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	2.6	5.2
Brazos	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.8	1.8	1.7
Dawn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	1.2	3.4
Labelle	4.1	18.8	25.2	20.4	17.2	17.3	14.6	11.4	7.3	7.6	7.6
Lebonnet	5.5	20.1	20.6	14.9	15.5	25.1	30	30	33.9	22.9	1.4
Lemont	12.2	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mars	4.3	7.4	11.1	11.4	14.5	10.8	2.4	0.1	-	-	-
Nato	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10.3	13.2	15.2
Newbonnet	61.2	5.1	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newrex	0.3	0.6	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nortai	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	0.9	1.6	1.7	1.7	2.2	2.0	2.4
Nova	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2.1	3.3	2.9
Saturn	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.3
Starbonnet	2.9	41.8	41.7	52.4	50.4	40.2	43.9	38.1	38.3	39.5	52.1
Tebonnet	3.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vista	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.7	0.4

<sup>†</sup>Variety distribution data obtained from Rice Millers Association Report.

**Table 1-2e. Distribution of rice varieties produced in Arkansas between 1964 and 1974<sup>†</sup>.**

Variety	1974 <sup>‡</sup>	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
	% of Total Acres										
Arkrose	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.8	1.1
Belle Patna	n/a	1.4	0.5	0.6	1.0	1.9	2.8	5.0	5.5	1.8	1.1
Bluebelle	n/a	9.6	3.9	4.0	7.3	9.3	23.1	5.6	0.2	-	-
Bluebonnet	n/a	0.1	1.7	2.0	5.6	12	27.4	50.6	50.9	54.2	53.7
Century Patna	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.9
Dawn	n/a	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.9	2.0	2.3	0.8	0.1	-	-
Labelle	n/a	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nato	n/a	20.4	19.9	18.4	16.1	17.6	22.2	31.1	37	39.3	37.6
Nortai	n/a	0.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nova	n/a	5.5	5.6	5.0	6.0	6.8	4.2	2.4	1.9	1.2	3.6
Pearl	n/a	0.1	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.7
Roses	n/a	-	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.7	1.0	-	-
Saturn	n/a	1.2	0.3	0.6	1.3	1.5	0.8	0.3	0.2	-	-
Starbonnet	n/a	58.6	66.4	67.6	60.4	46.9	15.4	0.1	-	-	-
Vegold	n/a	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.2	1.2	1.5	0.2	0.3
Vista	n/a	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Zenith	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1

<sup>†</sup>Variety distribution data obtained from Rice Millers Association Report.

<sup>‡</sup>Data not available for 1974.

- 2006 – Liberty-Link rice, a genetically modified rice, was detected in the U.S. commercial rice supplies
  - 2008 – Command-resistant barnyardgrass documented
  - 2009 – ALS-resistant barnyardgrass documented
  - 2010 – New Rice Research and Extension Center office and laboratory facility opened
  - 2012 – Nitrogen Soil Test for Rice (N-STaR) implemented to provide field-specific prescription nitrogen recommendations
- The goal of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture is to assist farmers in producing profitable, high-yielding crops that enable our growers to be

competitive on the world market. The Cooperative Extension Service is proud to present a summary of research-based recommendations and an overview of Arkansas rice production in this handbook. The presentation and publication of information in this handbook was made possible through cooperative efforts of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and the Arkansas rice growers through grower check-off contributions which are administered by the Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board.

## **Links to Other Sources of U.S. Rice Production Information**

### **University of Arkansas**

Cooperative Extension Service, University of Arkansas – <http://www.uaex.edu/rice>

Arkansas Variety Testing –  
<http://www.arkansasvarietytesting.com>

B.R. Wells Rice Research Series –  
<http://arkansasagnews.uark.edu/1356.htm>

### **Other States**

Louisiana State University –  
[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops/rice/](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/rice/)

Mississippi State University –  
<http://msucares.com/crops/rice/index.html>

Texas A&M University – <http://beaumont.tamu.edu>

University of California-Extension Rice Project –  
<http://ucanr.edu/sites/UCRiceProject/>

University of Missouri –  
<http://agebb.missouri.edu/murice/>

### **Other Rice Links**

National Ag Statistics Services (NASS) –  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/>

Rice Technical Working Group – <http://www.rtwg.net>

Arkansas Rice Research and Promotion Board –  
<http://www.arkrice.org/>

Arkansas Farm Bureau Federation –  
<http://www.arfb.com>