

U.S. Rice Industry Recommendations to Reestablish Supply and Marketability of U.S. Rice

A. The USA Rice Federation requests state authorities in each rice state to implement regulatory provisions or promote voluntary adherence of the following for rice seed production and sales in 2007:

1. **Breeder and Foundation Seed:** Establish a standard seed testing protocol for the presence of Liberty Link (LL) traits for all head row/breeder and foundation seed as follows:
 - a. Test samples pulled by state certifying agency using AOSA (Association of Official Seed Analysts) approved methods.
 - b. All samples sent to BioDiagnostics lab in Wisconsin for analysis to promote accurate and consistent results.
 - c. All samples to be analyzed for the presence of LL traits using a testing protocol developed by Bayer CropScience and verified by USDA/GIPSA¹.
 - d. BioDiagnostics provides the certifying agent with test results. The state certifying agent issues a statement attesting to and aligning the final approved laboratory results with the seed lot sampled.
2. **Certified and Registered Seed:**
 - a. Require or encourage each seed processor to submit samples, with a state seed certifying agency identification code to one of the Bayer-approved and GIPSA proficiency-tested labs. The “lot trail” will have to be identified.
 - b. Such samples to be pulled in accordance with AOSA-approved methods.
 - c. The approved laboratory to test, in accordance with A.1.c. above, the submitted samples and to provide final test results to the state seed certifying agency.
 - d. The state seed certifying agency issues a statement attesting to and aligning the final approved laboratory results with the seed lot sampled.
 - e. If a positive result is received, the submitter may request a retest but may not submit new samples. Positives will be channeled out of the system.
3. **Cheniery Rice Variety:**
 - a. Provide that no Cheniery rice seed shall be sold for rice production in 2007.

¹ The test is the 35S Bar on 3 samples of 10,000 kernels or an alternative equivalent sampling protocol. . The lab report will note what alternative equivalent sampling protocol was used when applicable. The USA Rice Federation requests adoption of this sampling and testing protocol in connection with domestic commercial seed stocks for the 2007 sowing season

- b. Allow for increase of Cheniere seed production in 2007 for 2008 and 2009 seed stocks provided that all seed stocks are certified negative for LL traits. Rejects will be held and not sold to first points of seed delivery in 2007 crop milling year.
4. State seed certifying agencies to notify all seed processors, growers, and dealers of these requirements, in collaboration with the committee described in Section C.

B. The USA Rice Federation recommends the following actions:²

1. First points of delivery require a statement of verification of lab reports showing no detection of LL traits, as provided in A.2. above, identifying the seed source in connection with ALL rice sold. First points of delivery may perform random testing of delivered rice. Positive results to be channeled out of the system on the account of the first point of delivery.
2. No 2007 crop year Cheniere to be accepted at first point of delivery³. Buyers may accept 2006 crop year Cheniere until July 31, 2007.
3. Grower provides, and first point of delivery receives, three forms: (1) documentation, as provided in A.2. above, of planting seed with “LL-not detected” results; (2) sales receipt showing amount of seed that has tested as “LL not detected” purchased from a seed dealer; and (3) FSA form of certified acres planted.
4. Rice produced from farm-saved seed, except from the Cheniere variety, to be accepted by first point of delivery provided such rice is accompanied by a LL-not detected seed test result and an FSA form of certified acres planted.

C. Recommendation for establishment of an industry-wide Education and Information Committee of land grant universities and state departments of agriculture as follows:

1. Recommend Dr. Chuck Wilson, Extension Agronomist – Rice, to chair an information and education committee of representatives of all rice states that will prepare information describing the current challenge to the rice industry and the plan/process to remove LL traits from 2007 production.
2. Disseminate to all segments of the rice industry the information developed, in #1 above, with special emphasis on:
 - Producers
 - Commercial rice dryers
 - Seed dealers/processors
 - Land grant universities
 - State departments of agriculture
 - FSA
 - Mills/coops

² The USA Rice Federation expects each industry participant to make its own decisions consistent with its own economic interests.

³ “First point of delivery” includes dryers, mills, storage facilities, river load ports, etc.

- National rice organizations
- Lending institutions
- Crop insurers
- Trade Press
- Crop Consultants
- Milled and Paddy Rice Exporters
- Association of Official Seed Certification Agents

(Encourage these organizations to disseminate the plan as widely as possible.)

3. Request special assistance from USDA/CSREES in participating on the committee and disseminating information.
4. Present this information at the December 2006 USA Rice Outlook Conference.