

Western Rice Belt Conference goes Virtual - January 20, 2021

The annual Western Rice Belt Production Conference will be held virtually, via Zoom, on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19 and guidance from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, the planning committee cannot host a traditional, face-to-face conference. This year's goal is to provide the same high quality and relevant production information, in spite of the pandemic requirements that keep everyone from meeting in person. Registration is open now, through January 19th. To register for the rice conference go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-virtual-western-rice-belt-production-conference-tickets-131230795843>, or call Stacey at the Wharton County Extension Office at 979-532-3310. Upon registering you will be notified that the zoom log-in details will be emailed to you the day prior to the Rice Conference.

This joint effort of our Western Rice Belt planning committee, The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, U.S. Rice Producers Association, and Texas A&M AgriLife Research will offer growers and others the opportunity to hear presentations from the top Extension and Research scientists from Texas as well as other respected individuals from the rice industry. Topics and speakers will include Basics of Herbicide Resistance Development in Weeds - Dr. Muthu Bagavathiannan; Rice Varieties and Current Breeding Programs in Rice - Mr. Galen Franz; Insect Management - Dr. Mo Way; Pesticide Laws and Regulations Update - Melissa Barton; Cost of Rice Production - Joe Outlaw; Rice Market Outlook – Thomas Wynn; Update on Conservation and Working Lands Programs - Dennis Neumann; and Rice Water Efficiency - Dr. Michele Reba, Research Hydrologist USDA Agricultural Research Service.

For more information, contact the Texas AgriLife Extension office in Colorado County at 979-732-2082; in Matagorda County at 979-245-4100; or Wharton County at 979-532-3310; or go to <http://wharton.agrilife.org> and click on Events to view a flyer for the Rice Conference. The flyer also contains the direct link to the EventBrite registration site. 2 CEU's (1 L&R, and 1 IPM) for TDA Pesticide Applicators will be awarded at this event. CCA hours have been applied for and will be offered pending approval. Pesticide Applicators are reminded to provide their Pesticide Applicator License number at the time of registration on EventBrite.

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