

Annual Western Rice Belt Conference-El Campo, Texas - January 18, 2023

The annual Western Rice Belt Production Conference will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 at the El Campo Civic Center. The Rice Conference is composed of a Production Conference for rice producers and rice industry professionals, and a Rice Consumers Seminar for homemakers. Registration for the conference will begin at 7:30 a.m., with the main program to begin at 8:10 a.m. with a welcome from our County Judge, Phillip Spenrath. After a catered lunch, provided by area agribusiness sponsors, the program will conclude around 2:45 p.m.

This joint effort between the Western Rice Belt planning committee, The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, U.S. Rice Producers Association, and U.S.A. Rice will offer growers and others the opportunity to hear presentations from the professionals and leaders in the agriculture industry. Topics and speakers will include: **Sustainable Farming** – presented by Agreeeta; **Climate Friendly Rice** - Agriculture; **Climate Smart Grant Funds – USA Rice**; **Pesticide Laws and Regulations Update**, Stephanie Theriot; **Kernel Smut in Rice** – Dr. Young-Ki Jo; **Insect Management** – Dr. Lina Bernaola; **Grass Weed Control** – Dr. Muthu Bagavathiannan; **Irrigation Water Updates** – LCRA and the Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District; **Organic Rice Update** – Mr. Bob Whitney; **Farm Policy Update** – Dr. Joe Outlaw, and an reports from four Texas Rice Boards. The Texas Rice Council will also conduct their Annual Meeting in conjunction with the 2023 Western Rice Belt Conference. The results of the Rice Poster Contest will be announced during the lunch hour by County Extension Agents Lori Garcia and Laura Reyna.

As always, there is no fee to attend the Western Rice Belt Conference. Sponsors who support the rice industry make this program possible. The Planning Committee is asking all attendees to RSVP so that we can plan the meal accordingly. Because of the increase in the cost of food and catering, we'll need a better idea of how many plates to order. We've made the RSVP process simple. Attendees can call the Wharton County Extension Office to RSVP, click on a pdf file of the Rice Conference Flyer, or download the QR code from the flyer.

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. 3 CEU's (1 L&R and 2 IPM) for TDA Pesticide Applicators will be awarded at this event. CCA hours have been applied for and will be offered. Pesticide Applicators are reminded to provide their Pesticide Applicator License number at registration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corrie P. Bowen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Corrie" and last name "Bowen" clearly legible.

Corrie P. Bowen
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Wharton County
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The logo for Texas A&M Agrilife Extension. It features the text "TEXAS A&M" in a dark red, serif font at the top. Below it, the word "AGRILIFE" is written in a large, grey, serif font, with the letter "A" being significantly larger than the others. At the bottom, the word "EXTENSION" is written in a dark red, bold, sans-serif font.

2023 WESTERN RICE BELT PRODUCTION CONFERENCE

Texas Rice Council Annual Meeting
El Campo Civic Center

January 18, 2023

RICE TRADE SHOW

Including booths from
Conference Sponsors

EXHIBITS INCLUDE

Equipment
Seed Dealers
Chemical Suppliers
Other Rice Industry
Products

CONTACT INFO

Corrie Bowen
County Extension Agent
Ag/Natural Resources
979-532-3310



7:30 a.m.	REGISTRATION
8:10a.m.	Welcome Judge Philip Spenrath
8:15 a.m.	Sustainable Farming Corinna Baban, Agreeta
8:45 a.m.	Kernel Smut in Rice Dr. Young-Ki Jo
9:15 a.m.	BREAK
9:45 a.m.	Insect Management Dr. Lina Bernaola
10:15 a.m.	Grass Weed Control Dr. Muthu V. Bagavathiannan
10:30 a.m.	Irrigation Water Supply Updates
	◇ <i>LCRA Water Supply Projection</i> Randy Epps
	◇ <i>Coastal Bend Groundwater Conservation District</i> Neil Hudgins
11:00 a.m.	TDA Pesticide Laws and Regs Update Stephanie Theriot
12:00 p.m.	LUNCH
	◇ Rice Poster Contest Results Lori Garcia and Laura Reyna
	◇ Reports from our Texas Rice Boards
	◇ <i>Rice Producer Board</i> Galen Franz
	◇ <i>Texas Rice Research Foundation</i> Galen Franz
	◇ <i>Rice Council</i> Tommy Turner
	◇ <i>Texas Rice Producers Legislative Group</i> L.G. Raun
1:00 p.m.	Organic Rice Update Bob Whitney
1:30 p.m.	Climate Friendly Rice Tyler Hull, AgriCapture
2:00 p.m.	Climate Smart Grant Funds Steve Linscombe, USA Rice
2:10 p.m.	Rice Policy and Farm Bill Update Dr. Joe Outlaw

Please help us plan accordingly and [CLICK HERE](#) to RSVP or scan the QR code above by Jan 11

3.0 TDA CEUs
TDA and CCA Credits Applied for

TEXAS A&M
AGRI LIFE
EXTENSION

The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension activity, are encouraged to contact the County Extension Office for assistance 5 days prior to the activity.