State of Mississippi

Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Agriculture Fact Sheet Rice 2014

- 13,600,000 hundredweight produced in 2014 in Mississippi.
- 259 farms in Mississippi grew rice in 2014.
- $174 million value of production in 2014.
- Mississippi ranks # 5 in the United States in rice production.
- Rice is planted between April 1 and June 20 and is harvested between August 25 and October 27.
- Eighty percent of the rice grown in the United States is grown in the southern rice belt.

- U.S. rice growers grow an average of 5,600 pounds of rice per acre of production.
- Rice is a grain cereal, an important component to a healthy diet.
- Americans consume about 25 pounds of rice per year.
- September is National Rice Month to celebrate the harvest of rice.
- Rice is low in fat while being a good source of vitamins and minerals.
- The word “rice” in Chinese means “agriculture” or “culture.”
- China is the largest producer of rice in the world. Thailand is the largest exporter.
- Rice was discovered in ancient China in 2800 B.C.

Source: Mississippi State University

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