



California Weedy Rice Sample Collection Protocol: 2023

To minimize the movement of weedy rice seed, plant material and contaminated soil, the University of California, in coordination with the California Rice Research Board and California Rice Commission, will be implementing the following weedy rice sample collection protocol, effective 2023.

PLEASE NOTE: AS OF 2017, NO SAMPLE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE RICE EXPERIMENT STATION

- 1) Suspected weedy rice seed, plant material and soil should not be transported out of the possibly contaminated field.
- 2) If a suspected plant is found, contact one of the UCCE Rice Farming Systems Advisors:

Sacramento Valley

Whitney Brim-DeForest (530-822-7515 or 541-292-1553)

Luis Espino (530-635-6234)

San Joaquin Valley

Michelle Leinfelder-Miles (209-953-6120)

The Advisor will visit the field, and if necessary, take a plant sample, depending on the timing and maturity of the plants. Growers and Pest Control Advisers do not have to be present in the field for collection.

- 3) The status of the sample (whether or not it is weedy rice) will be given to the submitter as soon as identification is confirmed

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the consequences of finding weedy rice in a field?

It is important to note that there are no regulatory implications of finding weedy rice in a field. Weedy rice is not considered a noxious weed, and therefore is not subject to any regulatory actions by CDFA or any other private, state or federal organization. However, there is zero tolerance for weedy rice in seed fields.

Why should I report weedy rice contamination to UCCE?

It is very important for the rice industry to determine the extent of distribution of weedy rice in California. If you are certain your field is contaminated, but have not communicated this to UCCE, please do so. Information on the extent of infestation may be used to help the industry develop a management strategy, appropriate management tools, and apply for funds to develop such tools. Any personal and geographical information of contaminated fields will not be shared with any agencies or institutions outside the rice industry.