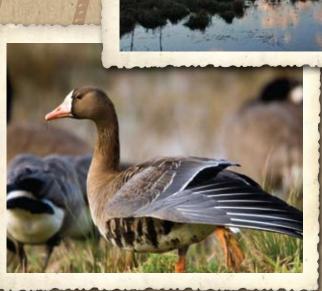
CONSERVATION IN RICELANDS

North America



Scott W. Manley, Ph.D., Editor



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Table of Contents

Preface4	Section 3
	Conserving Water Quality and
Acknowledgments 5	Quantity in North American
Continu	Ricelands119
Section I	Abstract
Wildlife Values of	Introduction
North American Ricefields7	The Big Picture
Abstract	State of Our Knowledge
Introduction	Regional Perspectives
Use of Ricefields by Wildlife	Course for Research and
Resource Benefits to Wildlife	Extension Education
Effects of Rice Field Management	Summary
Harvest Management48	Literature Cited
Equivalence of Ricelands	
to Natural Wetlands52	Section 4
Trade-Offs of Providing Habitat for Wildlife 54	Wildlife, Rice, and Water:
Future Challenges and Research Needs 60	
Summary	Building Common Ground161
Literature Cited	Abstract
	Introduction
Section 2	The Policy Landscape
Agronomic Impacts of	Policy Networks
Winter Wetland and Waterfowl	Important Considerations
	Maintaining Policy Networks
Management in Ricelands91	and Partnerships
Abstract92	
Introduction	Building on Common Ground172 Challenges in Building on Common Ground176
Rice Straw Management	Research & Education Needs
Winter Flooding and Straw Decomposition 97	Conclusion
Waterfowl Foraging Activity and	Literature Cited
Straw Decomposition	Literature Cited
Plant Nutrient Availability	
	CONSERVATION IN
and Nutrient Availability	DICEL ANDS
	RICELANDS
Weed Control	af.
and Education	
	North
Summary	
Literature Cited	A and any a a

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PREFACE

The rice agriculture and conservation communities have a mutually beneficial and long-lasting relationship with shared interests in habitat management for wetland-dependent birds, sustainable rice production, and conservation of natural resources such as soil and water. The fact that the rice industry holds great conservation potential is documented throughout the scientific literature. However, a contemporary publication containing the current state of our knowledge on riceland conservation did not previously exist. Herein, the Rice Foundation and Ducks Unlimited, Inc. have collaborated to fill this need.

The goal of this research publication endeavor was: (1) to produce a summary document containing the current state of our knowledge on riceland conservation; and (2) to chart a course for future research and education programs that will further the compatibility between wildlife conservation, rice production, and the environment.

Twelve (12) authors and 16 independent reviewers gave selflessly to gather, organize, summarize, and critique all known available research on riceland conservation. Scientific literature searches were performed through 31 December 2006 using over 25 library databases (e.g., AGRICOLA, BIOSIS), Land Grant University Agriculture Experiment Station libraries, and author-chosen venues, all part of an extensive effort to identify every pertinent research publication available. We apologize in advance if any contributing research publication was missed.

It is our hope that this research publication will serve rice producers, agriculture and wildlife researchers, extension agents, students, and outdoor enthusiasts alike, to foster an understanding of conservation in ricelands, and make additional positive strides for our future.

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