

BRIEF NOTESHOJA BLANCA AND ITS INSECT VECTOR  
FOUND ON RICE IN A SECOND AREA  
IN THE UNITED STATES

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Hoja blanca, an insect-transmitted virus disease of rice, was recently found for the second time in the United States. The disease was identified on October 1, 1958, in rice fields at two locations near Bay Saint Louis, Hancock County, Mississippi. In 1957 the disease was reported from near Belle Glade, Florida<sup>2</sup>.

*Sogatia orizicola* Muir, the only known insect vector for hoja blanca<sup>3</sup>, was collected on September 3 and October 1 in a small rice field in Hancock County. While leaf symptoms somewhat suggestive of hoja blanca were observed on September 3, the disease was not recorded. However, on October 1 numerous plants showing characteristic disease symptoms were present. In addition, the disease was found on plants in another rice field where disease symptoms were not observed in early September. Previously, *S. orizicola* had been collected only near Belle Glade, Florida.

In early September a survey trip was also made through northern Florida, southeastern Georgia, and South Carolina for hoja blanca and *S. orizicola*. No rice was located in northern Florida, and rice in the other two States showed no evidence of infection or infestation. In surveys made in September and October in southern Louisiana, neither hoja blanca nor *S. orizicola* was found. *S. furcifera* (Horvath), a species not considered as a vector, was collected in both Mississippi and Louisiana.

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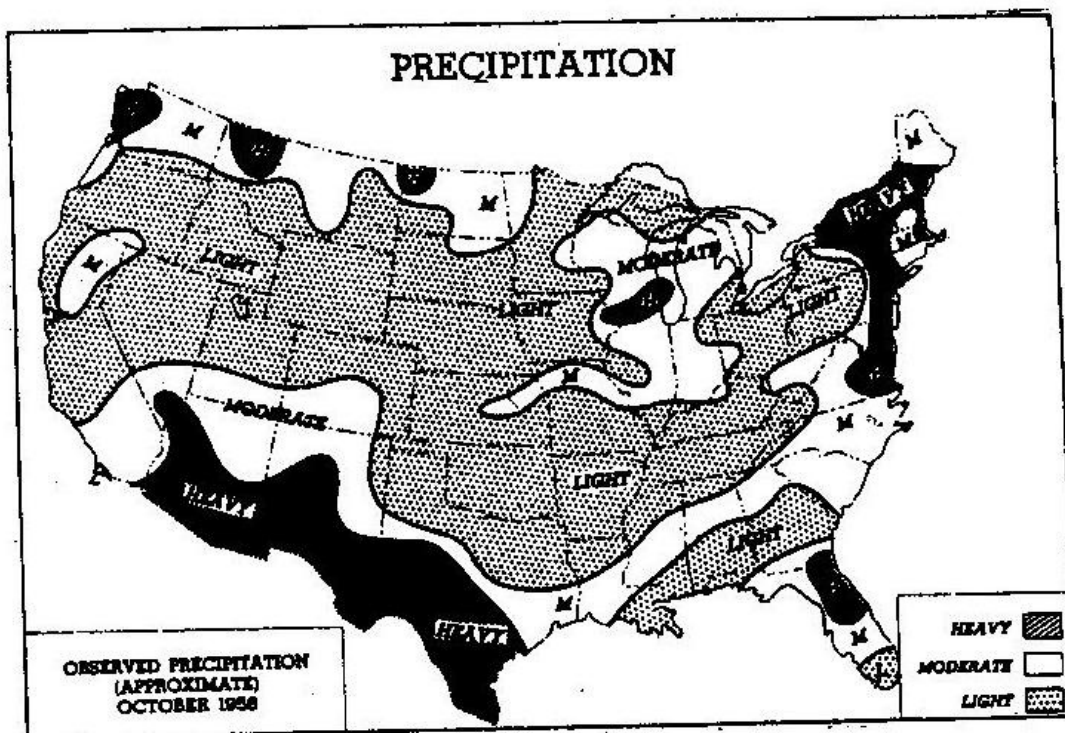
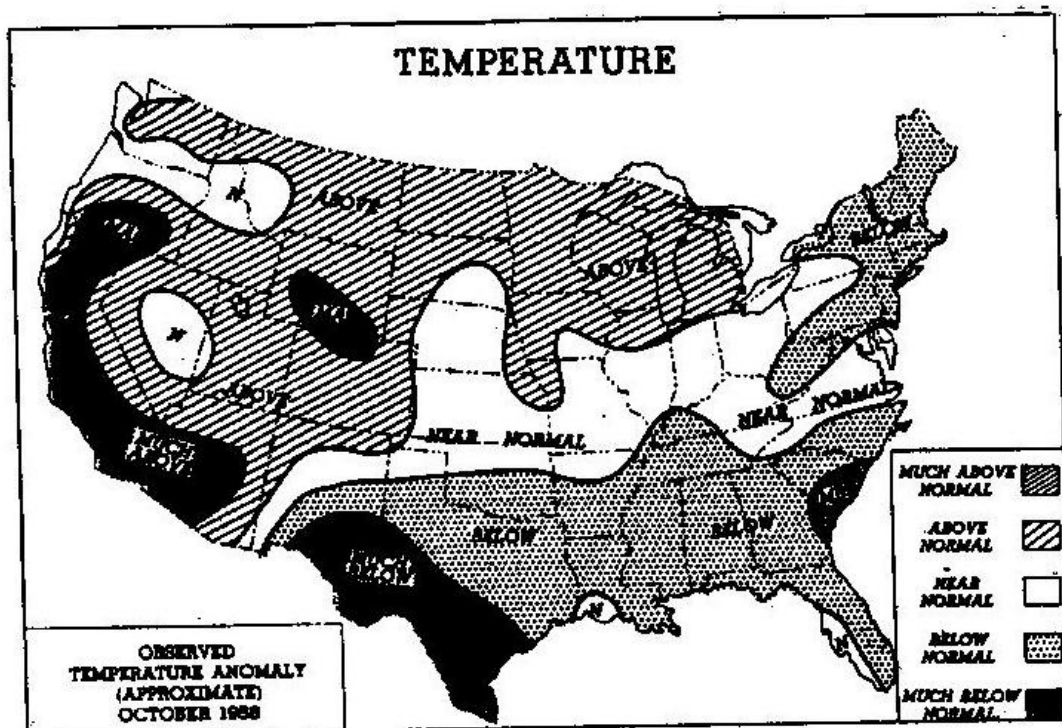
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<sup>2</sup>Atkins, John G., and C. Roy Adair. 1957. Recent discovery of hoja blanca, a new rice disease in Florida, and varietal resistance tests in Cuba and Venezuela. Plant Disease Repr. 41: 911-915.

<sup>3</sup>Atkins, John G., and Judson U. McGuire, Jr. 1958. The hoja blanca disease of rice. International Rice Commission Newsletter 7(3): 1-7.

CORRECTION

REPORTER, October issue (Volume 42, Number 10), page 1127: lines 13 through 20 are out of order, that is, beginning with, "in northwestern Illinois...." and ending with "the Clarion variety yielded 98 percent as much as Clintland during this period." These eight lines should follow the last sentence on the page to read as follows: "District losses for the Clinton variety ranged from 50 percent in southern Illinois to 28.7 percent in northwestern Illinois. The district percentage figures were in ..., " etc.



The terms used in the accompanying maps, which define the ranges of temperature and precipitation, are numerical class limits. These are based on a statistical analysis of past records through which is determined the normal frequency of occurrence of temperatures and precipitation at various times of the year for different locations. For temperature the classes above, below, and near normal are so defined that they each normally occur one-fourth of the time; much above and much below normal, one-eighth of the time. Precipitation is depicted in terms of light, moderate, and heavy, each class normally occurring one-third of the time and thereby having equal probability of occurrence. These maps graphically represent only the general trends and give the country's weather picture at a glance. For quantitative studies, where monthly mean temperatures and actual precipitation records are needed for a given time and place, other publications of the Weather Bureau should be consulted. P. R. M.