

CHENIERE

RICE VARIETY

Cheniere is an early maturing semidwarf, long-grain rice variety developed and released by the LSU AgCenter's Rice Research Station. It was developed through conventional breeding procedures from the cross 'Newbonnet'/Katy/3/82CAY21/Lemont//L202 made at the Rice Research Station in 1993. The leaves of Cheniere are dark green in color, relatively narrow and the flag leaf remains upright through harvest maturity. Cheniere is similar in maturity to Cypress and approximately 5 days later than Cocodrie. The average days from emergence to 50% heading are 87, 87, and 82 for Cheniere, Cypress, and Cocodrie, respectively, in multi-year testing in Louisiana.

The leaves, lemma, and palca of Cheniere are glabrous. The spikelet is straw-colored and is normally awnless but can exhibit short awns. The apiculus is light purple at heading, but the color fades as the grain approaches maturity. The grain is non-aromatic, non-glutinous, and displays a light brown pericarp.

Cheniere was selected as a panicle row in the F₅ generation in 1998 and entered into the Preliminary Yield testing program in 1999 and the Louisiana Commercial-Advanced and the Uniform Regional Rice Nursery in 2000. The line was also headrowed each year of testing for purification and seed multiplication purposes. Breeder seed was produced from 1,000 headrows at the Puerto Rico winter rice nursery in the winter of 2001-2002. This seed was used to produce Breeder/Foundation seed on the LSU AgCenter's Rice Research Station in the summer of 2002.

The variety has displayed excellent stability and the number of variants is low. Variants observed and removed from increase fields of Cheniere included any combination of the following: taller, shorter, pubescent, earlier, later, gold-hull, and medium and intermediate grain shape. The total number of variants numbered less than 1 per 5,000 plants. Cheniere appears to be adapted throughout the entire southern U.S. rice growing region.