

## Historic Snowfall Event Causes Additional Harvest, Ginning Delays

Friday, January 8, 2016 By Mary Jane Buerkle

Anyone in the cotton industry will tell you that every crop year is different, and 2015 undoubtedly will be remembered for its atypical weather events, from floods at planting time to a end-season blizzard.

Just after Christmas, a winter storm system dumped more than 11 inches of snow in Lubbock and reportedly up to 20 inches in the northwestern part of the PCG service area, near the Texas-New Mexico state line. At that point, about 95 percent of Texas High Plains cotton acreage had been harvested.

“Although the precipitation will help with soil moisture conditions going into the 2016 crop, it would have been most ideal if it had come about two weeks later,” PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett said. “We do have producers with cotton still in the field, and this will create significant delays for them, not to mention the potential for quality loss.”

Ginning activity also has been affected. Although some gins have completed their season, others still have modules in the field awaiting pickup. For some, pickup will not be possible for quite some time thanks to muddy roads and turnrows.

As of Thursday, the Lamesa classing office had graded more than 1.3 million samples, and the Lubbock classing office had graded more than 2.2 million samples. The latest USDA production estimates are just more than 4 million bales for the Northern High Plains and the Southern High Plains. USDA will release updated figures next week.

## NCC Planting Survey Deadline is January 15

Friday, January 8, 2016 From the National Cotton Council

All cotton producers are encouraged to respond to the National Cotton Council’s annual survey of 2016 planting intentions, which was recently distributed to upland and extra-long staple cotton producers across the Cotton Belt.

The current survey’s questionnaire was distributed through a combination of regular mail and email. Producers who did not receive a questionnaire may contact the NCC by email at [econsurvey@cotton.org](mailto:econsurvey@cotton.org) for instructions.

The survey, conducted each year to aid with industry planning and policy deliberations, provides the basis for the economic outlook presented to delegates during the NCC Annual Meeting in early February. Survey results will be presented during the Joint Meeting of Program Committees on Saturday morning, Feb. 6. To enhance the survey’s accuracy, producers are encouraged to respond by the Jan. 15 deadline.

### Ag Appreciation Day – Saturday, January 16

Men’s Basketball  
Baylor vs. the Texas Tech Red Raiders  
2 p.m. • United Spirit Arena  
\$10 tickets! Call Andy Faesser, 806-834-0664

## PCG Board Meets January 13

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By Mary Jane Buerkle

The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors for Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. will begin at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 13, at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture in Lubbock. Dinner will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

A full agenda is planned for the afternoon, including an update on the status of PCG finances, a cotton market report from Dr. John Robinson with Texas A&M’s Department of Agricultural Economics and a weather update from Dr. Steve Lyons with the National Weather Service in San Angelo. Tom Sell with Combest, Sell & Associates will report on the efforts to include cottonseed as a minor oilseed under the Farm Bill.

For more information, contact PCG at (806) 792-4904.

## Upcoming Area Ag Conferences

**January 12** – Seeking Solutions: Managing Economic Risks, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Cagle Steaks & BBQ, 8732 4<sup>th</sup> St., Lubbock. \$40 registration at the door. Two CEUs. Contact Danny Nusser, AgriLife Extension North Region Program Leader, 806-677-5600.

**January 15** – West Plains Ag Conference, 7:30 a.m., Sundown Room on South Plains College Campus, Levelland. \$35 registration fee, lunch included. RSVP requested. Contact Wes Utley, County Extension Agent-AG, 806-894-3159.

**January 19** – Southern Mesa Ag Conference, Forrest Park Community Center, Lamesa. Tentative 6 CEUs. Contact Gary Roschetzky, CEA-AG, 806-872-3444.

**January 20** – South Plains Ag Conference & Trade Show, 7:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m., American Legion Hall, Brownfield. \$15 registration fee with lunch included. 5 CEUs. Contact Zach Bradshaw, CEA-AG, 806-637-4060.

**January 20** – Texas Alliance for Water Conservation Water College, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Bayer Museum of Agriculture, Lubbock. No cost, lunch provided. CEUs available. <http://www.tawcwatercollege.com>

**January 22** – Caprock Crop Production Conference, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Floyd County Friends Unity Center, Muncy. Tentative 8 CEUs; Approved 11 CCAs. \$35 registration fee, \$45 at the door. Contact Caitlin Jackson, Crosby CEA-AG, 806-675-2347 or Cristen Brooks, Floyd CEA-AG, 806-983-4912.

**January 29** – Llano Estacado Cotton Conference, Bailey County Electric Cooperative, Muleshoe. 4 CEUs. Contact Curtis Preston, CEA-AG, 806-272-4583.

**February 9** – Hale/Swisher County Crops Conference, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Ollie Liner Center, Plainview. 5 CEUs. Contact Jason Miller, Hale CEA-AG, at 806-291-5267 or John Villalba, Swisher CEA-AG, at 806-995-3721.

If you have a conference to add to this list, or if we have incorrect information, please email [maryjane@plainscotton.org](mailto:maryjane@plainscotton.org) or call (806) 792-4904.

This list also can be found on the PCG website at <http://www.plainscotton.org/agconferences.html>.