

RMA Announces 2015 STAX/SCO Final County Yields

Friday, July 15, 2016 by Shawn Wade

The USDA Risk Management Agency released the 2015 Upland Cotton county yields that will be used to calculate final county revenue amounts and 2015 Stacked Income Protection Plan (STAX) payment amounts for Upland Cotton.

Initial review of the yields reported for Texas indicates that 46 Texas counties should trigger STAX indemnity payments on participating irrigated acres and 56 counties are expected to trigger non-irrigated STAX payments for the 2015 crop year. This count is determined based on STAX coverage purchased with a 90 percent revenue trigger.

A grower's final STAX indemnity payment will be determined based on that individual's selected revenue trigger, coverage band and the STAX protection factor. Growers could elect revenue trigger points from 75-90 percent, coverage bands ranging from 5-20 percent of the county's expected revenue amount, and a protection factor between 0.8 – 1.2.

On the Texas High Plains, only one county, Deaf Smith, in PCG's 41-county service area appears to have met the 90 percent revenue trigger point on non-irrigated cotton. Based on the figures provided by USDA RMA the calculated STAX payment rate for Deaf Smith non-irrigated cotton would be \$20.63 per acre using a 1.0 protection factor. Growers electing to upgrade their STAX coverage with the maximum allowed 1.2 protection factor would see a maximum possible STAX payment of \$24.75.

On the irrigated side of the ledger, a total of seven PCG counties in the PCG service area are expected to trigger payments under the 2015 STAX policy. Those counties are: Andrews, Crosby, Dickens, Garza, Hale, Motley, and Parmer.

Irrigated payment rates in these counties calculated using the baseline 1.0 protection factor would be: Andrews - \$60.03, Crosby - \$37.31, Dickens - \$42.68, Garza - \$5.53, Hale - \$8.59, Motley - \$63.65, and Parmer - \$17.71. The range of payment rates indicates the variability in irrigated yields across these counties.

The maximum potential STAX irrigated payment rates in these counties calculated using the 1.2 protection factor would be: Andrews - \$72.04, Crosby - \$44.78, Dickens - \$51.21, Garza - \$6.63, Hale - \$10.30, Motley - \$76.38, and Parmer - \$21.25.

Statewide baseline STAX payment rates using the 1.0 protection factor ranged from a low of \$5.53 in Garza County to a high of \$179.97 in La Salle County on irrigated cotton. Dryland cotton payment rates ranged from a low of \$1.19 in McCulloch County to a high of \$104.70 in Bowie County.

For additional information about STAX yields, final revenue or payment amounts or calculated final revenue amounts for counties in the PCG service area, feel free to contact the PCG office at 806-792-4904.

Promotional Code Activated for Celebrate Cotton Game Tickets

Friday, July 15, 2016

By Mary Jane Buerkle

Those in the cotton industry who want to see the Texas Tech Red Raiders take on Louisiana Tech in the Celebrate Cotton game on Saturday, September 17, at Jones AT&T Stadium in Lubbock have a special promotional code to purchase tickets to that game.

Be sure you have your game tickets by visiting <http://bit.ly/TTUCottonGameTickets> and entering COTTON16, or calling the Texas Tech Ticket Office at (806) 742-TECH (8324) and asking for the Cotton Game special pricing.

Individual tickets start at just \$25 each with the promo code, and the game time is at 6 p.m. Season tickets also are still available for purchase.

PCG has proudly partnered with Texas Tech Athletics to establish this fun event that puts the High Plains cotton industry on a national stage. Cotton will be everywhere before and throughout the game, from displays around the stadium to promotion, special graphics and fun cotton facts during the game.

Special gameday T-shirts, sponsored by PCG and Scarborough Specialties, will be distributed (first-come, first-serve!) and cotton bales will line each entrance to the stadium, each with signage talking about what the cotton in that bale can make or how it impacts our economy. Farmers Cooperative Compress assists with providing the bales.

The Celebrate Cotton Runway Show, featuring cotton products, will be at 1 p.m. Saturday, September 10, at South Plains Mall. Sponsorships are available for that event.

Partners for Celebrate Cotton include AgTexas Farm Credit Services, Bayer CropScience, Cavender's, City Bank, Crop Production Services, Deltapine, Eco-Drip, Netafim, Hurst Farm Supply, and Wylie Implement and Spray Centers. Partnerships are still available; contact PCG for more information.

Several additional cotton-related activities are scheduled during Cotton Game week.

The Texas Cotton Association will host their Flow Meeting Thursday and Friday, September 15 and 16, at the Overton Hotel and Conference Center.

They also will partner with the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and the Texas Independent Ginners Association to host the "Teeing Off for Cotton Week" scholarship golf tournament on Thursday, September 15, at The Rawls Course.

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference will be Tuesday, September 13.

If you have an event to add to Cotton Game week, or for more information on any of these events, please call PCG at (806) 792-4904 or email maryjane@plainscotton.org. Spread the word! Let's make this game another huge success for cotton!

DEADLINE to sign up for the Cotton Ginning Cost-Share Program is August 5!

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For additional information contact PCG at 806-792-4904*