

Texas High Plains Cotton Harvest Begins

Friday, September 30, 2016

By Mary Jane Buerkle

The 2016 High Plains cotton harvest is officially under way, as a few gins have reported processing their first bales of cotton.

After a relatively wet beginning and middle of September for much of the PCG service area, warmer temperatures and sunny skies have paved the way for growers to begin spraying defoliants.

A valuable resource for producers considering harvest-aid applications is the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's 2016 High Plains Cotton Harvest-Aid Guide, which recently was made available. A link to the guide is at <http://www.plainscotton.org>.

December futures were trading between 67 and 68 cents at press time, after recording slight gains last week.

Last Chance to Comment on Atrazine/Propazine

Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016

From National Sorghum Producers

October 4 is the last day to submit comments regarding the re-registration of atrazine, propazine and simazine. If the Environmental Protection Agency continues to use the same false logic or endpoints as noted in the preliminary assessment, atrazine would be rendered useless in controlling weeds on 90 percent of the acres in the U.S.—effectively eliminating the product. Learn more or comment directly at <http://sorghumgrowers.com/sorghumalert/>.

Cotton Board Releases 2015 Annual Report

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

From The Cotton Board

The Cotton Board's 2015 Annual Report is now available online. To download the report, visit: <http://www.cottonboard.org/about/annual-report/>.

The report offers a letter from California cotton producer, Aaron Barcellos, who served as Cotton Board's 2015 chairman. In Barcello's letter he says, "The objectives of the Cotton Research and Promotion Program are to strengthen cotton's competitive position and to maintain and expand domestic and foreign markets and uses for cotton by developing, funding, and implementing a coordinated plan of research and promotion. The Cotton Board is responsible for providing strategic leadership and oversight of the economic resources devoted to the Program."

The report features 2015 budget/financial information as well as Cotton Board highlights from the year. Also, a listing of The Cotton Board's Members and Alternates is included.

The Cotton Board's annual report is electronic in an effort to save money and paper. However, if you would prefer to receive a copy of the report in paper or DVD format, please contact Stacey Gorman at sgorman@cottonboard.org or (870) 226-1445.

Improved Decision-Making Is "Beltwide" Goal

Friday, Sept. 23, 2016

From the National Cotton Council

Those planning to attend the 2017 Beltwide Cotton Conferences, set for January 4-6 at the Hyatt Regency Dallas Hotel in Dallas, TX, now can register and make hotel reservations. Information regarding those arrangements is on the BWCC website at www.cotton.org/beltwide/. That site also includes the preliminary online program and general information about the BWCC.

Registration costs before December 16 for the NCC-coordinated forum are: \$200 for NCC/Cotton Foundation members, university and USDA researchers, Extension personnel, associations and consultants; \$400 for non-NCC/Foundation members; and \$80 for students.

On-site conference self-registration kiosks will be available 24 hours a day beginning on the evening of January 3. Beginning on the morning of January 4, NCC staff will be available for attendees needing assistance with registration and name badge printing.

The 2017 BWCC will begin at noon on January 4 with a luncheon available to all registered BWCC attendees followed by a half-day Cotton Consultants Conference that will focus on topics of interest selected by a panel of consultants. Also covered in the consultants' conference will be new developments from industry, including reports on new varieties, chemistries and emerging technologies. All registered attendees may attend the consultants' conference.

The call for papers that was sent to previous BWCC attendees in August already has generated responses from a number of potential presenters. Those interested in making a presentation at the BWCC have until October 16 to submit either an oral or poster presentation request.

For 2017, the cotton agronomy, physiology, and soil groups have combined their resources and are holding one conference with multiple sessions. Some topics of interest submitted for this conference are a highly comprehensive simulation model of cotton physiology, nitrogen management for subsurface drip-irrigated cotton, and quality/yield evaluation trials across the Cotton Belt. Weed management strategies will again be covered, and entomologists will provide updates on the latest research with regard to several classes of insecticides.

The cotton technical conferences, ranging from agronomy to weed science, will meet concurrently beginning on the morning of January 5 and conclude by noon on January 6.

The Beltwide Cotton Conferences annually brings together those with a stake in a healthy U.S. cotton production sector, university and USDA researchers, Extension personnel/agents, consultants, and industry sales/support personnel.

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