

National Cotton Council Schedules Webinars About New Seed Cotton Program

Friday, February 16, 2018 Information from NCC
The National Cotton Council has scheduled regional conference calls and webinars designed to help U.S. cotton industry members learn more about the new provision for upland cotton recently enacted by Congress. Seed Cotton now is defined as a covered commodity eligible for Title I ARC and PLC programs in the 2014 Farm Bill for the 2018 crop year.

Calls and webinars for Texas include (all times Central):

Monday, February 19 - South Texas, Rolling Plains, Southern Rolling Plains, St. Lawrence, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 20 - High Plains/West Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Those interested in this date and time may watch on their own or may gather at the PCCA Delegate Body Room at 3301 E. 50th St., or the PCG office at 4517 West Loop 289 for the webinar.

Monday, February 26 - All States, 10:00-11:30 a.m. PCG also will serve as a host for this webinar for those interested.

Information will be provided on the provisions of the Seed Cotton program including examples of support levels under various price scenarios and examples of generic base conversion options. In addition, updates on the new farm bill will be provided. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of each session.

To participate, call either one of the conference lines below:

- Dial- in number: 1-800-377-8846
Participation Code: 19679613#
- Dial- in number: 1-800-220-9875
Participation Code: 83107462#

Select one of the four webinar links below. If you encounter problems with participation, please select one of the other three links. **If you watch on your own, please be sure you have Adobe Connect installed on your computer.**

Webinar links:

- <https://cotton.adobeconnect.com/seedcotton/>
- <https://cotton.adobeconnect.com/seedcotton2/>
- <https://cotton.adobeconnect.com/seedcotton3/>
- <https://cotton.adobeconnect.com/seedcotton4/>

If either the conference call or webinar link is at capacity, please select an alternate line or link. Questions will be taken at the end of the webinar in the chat section of the webinar or by audio on the conference line. As there is a limit on the number of participants per webinar, organizations, gins, etc. are urged to sponsor group participation.

A summary of the program can be found at <http://www.cotton.org/econ/govprograms/upload/Seed-Cotton-Summary-Feb-15-2018.pdf>. For more information, call the National Cotton Council, (901) 274-9030, or PCG, (806) 792-4904.

Want the facts about the U.S. agriculture and farm policy?

<http://www.farmpolicyfacts.org>

PCG's Craft, Holladay Named to Key NCC Leadership Positions

February 16, 2018 From the National Cotton Council
Ron Craft, a cotton producer and fifth-generation ginner from Plains, Texas, was elected National Cotton Council chairman for 2018.

Named during the NCC's 2018 annual meeting held in Fort Worth, Texas on February 9-11, Craft succeeds Ronnie Lee, a cotton producer from Bronwood, Georgia.

Active in many state and national farm and gin organizations, Craft has held numerous other NCC leadership positions. Among those are director, chairman of the Packaging and Distribution Committee, and member of the Executive Committee, Cotton Flow Committee and Quality Task Force.

Craft also was chairman of the National Cotton Ginners' Association in 2017, after serving as its president in 2016. He is a member and past president of the Plains Ginners, Texas Independent Ginners and Texas Cotton Ginners associations. He also is the secretary and treasurer of the Yoakum County Farm Bureau and serves on the board of Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

Craft, the owner of New-Tex Gin Company in Plains, also is a co-owner of Lov-Cot Warehouse in Lubbock. He is a graduate of the Texas Law Enforcement Academy and a sergeant for the Yoakum County Sheriff's Department. He is treasurer of First Baptist Church in Plains. He has two sons, Landon of Midland and Brandon of Lubbock.

The NCC's vice chairman for 2018 is Mike Tate, a Huntsville, Ala., cotton producer. Re-elected as NCC vice presidents for 2018 are: Kent Fountain, ginner, Surrency, Ga.; Robert Lacy, Jr, cottonseed processor, Lubbock, Texas; Coalter Paxton, III, warehouseman, Wilson, N.C.; Kevin Brinkley, marketing cooperative executive, Lubbock, Texas; Joe Nicosia, merchant, Cordova, Tenn.; and David Hastings, textile manufacturer, Mauldin, S.C. Re-elected as secretary-treasurer is Barry Evans, a producer from Kress, Texas.

Shawn Holladay of Lubbock, Texas, was elected as chairman of the American Cotton Producers of the National Cotton Council for 2018 during the NCC's annual meeting. Currently a NCC director, he has chaired the ACP's Farm Policy Task Force and served on various other ACP and NCC committees and task forces.

Elected as ACP vice chairmen were Jason Condrey of Lake Providence, La., Dan Thelander of Maricopa, Ariz.; and Neal Isbell of Muscle Shoals, Alabama.

Elected as ACP producer directors were James Jones of Windsor, Va., representing the Southeast region; Patrick Johnson of Tunica, Miss., representing the Mid-South; Doyle Schniers of San Angelo, Texas, representing the Southwest; and Mark McKean, Riverdale, Calif.; representing the Far West. Shawn Holladay, Lubbock, Texas, was re-elected to serve as the ACP's at-large director.

SAVE THE DATE!

April 5-6

Texas Cotton Ginners Association Annual Conference and Trade Show, Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

April 6

PCG Annual Meeting, LMCC

September 15

Celebrate Cotton Game, Texas Tech vs. Houston, Jones AT&T Stadium

2018 PCG Seed Cost Calculator Now Available

Friday, February 16, 2018

By Mary Jane Buerkle

The 2018 version of the Plains Cotton Growers, Inc. Seed Cost Calculator is ready and available for download from the PCG website at <http://www.plainscotton.org>.

The PCG seed cost calculator is an interactive Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that allows producers to calculate an estimated cost per acre, for both seed and technology, based on published suggested retail prices.

The calculator has become a popular tool among producers interested in comparing seed and technology prices as they work to finalize their cotton variety selections.

The 2018 version of the spreadsheet includes recently updated listings for 116 conventional, Roundup Ready FLEX, XtendFlex, GlyTol, Bollgard II, TwinLink, Enlist and Widestrike varieties, including numerous stacked gene versions of these technologies that will be available for sale in West Texas in 2018.

Questions about the seed cost calculator can be directed to Shawn Wade at (806) 792-4904 or shawn@plainscotton.org.

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Mandatory Auxin-Specific Herbicide Trainings Scheduled for Dicamba Applicators

The Texas Department of Agriculture requires special training in 2018 for new auxin herbicides applied under a Section 3 approval on dicamba-tolerant cotton.

A partial list of upcoming trainings is as follows:

February 20 – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Terry County, 209 S. 5th St., **Brownfield**, Noon-1 p.m.

February 20 – 287 Steakhouse, **Dumas** (sponsored by Sanders), 10 a.m.

February 21 – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Hockley County, **Levelland**, 9-10 a.m.

February 21 – **Littlefield** Show Barn, 1-2 p.m.

February 22 – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Cochran County, **Morton**, 10-11 a.m.

February 20 – Parmer County Extension Office, **Bovina**, 10 a.m.

February 22 – Crosbyton Library, **Crosbyton**, 9 a.m.

February 26 – CPS, **Fieldton**, Noon

February 27 – Bailey County Extension Office, **Muleshoe**, 10 a.m.

February 27 – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office - Lubbock County, 916 Main Street, Suite 401, **Lubbock**. 10-11 a.m.

February 27 – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Yoakum County, 901 Avenue G, **Plains**, Noon-1 p.m.

February 28 – Lynn County *English Version WPS*, BE Implement, **Tahoka**, 10 a.m.

February 28 – Lynn County *English Version Auxin*, BE Implement, **Tahoka**, 11 a.m.

February 28 – Lynn County *Spanish Version WPS*, BE Implement, **Tahoka**, 12:30 p.m.

February 28 – Lynn County *Spanish Version Auxin*, BE Implement, **Tahoka**, 1:30 p.m.

There is no registration fee on any of these training programs and each class will provide one TDA continuing education unit in laws and regulations. A complete list is available at <http://www.plainscotton.org/agconferences.html>.

Texas Cotton Ginners Association Annual Conference and Trade Show Set for April 5-6

Friday, Feb. 16, 2018 From Texas Cotton Ginners Association “Texas... Where King Cotton Reigns” has been chosen for the Texas Cotton Ginners Association’s Cotton Trade Show theme in 2018.

With many gins coming off back to back high-volume years, look for Texas gins to gear up for another good crop in 2018. Crops like the current one certainly will have gin managers thinking about how they can increase their capacity and process future crops more efficiently. The gin show continues to provide a venue under one roof where ginners can come together, share ideas and plot for the upcoming gin season.

All TCGA Annual Meeting & Cotton Trade Show information is available at www.tcga.org, providing easy access to event information, hotel reservations, meeting pre-registration and event forms. The Overton Hotel and Conference Center located on Mac Davis Lane again will serve as the host hotel.

Only a few booth spaces remain open for the 2018 show in the pedestrian mall area. Those interested in being an exhibitor should call TCGA at (512) 476-8388.

Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., will host their annual meeting at 9 a.m. Friday, April 6, in conjunction with the show. For more information, contact PCG at (806) 792-4904.

Editor's Note:

“Cotton News”, a weekly service of Plains Cotton Growers to the cotton industry and news media in the 41-county High Plains area, is mailed from Lubbock each Friday. Its contents are confined to news items and comments pertaining to the High Plains cotton industry which is so vital to U.S. all. Anyone interested in making comments about the contents of this column can call 806-792-4904 or Email PCG at: editor@plainscotton.org