

AgriLife Extension Posts 2019 Hailout/Replant/Late Plant Guide

Thursday, June 13, 2019 by Susan Himes, AgriLife TODAY

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service's 17th annual guide, "2019 Alternative Crop Options after Failed Cotton and Late-Season Crop Planting for the Texas South Plains," is now available online at <https://tinyurl.com/yymbpbbo>.

"The annual guide is a 'first things' approach to helping farmers who have lost crops or have been unable to plant," said author Dr. Calvin Trostle, AgriLife Extension agronomist, Lubbock.

A variety of wild weather conditions affected many Texas producers this year and, in some areas, delayed planting or wiped out entire crops. The updated late-planting guide is geared toward the South Plains but contains helpful information for adjacent regions.

"Whether to keep a field of young cotton that may have excessive damage is a tough choice," said Dr. Murilo Maeda, AgriLife Extension cotton specialist, Lubbock, who contributed to the updated guide. "Sometimes we need to wait a week to know for sure if we have a keeper."

The guide draws on Trostle's 20-plus years as an agronomist in West Texas and answers questions about replanting and late-planting options, including the last recommended planting dates for several potential crops.

"We always hope the annual replanting guide is not needed, but the frequency of damaging storms and winds in the Texas South Plains on vulnerable cotton seedlings unfortunately means farmers face undue risk until the crop is well established," said Trostle.

The guide has three primary goals:

- Offer guidelines for crop replant options after failed crops, especially cotton.
- Assist with late-season planting decisions where timely planting, duration to crop maturity and fall weather risks may impact successful cropping.
- Provide contractor contact information as well as recent approximate pricing, particularly for crops where price is fixed at contract signing.

"As planting season drags on in the South Plains, severe weather has producers in the area scrambling to sand fight, plant and replant cotton," Maeda said. "Unfortunately, many early planted acres that were looking great have been damaged by hail, blowing sand and standing water. While we are pretty late already for planting or replanting cotton in many parts of the Panhandle, the Lubbock area is not too far out either."

Cotton stands damaged by hail and sand may survive and have good yield potential, but producers need to account for the delay in early season growth caused by such damage, and weigh that against a new planting, Maeda said.

"As we know all too well, season length along with water availability are the main limiting factors in the region," said Maeda. "Although we are not necessarily recommending folks plant/replant cotton at this point in time, those producers considering replanting (or planting since some did not have enough time to cover all their acres), should choose varieties that are as early as possible. This is to try to minimize possible end-of-season problems with fiber quality, in case of an early freeze and/or lack of heat unit accumulation, which are fairly common."

Updates, changes and additions to the guide from the two previous editions include:

- Added comments on cotton variety selection, growth and regrowth after hail damage, and targeting late-season uniformity across the field.
- Updated online chemical label look-up information.
- Added comments about replant and late-plant options for organic cropping.
- Cautions about replanting grain sorghum and other crops behind cotton if dicamba has been applied.
- An update on sugarcane aphid and possible implications for grain sorghum in the South Plains.
- Links to grain sorghum hybrids that express aphid tolerance.
- Reporting of recent research that suggests hybrid pearl millet is a poor host of sugarcane aphid and a possible alternative forage option to sorghum family forages.
- Proso millet for grain is now included as a potential short-season alternative crop for late planting.

Additional AgriLife Extension guides and resources covering a wide range of crop and pest issues related to the South Plains may be found at <https://lubbock.tamu.edu/>.

PCCA's Brinkley Named to USDA Agricultural Trade Advisory Committee

Friday, June 14, 2019

By Mary Jane Buerkle

USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue and United States Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer announced earlier this week that Kevin Brinkley, President and CEO of Plains Cotton Cooperative Association, has been appointed to the Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton, and Peanuts.

Brinkley is one of 140 private-sector members announced to one of seven agricultural trade advisory committees. Gary Adams, President and CEO of the National Cotton Council, was named to the Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee.

"Trade is the lifeblood of the cotton industry," Brinkley said. "My goal in serving on the ATAC is to provide a voice for the southwestern United States cotton industry to Secretary Perdue and Ambassador Lighthizer as they develop trade policy and strategies for American agriculture."

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According to a news release from the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service, Congress established the advisory committee system in 1974 to ensure that U.S. agricultural trade policy objectives reflect U.S. public- and private-sector commercial and economic interests. USDA and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative jointly manage the committees.

The appointees will serve until June 15, 2023, and the committees will be supplemented by additional appointments over the next four years. Individuals are encouraged to apply for committee membership at any time and applications will be reviewed periodically. More information about the committees is available at <https://www.fas.usda.gov/topics/trade-advisory-committees>.

“It’s a privilege to be a part of this group,” Brinkley said. “I greatly appreciate the support of Plains Cotton Growers in the selection process.”

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Cotton Industry Seeks Volunteer Leaders

Friday, June 14, 2019

By Shawn Wade

The success of the High Plains cotton industry, like any group effort, is directly tied to the willingness of qualified individuals to volunteer to serve in various leadership positions. To identify these volunteers, the High Plains cotton industry caucuses each year with other cotton groups within Texas to identify producers interested in serving as a volunteer leader.

PCG encourages all qualified individuals interested in representing the High Plains as a representative to the Cotton Board, National Cotton Council, or Cotton Incorporated to contact PCG Executive Vice President Steve Verett for more information.

Each year, a variety of volunteer positions within the NCC and Cotton Incorporated are filled directly through the industry’s caucus process. In addition to naming representatives to the NCC and Cotton Incorporated, PCG and the Texas cotton industry also work together to identify and nominate qualified individuals to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for possible appointment as a Member or Alternate on the Cotton Board.

Qualified individuals interested in serving on the Cotton Board, which oversees the highly successful U.S. Cotton Research & Promotion Program, also are encouraged to contact Verett at the PCG office in Lubbock to request additional information. PCG’s telephone number is 806-792-4904.

To be a qualified producer nominee for the Cotton Board, an individual should be actively engaged in cotton production at the time of nomination, be committed to the mission of the Cotton Board and the Cotton Research and Promotion Program and have demonstrated leadership skills and experience.

“Whether it is a nomination to serve on the Cotton Board or

appointment to a leadership position within the National Cotton Council or Cotton Incorporated, the membership of Plains Cotton Growers has proven to be fertile ground for leaders within our industry,” Verett said. “Our industry owes much to the dedicated men and women who step forward to serve their fellow producers. We look forward to extending that tradition of leadership in the years ahead.”

Editor’s Note: The Cotton Board seeks to promote diversity and ensure equal opportunity and inclusion for all those who qualify for nomination and appointment to the Cotton Board regardless of race, ethnicity, sex, disability, socio-economic status, religion or sexual orientation.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Perdue Speaks to Korean Textile Industry at Cotton Day

Friday, June 14, 2019

From Cotton Council International

Cotton Council International’s 18th annual Cotton Day in Seoul, Korea, gathered more than 200 representatives from the textile supply chain in an effort to increase demand for U.S. cotton through the value-added COTTON USA global marketing program. U.S. Agricultural Secretary Sonny Perdue gave a congratulatory speech about the great partnership between the U.S. cotton industry and the Korean textile industry. U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea Harry Harris also attended Cotton Day.

At Cotton Day Korea, CCI Executive Director Bruce Atherley presented COTTON USA’s global activities and an overview of the U.S. cotton industry. Plains Cotton Cooperative Association (PCCA) Export Sales Manager Carlos Garcia discussed major changes and prospects in the cotton market from an economic perspective. Textile expert Roger Gilmartin provided answers to the establishment of a systematic, low cost and high efficiency clothing supply chain.

On behalf of the more than 18,600 family cotton farms in the U.S., Marshall Hardwick, a 4th generation farmer at Hardwick Planting Company, announced the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, deemed a commitment to the present and future of America’s sustainable cotton industry.

Cotton Day Korea also featured a live model fashion presentation of the “WHAT’S NEW IN COTTON™ KOREA Project,” a first-time initiative to showcase COTTON USA-licensed spinners’ innovative U.S. cotton-rich fabrics and technology-concentrated cotton yarns.

Cotton Day presentations and the COTTON USA innovation initiative WHAT’S NEW IN COTTON™ resonated strongly with the manufacturer, brand and retailer participants.

Seven brands and retailers joined the COTTON USA licensing program after Cotton Day in order to label their products with the COTTON USA™ Mark. Additionally, sourcing and merchandising executives from North Face, a well-known global outdoor brand, requested to meet with COTTON USA as a result of Cotton Day Korea 2019.

The manufacturers that attended Cotton Day said that COTTON USA will help them persuade their customers of their yarn quality, traceability and sustainability.

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