

Farm Bill Meetings Scheduled in Lubbock, Seminole on August 28

Wednesday, August 21, 2019 From AgriLife TODAY
South Plains farmers will soon be making another farm bill decision, and the Texas A&M Agricultural Food Policy Center has developed an online tool to assist producers in their decision-making process.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has arranged two meetings for Wednesday, Aug. 28 to explain how to use the online tool. Joe Outlaw, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension economist and co-director of AFPC, College Station, will be speaking at both meetings.

There is no registration or fee for either meeting. For additional information, call Jackie Smith, AgriLife Extension economist in Lubbock, at 806-746-6101.

The first meeting will be at 9 a.m. in Seminole at the Gaines County Civic Building, 405 NW. 5th St. The second meeting will be at 2 p.m. in Lubbock at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center auditorium. The center is located north of the airport at 1102 E. Farm-to-Market Road 1294.

AgriLife Extension specialists also wanted to remind farmers that they still have time to go to their local U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency and sign up for FSA services, if they have not yet done so.

Upcoming Crop Tours and Field Days See the list at www.plainscotton.org

Southwest Council of Agribusiness Sets Annual Meeting for September 22-23 in Austin

Friday, August 23, 2019 From SWCA
The Southwest Council of Agribusiness has scheduled their Annual Meeting for September 22 and 23 at the historic Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel in Austin.

The event begins with a reception from 5-7 p.m. September 22 and the forum will be from 8 a.m. until noon on September 23. Speakers include Ray Starling, former USDA Chief of Staff and Advisor to President Donald Trump; U.S. Rep. Filemon Vela, who serves as the House Agriculture Committee's General Farm Commodities and Risk Management Subcommittee Chairman; U.S. Reps. Salud Carbajal, TJ Cox, and Jimmy Gomez; Matt Schertz, House Ag Committee Minority Staff Director; and Drs. Joe Outlaw and Bart Fischer, co-directors of the Agricultural and Food Policy Center.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact SWCA Executive Director Jimmy Clark at 806-790-6011 or jimmyclark@southwest-council.com. To join the SWCA hotel room block, call the historic Intercontinental Stephen F. Austin Hotel at 512-457-8800.

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Cotton Board Recommends \$86 Million Cotton Inc Budget to Secretary of Agriculture

August 2019 From The Cotton Board
During its Annual Meeting in Durham, North Carolina, The Cotton Board reviewed and voted to recommend Cotton Incorporated's proposed 2020 budget of \$86 million to the Secretary of Agriculture. This is a \$4 million increase from the 2019 budget.

The 2020 Cotton Incorporated plan and budget remains focused on several key, primary issues and addresses some immediate challenges in order to increase market share and restore long-term profitability to the industry. Top Program priorities include Sustainability, Agricultural Research, Cottonseed Value and Lint Contamination. The Agricultural and Environmental Research Department of Cotton Incorporated will receive the most substantial percentage budget increase, with a 12% increase in funding for 2020. The budget and plan, along with The Cotton Board's recommendation of approval, will be forwarded to the United States Department of Agriculture for final approval.

During its Business Session, The Cotton Board elected new officers to guide the Program, including Jeff Posey to serve as Chairman for the 2019/2020 Program year. Posey, a cotton producer from Roby, Texas commented on his election, saying, "I am honored to be serving as The Cotton Board's Chairman. My service on The Cotton Board has been one of the most educational and meaningful experiences of my life. Meeting farmers and importers from all over the U.S. has given me more wisdom and understanding of the cotton industry than I could have ever expected. I look forward to serving this industry and assisting The Cotton Board in achieving its mission of increasing the demand for and profitability of cotton." Posey is a fourth-generation cotton grower operating over five thousand acres in the Rolling Plains of Texas. Posey began serving on The Cotton Board in 2005 and is a 2010 High Cotton Award recipient.

Before passing the gavel to Posey, outgoing Chairman Peter McGrath, a cotton importer from Colorado, said, "Jeff has a distinguished record of service to the cotton industry. He consistently tackles challenges with great character, thoughtfulness, and determination and I know he'll do the same as he leads our Program."

The full slate of newly elected Cotton Board officers is as follows: Jeff Posey, Producer from Roby, Texas, Chairman; Jimmy Webb, Producer from Leary, Georgia, Vice Chairman; Sonja Chapman, Importer from Boonton, New Jersey, Secretary; Mark Nichols, Producer from Altus, Oklahoma, Treasurer.

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Plains Ginners Association Sets Annual Meeting, Golf Tournament for August 29

Friday, August 23, 2019

By Mary Jane Buerkle

Plains Ginners Association will host their Annual Meeting on Thursday, August 29, at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture in Lubbock.

Registration for the meeting begins at 7:30 a.m., and the program begins shortly after 8 a.m. Speakers include U.S. Rep. Jodey Arrington; Bill Beam, USDA Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs; Greg Holt, USDA Gin Lab; Dr. Gary Adams, National Cotton Council; and Douglas Conley, Action Visa Assistance, LLC, who will discuss the H2-A Program. Lunch will be served at noon.

Association dues are \$25 annually, and members are encouraged to bring a dues check or mail it to Plains Ginners Association, P.O. Box 25, Ropesville, TX 79358.

Please RSVP for lunch to Dava Robinson at Plains Cotton Growers by Thursday, August 22, by calling (806) 792-4904 or emailing dava@plainscotton.org. For more information on the meeting, call Willis Taubert at (806) 292-0242.

Registration for the golf tournament begins at 1:30 p.m., with a shotgun start at 2 p.m. at Meadowbrook Golf Course, 601 Municipal Drive in Lubbock. To sign up for the golf tournament, call Darryl Dawson at (806) 763-4371 or email darryl.dawson@adm.com.

Sponsors include Allenberg Cotton Company; BC Supply; Cape and Son; Caprock Metal Works; Cargill Cotton; Farmers Cooperative Compress; Fiber Brite; Goetz Fibers; Hi-Plains Bag & Bagging Co.; Indeco Products, Inc.; K-Link; KS Supplies Inc.; Kimbell Gin Machinery; L.P. Brown Company; Lone Star Bearing; Lone Star Commodities; Lubbock Electric; Lummus Corporation; Module Truck Systems; Olam Cotton Co.; Plains Cotton Cooperative Association; Penny Nieman Co.; Plains Cotton Growers; PYCO Industries; RSM Company; Samuel Jackson, Inc.; Samuel Strapping Systems; Southern Cotton Oil Co.; Stover Equipment Co.; T J Beall Co.; Telmark, Inc.; Texas Agribusiness Insurance; Texas Cotton Ginners Trust; Titan Trucking; Triangle Insurance Co.; Trinity Compress; W&R Industrial Servicing, Inc.; and Windmark Insurance Agency.

West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute Annual Conference Set for September 11

Pre-Registration Deadline is August 31

Friday, August 23, 2019

From WTACI

The West Texas Agricultural Chemicals Institute will host their annual conference on Wednesday, Sept. 11, at the Bayer Museum of Agriculture, located at 1121 Canyon Lake Drive in Lubbock.

This year represents the 67th meeting of WTACI, an unincorporated organization of dealers, industry representatives, agricultural producers, scientists, educators, and agribusiness members who support education and research programs promoting safe and effective use of agricultural chemicals and protection and preservation of the area's natural resources.

Topics to be discussed at the conference include ag and regulatory policy, pest management, crop protection research, the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, crop management challenges, and weed management issues. A detailed list of presentations and speakers soon will be available at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu>.

The conference is approved for 6 CCA credits, and 6 Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) CEUs are pending at this time.

Pre-registration is available online at <http://wtaci.tamu.edu/Registration.html>. On-line registration fees are \$75 for conference attendees and must be completed or postmarked by August 31. Booth fees start at \$300. On-site registration will begin at 7 a.m. the day of the conference and will cost \$95 for attendees and \$325 for booth sponsors. Lunch will be provided as part of the registration fee.

Opportunities also exist to contribute to the WTACI Scholarship Fund, which has provided more than \$60,000 in scholarships to students majoring in agricultural fields at many Texas universities.

Contact Shawn Wade at (806) 792-4904 or shawn@plainscotton.org for questions about the program and CEU's. If you have trouble or questions regarding registration contact David Pointer, 806-746-4021 or dlpointer@ag.tamu.edu.

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COTTON USA Promotes U.S. Mills and Regional Licensees at Colombiamoda

August 2019

From Cotton Council International

Cotton Council International showcased WHAT'S NEW IN COTTON™, with a focus on innovative U.S. cotton-rich products from Latin American COTTON USA™ licensees, at its booth at Colombiamoda in Medellin. CCI featured new product developments from Liztex, Textufil, Disex, Toptex and Fabricato, which attracted attention from the booth visitors.

To reinforce awareness of COTTON USA in the regional textile industry, CCI handed out 8,000 information packets about the COTTON USA Sourcing Program and its 13 U.S. mill participants to visitors during the three-day fair.

In addition, CCI organized a sustainability panel with Procolombia on the second day of the show. CCI showed several COTTON USA videos focusing on U.S. cotton's sustainability. Representatives from the following four companies spoke on the panel: Color Siete, Fabricato, CI Jeans and Crystal. Ten buyers from Belgium and the United States attended the panel, including Tory Burch, Venus, LAT Apparel and Vineyard Vines.

Colombiamoda had 27,200 visitors and 500 exhibitors and 11,800 buyers in attendance. Some 88% of the buyers were domestic, and 12% came from 40 countries, mainly Ecuador, Mexico, the United States and Peru.

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