

Texas Tech Ag Day – September 7

Plains Cotton Growers will team up again with Capital Farm Credit on Saturday, September 7, beginning at 4 p.m. for a tailgate event at the Capital Farm Credit tailgating area near the northwest entrance to Jones AT&T Stadium. PCG members are invited to attend.

Tickets to the game are available at www.texastech.com with a special promo code – AGDAY19 – for \$15. Tickets also can be obtained at the Texas Tech Ticket Office on the east side of Jones AT&T Stadium or by calling 806-742-TECH. Texas Tech will host the University of Texas-El Paso. Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

The College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech will host a tailgate area west of the stadium where the auditorium/coliseum was located. Those festivities begin at 3 p.m.

Texas High Plains Growers Prepare for Harvest; First Bale Delivered in Gaines County

Summer has come and gone, and harvest is on the horizon, but August's intense heat advanced a once-late cotton crop to maturity very quickly.

At today's Friday Morning Meeting, hosted by PCG, growers reported that much if not most of the crop is at cutout on both irrigated and dryland acreage, which is about right for this time of year. However, what isn't typical is how fast the heat units accumulated after a late start, which could affect lint development and possibly quality, such as shorter staple length and higher micronaire. Some growers will begin applying defoliant next week in preparation for harvest.

The first bale on the Texas High Plains already has been stripped and the cotton was delivered on Monday, September 2, at 5:05 p.m., according to information provided by the Seminole Area Chamber of Commerce. Growers are Duwane & Bonnie Billings, and the farm is located one mile south of Seagraves in Gaines County. The cotton will be ginned at Oasis Gin and the variety is NexGen 4689 B2XF.

Adding to growers' concerns is a market that continues to languish at under 60 cents. At closing on Friday, December futures were trading at 58.58.

"I don't know which one's worse to look at – the cotton crop or the market," Dawson County grower Jeremy Brown said. "When the market is like this, we're hoping for an above average yield, but I just don't see it."

Growers now can sign up for the second round of the Market Facilitation Program, announced earlier this summer but signups have been delayed due to some software issues with the Farm Service Agency. Those have been fixed.

"This is a humbling year for a farmer," Brown said. "We've spent all this money thinking we were going to have a crop. I'm thankful for this MFP payment. It is extremely valuable to us right now."

Upcoming Crop Tours and Field Days

See the list at www.plainscotton.org

TAWC to Host Field Day September 12

The Texas Alliance for Water Conservation will host their 14th Annual TAWC Field Day on Thursday, September 12, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Floyd County Unity Center located on 990 FM 786 in Muncy. This event is free of charge and lunch will be served, sponsored by Double B Crop Insurance, Zimmatic, and Trellis. Four CCA and 3 TDA CEUs will be offered.

Presentations will include: Producer Perspective: Water Management Efficiency Technologies & Cotton Sustainability; Balancing Conservation & Property Rights: Groundwater Law & Policy Update; Grazing Options for Rainfed and Reduced Irrigation Scenarios; Policy Changes, Trade Wars, and Markets; Upcoming Weather Trends and Conditions; Texas Water Development Board Update; and Incorporating New Technologies Into On Farm Research.

For a full agenda and more information, visit <http://www.tawc.us>.

Indonesian Textile Mills Expect to Purchase More U.S. Cotton Thanks to COTTON USA Special Trade Mission

Friday, August 30, 2019 From Cotton Council International
Eighteen cotton buyers from Indonesian textile mills, along with two leaders of the Indonesian Textile Association, attended the 2019 COTTON USA Special Trade Mission. The group visited six stops throughout the Cotton Belt to learn more about the seven segments of the U.S. cotton industry and to meet with U.S. cotton leaders.

The Mission educated the group on the many advantages of U.S. cotton and developed business relationships between the foreign trade and U.S. cotton industry to help increase business opportunities. After the event, the participants said they expect to purchase an additional 194,000 bales of U.S. cotton in the next year because of their participation.

The Mission began in New York where the group met with ICE Futures, followed by a stop in Raleigh, where it visited Cotton Incorporated and toured their research labs. Afterwards, the group traveled west, stopping in Memphis to visit a USDA classing office and to meet with the National Cotton Council and representatives of the local growing region.

Later, the Mission traveled to South Texas, visiting a farm and gin and seeing some of the first cotton being harvested in the United States. The group then traveled to Lubbock and finished its tour in California where it met with representatives of the local growing regions as well as Supima.