

PCCA Announces 2020-2021 Officers

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 From PCCA
Plains Cotton Cooperative Association (PCCA) announced today that the Board of Directors elected New Home, Texas, producer Dahlen Hancock as Chairman of the Board. The board elected Springlake, Texas, grower Lexie Fennell as Vice Chairman.

Eddie Smith (Floydada, Texas) has served on PCCA's board since 1986 and was board chairman beginning in 2004. Smith remains on the board representing PCCA's District 4.

"It's been a privilege to serve as chairman for the past 16 years. The time was right for a new chairman to help guide PCCA into the future. I look forward to Dahlen's leadership of our board," Smith said of the transition.

Hancock, a fourth-generation producer, has represented PCCA's District 7 since 2016. He has served as a director and chairman of New Home Co-op Gin; Lubbock County Business Director for Plains Cotton Growers; past chairman of Cotton Incorporated; and past president and chairman of Cotton Council International. He's also a National Cotton Council delegate, serving on the organization's U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol board and was a member of the first class of the NCC's Policy Education Program in 1999.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve PCCA as Chairman of the Board. Through Cotton Incorporated and Cotton Council International, I have had the opportunity to see cotton's global value chain firsthand. That perspective should be helpful in guiding our cooperative toward creating maximum value for its members," Hancock said.

"We want to thank Eddie Smith for his strong leadership of our board. His steady hand has helped PCCA maintain its focus on serving our grower-owners and customers."

The board re-elected other officers, including Kevin Brinkley, President and Chief Executive Officer, Sam Hill, Treasurer, and Greg Bell, Corporate Secretary.

Founded in 1953, PCCA is a marketing cooperative owned by farmers in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and New Mexico dedicated to supplying sustainably-grown, high-quality cotton fiber worldwide. In addition to cotton marketing based in Lubbock, Texas, PCCA also owns cotton warehouse facilities in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas and develops and offers software programs and networks to local co-op gins that help add value to their grower-owners' cotton.

Farm Stress: Help and Hope

<https://pcca.com/farm-stress-help-and-hope/>

REMINDER: USDA Announces October 30 Deadline to Submit WHIP+ Applications

October 9, 2020 From USDA
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced recently that NEXT **Friday, October 30, 2020** as the **deadline to submit applications** for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program – Plus (WHIP+) for 2018 and 2019 losses. USDA did not originally specify a deadline when the program was announced.

Producers who have not yet applied for the WHIP+ program are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment prior to October 30.

WHIP+ compensates producers for losses due to hurricane, floods, snowstorms, tornadoes, typhoon, volcanic activity, drought, excessive moisture, and wildfires occurring in calendar years 2018 and 2019. Drought and excessive moisture were added as eligible losses for the program in March 2020.

For more information or application assistance, visit <https://www.farmers.gov/recover/whip-plus> or contact your local USDA Service Center.

NRCS Announces 2021 Deadline for Conservation Assistance Funding

October 21, 2020 From NRCS
The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Texas has announced the first funding application deadline of December 4, 2020, for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). A second funding application deadline will be February 12, 2021.

Applications are taken year around for NRCS programs, but deadlines are announced to rank and fund eligible conservation projects. Producers interested in signing up for EQIP should submit applications to their local USDA service center. If already a USDA client, a producer can submit applications online via Farmers.gov.

EQIP is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers. Technical assistance is provided without a fee from NRCS specialists to help landowners and land managers plan and implement conservation practices to help them meet their land management goals, address natural resource concerns and improve soil, water, plant, animal, air, and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland.

For additional information visit the NRCS Texas website at www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov. Applications for EQIP are accepted on a continuous basis. Producers interested in EQIP can contact their [local USDA service center](#) or visit our [NRCS EQIP web page](#).