

April 23, 2021

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H.B. 2089 Receives Favorable Vote by Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee

Friday, April 23, 2021 By Whitney Curry

On Monday, April 19, 2021 PCGs Vice President of Operations and Legislative Affairs Kody Bessent testified before the Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee in favor of H.B. 2089, relating to the detection and mitigation of plant pest and diseases. The bill was favorably passed out of committee by a vote of 9-0. The bill has now been placed on the Notice of Intent calendar, until it is referred for floor debate in the Senate as a Whole.

If enacted, this legislation would establish an early plant pests and disease detection and mitigation system through cooperative agreements with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and institutions of higher education. The bill authorizes a full range of activities, including field inspection for early detection before the invasive species becomes established or becomes too large and costly to eradicate or control.

Early detection of plant pests and disease will allow for better containment to slow the spread of an invasive organism or species, which will allow for timely biological control methods, research and development of resistant seed varieties, and the ability to identify better management practices in order to contain the issue before it becomes more widespread in the state. One example this legislation would help with is combating Fusarium wilt race 4 (FOV4) in cotton.

Plains Cotton Growers is very appreciative of the Senate Water, Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Chairman, Senator Charles Perry (R-Lubbock) for taking up the initiative in the Senate and we look forward to full adoption of the legislation in the coming week.

Swisher County Spring Ag Meeting – April 29

Thursday, April 15, 2021 By Kay Ledbetter

The Swisher County Spring Ag Meeting hosted by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service has been set for Thursday, April 29 at the Swisher County Show Barn, 2.5 miles northeast of Tulia off County Road 16.

The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. The fee is \$10, and the program will conclude with a lunch provided through the sponsorship of the Texas Corn Producers. Preregistration is requested by calling the AgriLife Extension office in Swisher County at 806-995-3726.

One integrated pest management continuing education unit is pending approval from the Texas Department of Agriculture.

“We are excited to offer this program in-person and provide our producers with some updates going into the spring cropping season,” said Blayne Reed, AgriLife Extension integrated pest management agent for Hale and Swisher counties.

Topics to be included:

- How to Make a Profit in Today’s Economy, *Justin Benavidez*, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension Economist, Amarillo
- Possible Economic Opportunities in “Sustainability” and Texas Corn Producers Update, *Angie Martin* and *Bryce White*, Texas Corn Producers
- Making Residual Herbicides Work, *Adam Hixson*, Ph.D., BASF Agronomist, Lubbock
- Advancements and Developments in IPM and Irrigation Scheduling in Modern West Texas Agriculture, *Blayne Reed*
- Developments and Advancements in Crop Disease Management, *Ken Obasa*, Ph.D., AgriLife Extension Plant Pathologist, Amarillo.

2021 Upland Cotton Loan Chart Released; Discounts for Plastic Get Sizable Increase

Friday, April 23, 2021 By Shawn Wade

The United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency released the 2021- crop Upland Cotton Loan Premium and Discount tables on April 15 and they contain some significant changes compared to the 2020 tables.

The biggest change in the new charts are found in the discount schedule for Extraneous Matter, specifically for Level One and Level Two Plastic, and

reflect the markets increased focus on this type of lint contamination.

The revised premium and discount tables apply to the Base Loan rate for Upland Cotton which has also been announced and remains 52 cents per pound for the 2021 crop.

As typically is the case Color/Leaf/Staple combinations that receive a discount will see increased discounts under the 2021 chart. On the positive side, however, Color/Leaf/Staple combinations that typically have a premium will see generally bigger premiums in 2021. The only departure from this trend appears in the White grades 11-31 where bales with a 35 or higher Staple and Leaf grade 5 will see smaller premiums.

Changes to premiums and discounts in the White and Light Spotted grades in other Leaf and Staple combinations tended to stay within the ranges identified above.

As noted earlier, the 2021 premiums and discounts table for Extraneous matter saw a significant increase in the discounts for bales identified as containing Plastic. Discounts for Plastic jumped the most increasing to a whopping -3130 points for Level One and -3240 points for Level Two calls.

Overall, the tables for other types of Extraneous matter, Micronaire, Strength, and Length Uniformity were unchanged as far as available premiums, but did see increased discounts for virtually all Micronaire, Length Uniformity and Strength values that typically have an associated discount.

While overshadowed by the increased discounts for Plastic, the Strength table includes what would otherwise have been viewed as significant changes as well. For 2021 growers will see significantly higher discounts for Strength readings below 25.9 grams per tex. The discount for a Strength measurement in the 24-24.9 and 25-25.9 ranges changed the most going from -320 to -460 and -270 to -410, respectively. This is an increase in the applied discount of 140 points or 1.4 cents per pound. Discounts for lower Strength readings also increased although by smaller amounts.

The following table provides comparisons between 2020 and 2021 loan values for White Grades 11-41 and Light Spot grades 12-42, Staple 34 through 38 and higher.

Complete 2021 Loan Premium and Discount tables and loan charts with calculated values based on the 2021 schedule of premiums and discounts will be posted on the Plains Cotton Growers website at: <https://plainscotton.org/loan-charts/>.

Editor's Note:

"Cotton News", a weekly service of Plains Cotton Growers to the cotton industry and news media in the 42-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

**COMPARISON OF LOAN PREMIUMS AND DISCOUNTS FOR SELECTED
GRADE, STAPLE LENGTH, AND LEAF CONTENT COMBINATIONS
OF 2021-CROP AMERICAN UPLAND COTTON**
Base Loan Rate: U.S. = 52.00 ¢/pound

Color	Staple	Leaf	34			35			36			37			38+		
			2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change
SM & better 11 & 21	Leaf 1-2	3	145	160	15	310	335	25	430	475	45	475	530	55	490	545	55
		4	125	135	10	255	285	30	390	435	45	430	475	45	445	495	50
		5	75	75	0	165	170	5	300	320	20	330	355	25	330	355	25
		6	-75	-105	-30	55	30	-25	145	120	-25	155	135	-20	155	135	-20
		7	-285	-325	-40	-235	-275	-40	-185	-220	-35	-185	-215	-30	-185	-215	-30
			-385	-435	-50	-335	-375	-40	-280	-320	-40	-280	-315	-35	-280	-315	-35
			90	95	5	250	270	20	385	425	40	440	480	40	455	495	40
MID 31	Leaf 1-2	3	90	95	5	230	250	20	365	400	35	405	445	40	420	460	40
		4	55	60	5	125	140	15	230	255	25	255	285	30	255	290	35
		5	-125	-145	-20	-10	-25	-15	65	45	-20	75	60	-15	75	60	-15
		7	-310	-345	-35	-285	-315	-30	-250	-275	-25	-245	-270	-25	-245	-270	-25
SLM 41	Leaf 1-3	4	45	50	5	105	120	15	200	215	15	215	225	10	225	245	20
		5	Base	Base	Base	65	65	0	140	155	15	160	175	15	170	185	15
		6	-215	-255	-40	-115	-145	-30	-30	-60	-30	-25	-50	-25	-25	-50	-25
		7	-420	-470	-50	-370	-410	-40	-295	-335	-40	-295	-335	-40	-295	-335	-40
			-530	-585	-55	-470	-520	-50	-430	-480	-50	-430	-480	-50	-430	-480	-50
			55	50	-5	155	155	0	275	280	5	310	320	10	315	330	15
			45	40	-5	110	115	5	230	230	0	265	270	5	275	275	0
SM & better 12 & 22	Leaf 1-2	3	50	40	-10	55	55	0	185	185	0	215	215	0	220	225	5
		4	-50	-40	10	55	55	0	185	185	0	215	215	0	220	225	5
		5	-280	-290	-10	-115	-135	-20	-60	-70	-10	-35	-40	-5	-35	-40	-5
		6	-455	-475	-20	-370	-390	-20	-320	-335	-15	-300	-310	-10	-300	-310	-10
		7	-555	-575	-20	-485	-510	-25	-435	-455	-20	-415	-430	-15	-415	-430	-15
			5	5	0	275	280	5	310	320	10	315	330	15	315	330	15
			45	40	-5	110	115	5	230	230	0	265	270	5	275	275	0
MID 32	Leaf 1-2	3	-70	-80	-10	5	5	0	60	50	-10	85	80	-5	85	85	0
		4	-95	-105	-10	-25	-25	0	40	25	-15	65	50	-15	65	50	-15
		5	-185	-195	-10	-90	-100	-10	-40	-55	-15	-20	-35	-15	-20	-35	-15
		6	-360	-380	-20	-280	-305	-25	-230	-250	-20	-210	-230	-20	-210	-230	-20
		7	-520	-545	-25	-465	-490	-25	-425	-455	-30	-410	-435	-25	-410	-435	-25
			-630	-655	-25	-565	-595	-30	-540	-570	-30	-520	-545	-25	-520	-545	-25
			-255	-265	-10	-175	-185	-10	-105	-135	-30	-90	-115	-25	-90	-115	-25
SLM 42	Leaf 1-3	4	-285	-300	-15	-230	-245	-15	-165	-195	-30	-145	-175	-30	-145	-175	-30
		5	-435	-445	-10	-345	-365	-20	-315	-330	-15	-295	-310	-15	-295	-310	-15
		6	-595	-610	-15	-545	-560	-15	-505	-525	-20	-490	-500	-10	-490	-500	-10
		7	-725	-735	-10	-650	-665	-15	-615	-635	-20	-600	-615	-15	-600	-615	-15

(over)

**COMPARISON OF LOAN PREMIUMS AND DISCOUNTS FOR EXTRANEIOUS MATTER
OF 2021-CROP AMERICAN UPLAND COTTON**
Base Loan Rate: U.S. = 52.00 €/pound

	Level 1			Level 2		
	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change	2020 Loan	2021 Loan	Change
Tex-NM-Oklahoma-KS Bark	-340	-345	-5	-525	-525	0
Prep. All Locations	-195	-205	-10	-660	-675	-15
Other 1/ Plastic	-470	-445	25	-705	-630	75
	-1870	-3130	-1260	-2080	-3240	-1160

1/ Bark in locations other than TX/NM/OK/KS. Extraneous matter other than bark and preparation, in all locations.