



STORY IDEAS

- * The Farm Bill continues to be an item of much debate as the House and Senate work to consolidate to one version that President Bush will sign into law.
- * Contact a local business owner to discuss the local or rural economic impact from a strong cotton crop.
- * Boll Weevil Eradication program provides all-around success story and needs further research to accurately provide statistics.
- * Continuing and emerging research in genetically engineered cotton.

COTTON NEWS

- * Cotton continues to be the subject of much genetic research. Texas Tech University researcher, Dr. Randy Allen, was recently selected as the winner of the 2007 Cotton Biotechnology Award by Cotton Incorporated. Dr. Allen's current work includes research with hormone signaling pathways that affect cotton's fiber development. More information can be found at: <http://southwestfarmpress.com/news/biotechnology-award-0213/>
- * Cotton growers have an updated tool to calculate seed cost for their 2008 acres. The updated version of the Plains Cotton Growers Seed Cost Calculator was released earlier this month. The calculator includes data for 129 conventional and genetically modified varieties of cotton available to cotton growers in West Texas. The PCG calculator is an interactive Microsoft Excel spreadsheet that allows producers to calculate an estimated cost per acre, for both seed and technology, based on published suggested retail prices. The calculator and more information are available at: <http://www.plainscotton.org>
- * Textile mills worldwide are expected to mill 3 percent more cotton this year than in previous years according to the International Cotton Advisory Committee. This is less of an increase than recent years, but is more than the 2 percent long-term average increase. Experts attribute the slowed rate of increase to a forecasted decline in economic growth, an increase in international cotton price and the competition from polyester.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Southwest Council of Agribusiness

-Tutorial

-Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.

Steve Verett, Roger Haldenby, or Shawn Wade

Texas Cooperative Extension

- Harvest Aid Guide

- Dr. Randy Boman

Understanding the Farm Problem: Six Common Errors

- Full Text

Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation

- Dr. Charles Allen



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