

The News-Journal



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Ginning Leaders Say Careful Harvesting Boosts Cotton Value

Cotton farmers and ginners are warned to beware of the dangers of excessive heat in the drying operation during the coming ginning season.

In a joint statement today, J. Franklin McLaurin, past president of the Carolinas Ginners Association and the National Cotton Ginners Association, and Clifford H. Hardy, Executive Secretary of the Carolinas Ginners, urged that the cotton farmers and ginners use more care in the handling of their cotton crop. Excessive drying has been shown to shorten fiber and weaken it to the extent that it is not usable in the finer fabrics that the longer staple Eastern growth cotton has come to be used to manufacture.

"In a discussion with the head of the cotton department of one of the world's largest manufacturing groups who has just returned from a visit through the lower Rio Grande valley, we have learned that conditions existing in some gin plants are appalling. There has been less abuse of the drying systems in the Carolinas and Virginia but with conditions

of ill use existing in other sections of the cotton belt, this warning is issued to prevent the spread of such ill-advised use of drying systems to the east coast.

"Excessive heat in the drying of cotton prior to ginning has become the major complaint of all mill buyers. On his trip through the drouth stricken valley area, our informant found gins operating their drying systems at temperatures as high as 300 degrees. This was in an area where there had been no rain for several weeks and in some instances it had been months. The result of this extreme heat on already dry cotton was parched, lifeless fiber with all oils and waxes and everything that goes to make up good character and spinning removed."

The ginners explained that the only reason for using this excessive heat was to increase the rate of ginning. In some instances they were ginning from twelve to fifteen bales where ordinarily without this extreme use of heat, they would have been able to gin only four to five bales. The only idea, aim, or motive was to turn out the ginned bales as rapidly as possible with no apparent interest or regard for the damage they were doing to the cotton fiber.

This condition can be prevented in the east by proper handling of the cotton by the producer and wise management on the part of the ginners. Because of the ginners' heavy investment in cleaning and drying equipment, the cotton farmer has adopted the idea that a ginner can take any type of roughly harvested cotton and wet cotton and make a good sample. The ginner can improve that cotton, but the farmer is throwing money down the drain by placing all of the responsibility on the ginner. Good cleanly harvested cotton can be handled with ease by all of our modern gins and improved samples can be turned out. The eastern ginners' record of improvement over

the past ten years is astounding. However, the producers have been very little help in this improvement. They are bringing cotton of poorer quality to the gin every year, expecting still further improvement.

Labor is responsible to a great extent, but adequate supervision can improve this situation and save the farmer money. It must be brought to every farmer's attention that he is not only losing money by paying for the extra pounds of water and trash when the cotton is picked, he also loses weight at the gin when it is necessary for the ginner to use high temperatures in order to gin this wet and roughly harvested cotton. If the cotton farmer continues to bring roughly harvested cotton to the gin and the ginner is forced to use high temperatures to clean and gin the cotton, the farmer is not only losing in the original sale of the cotton, he will also be playing into the hands of the synthetic manufacturers. (It must be remembered that temperatures up to 240 degrees can be used without damage to the fiber under certain conditions.) The surest way for cotton to lose its gains against the synthetics is for the industry to continue on this downward trend and producing inferior fiber.

August Cotton Report Below Last Year's

North Carolina
Based upon August 1 prospects as reported by growers throughout the State, the North Carolina 1953 Cotton crop is estimated at 460,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight). Such a crop would be 19.2 per cent less than the 569,000 bales produced last year and 11.9 per cent below the 10-year (1942-51) average production of 522,000.

The 1953 growing season for cotton got off to a favorable start with stands reported to be the best in several years. Weed growth and fruiting were good until late in July when shedding of squares and small bolls became heavy due to a combination of dry weather and weevil damage. Weevil infestation is much heavier in practically all sections of the State than a year ago. Loss to the weevil is expected to run considerably above average.

Assuming average abandonment after July 1, the acreage for harvest this year would be 759,000 acres, compared with 745,000 acres harvested last year. Based upon August 1 condition, it is estimated that lint yield will average 291 pounds per acre, with 366 pounds last season and the average of 345 pounds.

United States
The U. S. Cotton crop is estimated at 14,605,000 bales—about 4 per cent less than the 15,136,000 bales harvested in 1952, but

good lugs, low and fair primings, low and fair cutters and nondescript.

Sales were heavy at practically all auction centers Monday but deliveries were fairly light the rest of the week. Gross volume amounted to 26,181,862 pounds for an average of \$52.34 per hundred. The average was \$1.17 above the two sales days of last week. Sales for the season grossed 33,547,988 pounds averaging \$52.08. Last year for the same number of days a total of 19,140,185 pounds were sold at an average of \$55.63.

Receipts of the Stabilization Corporation under the Government loan program for the week were around 8 per cent of gross sales. Deliveries the first two days on the South Carolina markets were 14.5 per cent of sales. Season takings were 9.8 per cent of sales against 8.6 per cent for the comparable period last year.

Flue-Cured Tobacco Prices Increase On Border Belt

During the week most average prices for South Carolina and Border North Carolina flue-cured tobacco were higher than those established July 30 and 31 on the eleven South Carolina markets. According to the United States and North Carolina Departments of Agriculture quality of offerings was about the same and volume of sales was light.

Increases in average prices by grades this week ranged from \$1.00 to \$7.00 per hundred. Most were \$1.00 and \$2.00. The greater gains were chiefly for nondescript and lower quality lugs and primings. Top qualities in the majority of instances held fairly steady.

Very little change occurred in the general quality of marketings, however, a larger percentage of cutters and leaf were offered with less lugs and nondescript. Principal offerings were low to

nearly 20 per cent above the 10-year average. Production prospects are below the 1952 crop in all states except South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Oklahoma and Arizona where slightly larger crops are expected.

Hints To Homemakers

Pot Luck supper
For nonchalance when guests drop in, keep a supply of quick-to-fix favorite canned foods on hand.

Unexpected Company Occasion
Baked Casserole of Canned Pork

and Beans; Pan-Fried Spiced Ham Slices; Canned Baked Brown; Tomato Catsup; Zesty Cabbage Slaw; Chilled Coffee; Cold Milk; Fruit and Cookies.

Zesty Slaw Dressing: 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 1/2 teaspoon grated onion, 1/4 cup Wesson oil, dash tabasco. Gradually combine mayonnaise and Wesson oil, stirring to blend well. Add onion and tabasco. Use as dressing for cabbage slaw or mixed green salad. Make 3/4 cup. To store, cover and keep in refrigerator.

Hostess Hint: To give a home-baked touch, heat the beans with added seasonings in an old-fashioned bean pot.

Hostess Hint: Dress up a simple

meal with pretty centerpiece and bright touches in the table lines, china and accessories.

North Carolina cotton farmers lost an estimated \$50 million from the boll weevil in 1950.

LEARN AND EARN
IN YOUR SPARE TIME
WITH THE NEW



Notice Of Special Bond Election To Be Held On October 3rd, 1953 On The Question Of The Issuance Of Fifty Million Dollars State School Plant Construction And Improvement Bonds And For The Issuance Of Twenty-Two Million Dollars State Mental Institutions Bonds.

The people of Hoke County shall take notice that Governor Umstead has called a special bond election to be held on October 3rd, 1953 on the two questions of whether the State of North Carolina shall issue fifty million dollars State of North Carolina School Plant Construction and Improvement Bonds and twenty-two million dollars State of North Carolina Mental Institutions Bonds. Under instructions from the State Board of Elections the registration books for this special election will open on Saturday, September 5th, 1953 at nine o'clock at the polling places, and remain open until sunset on Saturday, September 19th. The various registrars in the county will be at their polling places for registering voters on the three Saturdays of September 5th, September 12th and September 19th.

Please take notice that this is not a special registration. Therefore, all persons who are now registered on the general election registration books will not have to register again to vote in this special election. If you are not registered on the general registration books in your resident precinct, you will have to register to vote in this special bond election; however, if you are properly registered you will not have to re-register to vote in this election. If you are not certain that you are properly registered now, you had better check with your precinct registrar on one of the three Saturdays mentioned above.

W. L. Poole, Acting Chairman
Hoke County Board of Elections

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