



The University of Georgia
Cooperative Extension
College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



Georgia Cotton

October 5, 2007

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Crop Progress. (*Brown*) The 2007 cotton harvest has begun, at least intermittently. Rains during the first days of October have interrupted field activities in much of the state. Yield reports have been variable but are generally poorer than expected. We've seen fields in east Georgia that did not pick 150 lb/A due to severe hard lock and have heard reports of threefold differences in irrigated versus dryland production on the same farm (for example, 1200 lb/A versus 400 lb/A). It seems the crop will be significantly below 2005 and 2006 in which we averaged 849 and 818 lb/A, respectively. The September USDA estimate for Georgia was just over 800 lb/A; that seems beyond possibility from what has been observed thus far. Yields will be down because of mid-summer drought, late season rain and associated boll rot and hard lock, and whiteflies. Quality thus far has been even worse than yield. Uniformity, staple, and strength are well below normal. Hopefully, things will improve as harvest progresses.

2007 Georgia Quality Cotton Award. (*Shurley and Brown*) The objectives of the Georgia Quality Cotton Award are to promote improved fiber quality in Georgia and to recognize growers and gins producing high quality cotton. This award is sponsored by Bayer CropScience and the Georgia Cotton Commission. The award began in 2005 and is administered by The University of Georgia Cotton Team, the Georgia Cotton Commission, and the Southeastern Cotton Ginners Association.

Awards are given to both the producer and gin in each of 3 producer categories: less than 500 acres, 500 to 1,000 acres, and over 1,000 acres in 4 regions of the state. Nominations must be made by the County Extension Agent where the majority of the producer's crop is grown. The gin cooperating in the nomination must be the gin where the majority of the producer's crop is ginned. The nomination must include the total cotton acreage of the producer and include data from all gins if more than one is involved.

The deadline for nominations will be January 11, 2008. Nomination form and instructions will be forthcoming soon. Awards will be given during a banquet at the Georgia Cotton Conference, January 29-30, 2008, in Tifton.

January 29-30, 2008
Georgia Cotton Conference
Tifton

Your local County Extension Agent is a source of more information.
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