

Cotton Season in New Mexico

We have reached midseason for most of the cotton grown in New Mexico. The season started relatively slow with cooler than average temperatures that slowed early season plant development in many fields. However, temperatures eventually warmed up leading to several days over 100°F recorded in the cotton growing regions of New Mexico. This spike in temperatures led to increased irrigation application on many fields. Scattered severe hail storms damaged some fields across NM earlier in the season which resulted in replanting or abandonment. Midseason southwestern cotton rust problems have been reported in the southern NM primarily around the Deming area. Information concerning the control of cotton rust can be found in the link below:

<http://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/plantclinic/documents/southwester-cotton-rust-nycu.pdf>

Cotton prices continue to present a challenge to producers, but the upland cotton price has gone up steadily in recent months. Also, Pima cotton exports have gone up. Current Pima shipments stand at 129.9% of last year with 511,600 bales shipped versus 393,800 bales shipped at the same time last year (*supima.com*).

General midseason assessments show that the cotton crop is doing very well in NM and in the absence of any major problem, the yield is expected to be slightly above average for this season.

Please, send your comments and contributions to John Idowu (email: jidowu@nmsu.edu; phone: 575-646-2571. Previous editions of the Cotton Newsletter are posted on <http://aces.nmsu.edu/ces/ifcpm/cotton-production.html>

Weed Report

As we come to the close of summer months, growers are still requesting information on available herbicide strategies to control summer annual weeds. There are several factors to consider regarding summer annual weed control with herbicides at this point in the season: 1) The majority of the plants are going to be much too mature to be fatally injured by herbicides (these types of applications can lead to resistance development); 2) Temperatures are so hot and dry at this point in time such that most herbicides will either be rendered ineffective or have an increased potential for drift or volatilization; 3) Mature annual plants have most likely developed viable seed which would only further contribute to the dormant seed population in the soil after a herbicide application. Short of manual removal of the weeds (along with viable seed), the important thing to consider at this stage is the proper identification of the plant (lifecycle, seed production, seed dormancy, etc.) so that a more proactive plan that utilizes an integrated weed management (IWM) strategy can be developed and utilized the following growing season. Germinating/younger weeds are easier to control, so remember: the early bird catches the worm...or in this case the weed!

Dr. Leslie Beck (Extension Weed Specialist)

HIGHLIGHTS

COTTON SEASON IN NM

WEED REPORT

PEST MANAGEMENT
REPORT

GLANDLESS COTTON
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COTTON PRICES

Pest Management Report

Cotton growers across the cotton belt have been concerned about increasing resistance to insecticide seed treatments containing Imidacloprid and Thiamethoxam. As a result of these concerns we joined a regional effort to evaluate the performance of these seed treatments. Thrips pressure was very low last year leading to inconclusive results. This year with higher thrip numbers we were able to make a comparison and the good news is that both insecticides performed very well with 18-37 times more thrips in untreated cotton shortly after emergence. Untreated cotton plants had 0.9 thrips per plant compared to .05 and .02 for Imidacloprid and Thiamethoxam at the cotyledon stage. At the two leaf stage there were still 5 times more thrips on untreated plants.
Dr. Jane Pierce (Associate Professor, Entomology)

Glandless Cotton Project

Evaluation of glandless cotton has continued in NM. New lines are being tested in 2016 and that are proving to be very promising for New Mexico environment. A new glandless cultivar called 'NuMex COT 15 GLS' cotton was released earlier this year. Results from last season showed that the newly released cultivars generally gave higher lint yields than the already existing cultivars (Figure 1).

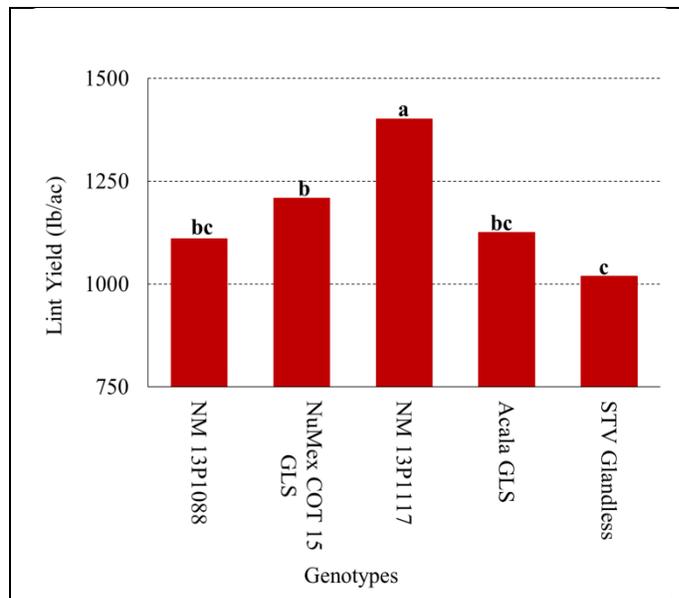


Figure 1. Lint yield of the new glandless cotton lines (NM-13P1088; NuMex COT 15 GLS, & NM-13P1117) compared to the existing glandless cultivars (Acala GLS & STV Glandless).

News Items

- New Mexico Cotton Ginners Conference was held in Ruidoso, NM on July 8-9, 2016.
- Cotton Incorporated State Support Committee meeting was held on July 8, 2016 in Ruidoso, NM. The committee elected to fund Dr. Jinfa Zhang's research focused on genetic markers that are related to cotton rust resistance.

Cotton Prices: 2015/2016

	2015		2016	
	Upland Cotton "A" Index*	ELS (Pima) Spot Price*	Upland Cotton "A" Index*	ELS (Pima) Spot Price*
January	67.35	147.70	68.75	115.80
February	69.84	143.00	66.57	109.70
March	69.35	142.70	65.46	109.00
April	71.7	135.20	69.28	104.70
May	72.86	132.00	70.28	104.70
June	72.35	132.00	74.10	104.70
July	72.35	132.00		
August	71.82	130.10		
September	68.74	126.00		
October	69.03	125.50		
November	69.22	121.70		
December	70.39	120.50		
Average	70.42	132.37	69.07	108.10

*Source: National Cotton Council of America and prices in (cents/pound of lint).

Publication Team: John Idowu (jidowu@nmsu.edu); Jinfa Zhang (jinzhang@nmsu.edu); Robert Flynn (rflynn@nmsu.edu); Jane Pierce (japierce@nmsu.edu); Leslie Beck (lebeck@ad.nmsu.edu); Patrick Sullivan (nmbollweevil@zianet.com).



_____, John Idowu, Extension Agronomist,

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