

### How can sticky cotton be detected?

In a dry climate, you might not be able to see or feel stickiness on cotton. Stickiness is a relatively new problem and testing and measurement of stickiness is also new.

Spray chemical tests can detect plant sugars, but are not a reliable test for sticky cotton processing problems.

There are several laboratory tests available to measure stickiness for research purposes. Two instruments, the High Speed Stickiness Detector (H2SD) and the Fiber Contamination Tester (FCT), are being evaluated. The H2SD shows promise and work is underway to evaluate its ability to become a commercial-scale detection device.



P R E V E N T I N G  
**sticky**  
**cotton**

Prevention of stickiness is the only way West Texas can maintain its reputation for high quality fiber. It is essential that every producer do everything they can to prevent excess plant and insect sugar contamination on their fiber. Textile mills will detect stickiness because it will create problems and they will trace it back to the source. Mills fear sticky cotton so much that they will not buy any cotton from an entire region to avoid potential problems.

We must protect our  
**reputation!**

Please do your part in  
maintaining the  
reputation of West Texas  
cotton and prevent  
stickiness on your fiber.



Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.  
4510 Englewood  
Lubbock, Texas 79414

#### For More Information

Contact the District Extension Center or "1999 Suggestions For Cotton Aphid Management In West Texas" available from Extension agents or at <http://entowww.tamu.edu/extension/bulletins/aphweb99.html>

This brochure is a project of:  
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