

## USDA Adjusts Area Production Estimates

Friday, January 12, 2018

By Mary Jane Buerkle

If the latest estimates from the National Agricultural Statistics Services hold true, Texas High Plains cotton growers will again produce more than 5 million bales of upland cotton for the 2017 crop.

NASS adjusted their January estimate for the area slightly downward from their December report, from 5,570,000 to 5,545,000. Of those 5.5 million-plus bales, 2,255,000 will come from the Northern High Plains - up 25,000 from December - and 3,290,000 from the Southern High Plains, down 50,000.

Yield per acre for the Northern High Plains is 937 pounds, up from 927 in December, and 687 for the Southern High Plains, down from 697. Harvested acres remained the same as in the December report - 1,155,000 in the NHP and 2,300,000 in the SHP, leaving the abandonment rate at about 20 percent.

Statewide, the production number remained at 9.5 million bales from December to January. The nationwide estimate for upland cotton decreased slightly to 20.57 million bales from an estimated 20.7 million in the December report.

## Mandatory Auxin-Specific Herbicide Trainings Scheduled for Dicamba Applicators

January 2018 Information from Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

The Texas Department of Agriculture requires special training in 2018 for new auxin herbicides applied under a Section 3 approval on dicamba-tolerant cotton.

The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service will be hosting several of these training opportunities. Following is a list of those coming up in the next few weeks. A complete list is available at <http://www.plainscotton.org/agconferences.html>.

**January 12** – Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd., **Amarillo**. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**January 24** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Hockley County, **Levelland**, 10-11 a.m.

**January 25** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Terry County, 209 S. 5th St., **Brownfield**, Noon-1 p.m.

**January 26** – Littlefield Show Barn, 10-11 a.m.

**January 30** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Yoakum County, 901 Avenue G, **Plains**, Noon-1 p.m.

**February 7** – Attebury Grain office, 1201 NW 5th St., **Tulia**. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch provided. RSVP by Feb. 2 to the Swisher County Extension office, 806-995-3726.

**February 9** – Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, 6500 W. Amarillo Blvd., **Amarillo**. 8:30-9:30 a.m.

**February 12** – Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center, 1102 E. FM 1294, **Lubbock**. 10-11 a.m.

**February 13** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Lubbock County, 916 Main Street, Suite 401, **Lubbock**. 10-11 a.m.

**February 20** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Terry County, 209 S. 5th St., **Brownfield**, Noon-1 p.m.

**February 21** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Hockley County, **Levelland**, 9-10 a.m.

**February 21** – Littlefield Show Barn, 1-2 p.m.

**February 22** – Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office – Cochran County, **Morton**, 10-11 a.m.

There is no registration fee on any of these training programs and each class will provide one TDA continuing education unit in laws and regulations. For more information on these or other meetings, contact your local county Extension office.

## Upcoming Area Ag Conferences

**January 16** – Southern Mesa Ag Conference, Forrest Park Community Center, 814 S. Houston, **Lamesa**. Registration at 7:45 a.m. Info: Gary Roschetzky, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-872-3444.

**January 18** – Area AgriLife Extension Agronomics Meeting, Moore County Community Building, 1600 S. Maddox Ave., **Dumas**. Registration at 8:30 a.m. \$10 fee, lunch provided. Info: Marcel Fischbacher, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-935-2594 or Mike Bragg, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-244-4434.

**January 18** – South Plains Ag Conference, The 380 Event Center, 2149 Tahoka Road, **Brownfield**. Registration at 8:30 a.m. \$10 fee, lunch provided. 5 CEUs. Info: Lynn County Extension Office, 806-561-4562; Terry County Extension Office, 806-637-4060; or Yoakum County Extension Office, 806-456-2066.

**January 19** – Caprock Crop Production Conference, Floyd County Friends Unity Center at **Muncy**. Registration at 7 a.m., \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door. 10 CEUs, 10 CCAs. Info: Caitlin Jackson, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-675-2347 or Cristen Brooks, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-983-4912.

**January 19** – Northeast Panhandle Crop Profitability Conference, Ochiltree County Expo Center, 402 Expo Drive, **Perryton**. Registration at 9 a.m., \$10 fee. Info: Scott Strawn, CEA-Ag/NR, 806-435-4501.

**January 23** – Seeking Solutions: Managing Economic Risks, Cagle Steaks, 8732 Fourth St., **Lubbock**. Registration at 8:30 a.m., \$30 fee. Pre-registration encouraged. Info: Crosby County Extension Office, 806-675-2347.

**January 24** – Texas Alliance for Water Conservation's 4 Annual Water College, Lubbock Memorial Civic Center, **Lubbock**. Registration at 8:30 a.m., no fee. Breakfast and lunch provided. CEUs available. Info: <http://www.tawcwatercollege.com>.

**January 25** – Hale/Swisher Crops Conference, Ollie Liner Center, **Plainview**. Info: Hale County Extension Office, 806-291-5267.

**January 25** – Llano Estacado Cotton Conference, Bailey County Electric Cooperative Meeting Room, 610 E. American Blvd., **Muleshoe**. Info: Curtis Preston, CEA-Ag/NR, or John David Gonzales, CEA-IPM, 806-272-4583.

*PCG EDITOR'S NOTE:* A complete list is available at <http://www.plainscotton.org/agconferences.html>. Please submit any additions/edits to [maryjane@plainscotton.org](mailto:maryjane@plainscotton.org).