

## **National Cotton Council Releases Planting Intentions Survey**

Thursday, February 11, 2021 By National Cotton Council  
MEMPHIS, Tenn. – U.S. cotton producers intend to plant 11.5 million cotton acres this spring, down 5.2 percent from 2020 (based on USDA's February 2021 estimate), according to the National Cotton Council's 40th Annual Early Season Planting Intentions Survey.

Upland cotton intentions are 11.3 million acres, down 4.9 percent from 2020, while extra-long staple (ELS) intentions of 161,000 acres represent a 20.7 percent decline. The detailed survey results were announced during the 2021 National Cotton Council Annual Meeting Virtual Live-Stream Event.

Dr. Jody Campiche, the NCC's vice president, Economics & Policy Analysis, said, "Planted acreage is just one of the factors that will determine supplies of cotton and cottonseed. Ultimately, weather and agronomic conditions are among the factors that play a significant role in determining crop size."

She said that with abandonment assumed at 18.1 percent for the United States, Cotton Belt harvested area totals 9.4 million acres. Using an average U.S. yield per harvested acre of 855 pounds generates a cotton crop of 16.7 million bales, with 16.3 million upland bales and 431,000 ELS bales.

The NCC questionnaire, mailed in mid-December 2020 to producers across the 17-state Cotton Belt, asked producers for the number of acres devoted to cotton and other crops in 2020 and the acres planned for the coming season. Survey responses were collected through mid-January.

Campiche noted, "History has shown that U.S. farmers respond to relative prices when making planting decisions. Relative to the average futures prices during the first quarter of 2020, prices of all commodities were trading higher. For the 2021 crop year, corn, soybeans, wheat, and sorghum are expected to provide more competition for cotton acres."

Southeast respondents indicate a 4.2 percent decrease in the region's upland area to 2.3 million acres. In Alabama, the survey responses indicate a 9.3 percent decrease in cotton acreage and increases in corn, wheat, and soybeans. In Florida, respondents indicated slightly less cotton and more corn and peanuts. In Georgia, cotton acreage is expected to decline by 8.6 percent as growers expect to plant more corn, wheat, soybeans, and peanuts. In North Carolina and South Carolina, growers expect to increase cotton acreage by 13.4% and 2.6%, respectively. Cotton acreage is expected to decline by 10.0% percent in Virginia while an increase in corn, soybeans, and 'other crops' is expected.

Mid-South growers intend to plant 1.7 million acres, a decline of 3.7 percent from the previous year. Across the region, all states except Missouri intend to decrease cotton acreage. Arkansas producers intend to plant 6.8 percent less cotton acreage and increase corn, wheat, and soybeans. Louisiana producers expect to plant 5.6 percent less cotton acreage in 2021 and plant more corn, wheat and soybeans. In Mississippi, cotton acreage is expected to decrease by 1.6 percent while corn, wheat, and soybean acreage is expected to increase. Missouri growers expect to increase cotton acres by 1.2 percent,

planting more corn and less soybeans. In Tennessee, cotton acreage is expected to decline by 6.1 percent as land shifts to corn, soybeans, and wheat.

Southwest growers intend to plant 7.1 million cotton acres, a 5.5 percent decline. In Kansas, producers intend to plant 0.9 percent more cotton acres and less corn, wheat, and soybeans. In Oklahoma, growers expect to plant 5.2 percent less cotton and more wheat. Texas acreage is expected to decline by 5.7 percent while corn, wheat, and sorghum acreage is expected to increase.

Far West producers are expecting to plant 197,000 upland cotton acres, a 2.5 percent decrease from 2020. Cotton acreage is expected to decrease in Arizona and California and increase slightly in New Mexico.

ELS acreage is expected to decline by 26.7 percent in California and 10.5 percent in Texas due to concerns about water availability. A slight increase is expected in Arizona, while New Mexico acreage is expected to remain unchanged from 2020.

In recent years, U.S. cotton producers have struggled with volatile cotton prices, high production costs and weather issues. In the face of very tight margins, many producers continue to face difficult economic conditions heading into 2021.

NCC delegates were reminded the expectations are a snapshot of intentions based on market conditions at survey time with actual plantings influenced by changing market conditions and weather.

For questions contact Marjory Walker ([mwalker@cotton.org](mailto:mwalker@cotton.org) or Cotton Nelson ([cnelson@cotton.org](mailto:cnelson@cotton.org)).  
<https://www.cotton.org/news/meetings/2021annual/pint.cfm>

## **Seed Cotton PLC Payment Matrix Available on PCG Website**

Friday, February 12, 2021 By Whitney Curry

On the PCG website there is a resource available to help cotton growers estimate their seed cotton Price Loss Coverage (PLC) payment rate per base acre.

The Seed Cotton PLC Payment Matrix is a helpful decision tool for producers as they begin to make their Title I policy decisions for the 2021 crop year.

Growers can plug in their own seed cotton yield to estimate their seed cotton PLC payment rate per base acre. The matrix takes into account the marketing year average (MYA) price for lint and seed. It is current as of the end of January 2021 and will be updated monthly.

"This is not a guaranteed calculation, but it will give growers and lenders an idea of their potential PLC payment rate on seed cotton," PCG Vice President of Operations and Legislative Affairs Kody Bessent said.

The spreadsheet is only available via desktop and is not optimized for mobile. The link can be found on the Tools and Reminders page on the PCG website at <https://plainscotton.org/tools-and-reminders/>.

**REMINDER!!**  
**PCG Cotton Crop Insurance Seminar**  
**Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

Register **TODAY**  
<https://plainscotton.org/cotton-crop-insurance-seminar/>

## Cotton Incorporated to Host “Cotton and Cotton” On February 16, 2021

Friday, February 12, 2021

By Whitney Curry

Cotton Incorporated encourages growers to participate in their Season Two, Episode Two of Cotton & Cotton program scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 7:30 a.m. Central via Zoom web call.

Join **Melissa Bastos**, Director of Market Research with Cotton Incorporated, as she discusses the attitudes and behaviors of the global consumer.

Registration is complimentary, but you must register to attend, so please contact your local Cotton Board Regional Communications Manager. The two covering Texas are Christi Short, 469-951-6161, [cshort@cottonboard.org](mailto:cshort@cottonboard.org); and Shelley Heinrich, 806-670-3250, [sheinrich@cottonboard.org](mailto:sheinrich@cottonboard.org).

## House and Senate Agriculture Committees Set for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress

Friday, February 12, 2021

By Kody Bessent

The House and Senate Agriculture Committees have now assembled for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress. Committee member ratios are relatively split when compared to other committees in the House and Senate. The House is composed of 25 Democratic members and 23 Republican members with the Senate virtually being even having 11 Democratic members and 11 Republican members.

PCG looks forward to engaging and continuing to work with all Members of the Committees and Congress on issues important to agriculture and the cotton industry.

### House Agriculture Committee Leadership *Committee of the Whole*

Congressman David Scott (D-GA-13) – Chairman

Congressman GT Thompson (R-PA-15) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management*

Congresswoman Cheri Bustos (D-IL-17) – Chairwoman

Congressman Austin Scott (R-GA-08) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy and Credit*

Congressman Antonio Delgado (D-NY-19) – Chairman

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach (R-MN-07) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture*

Congressman Jim Costa (D-CA-16) – Chairman

Congressman Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At-Large) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research*

Congresswoman Stacy Plaskett (D-VI-At-Large) – Chairwoman

Congressman Jim Baird (R-IN-04) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Nutrition, Oversight, and Department Operations*

Congresswoman Jahana Hayes (D-CT-05) – Chairwoman

Congressman Don Bacon (R-NE-02) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry*

Congresswoman Abigail Spanberger (D-VA-07) – Chairwoman

Congressman Doug LaMalfa (R-CA-01) – Ranking Member

### Senate Agriculture Committee Leadership

#### *Committee of the Whole*

Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) – Chairwoman

Senator John Boozman (R-AR) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Commodities, Risk Management and Trade*

Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) – Chairman

Senator John Boozman (R-AR) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on rural Development and Energy*

Senator Tina Smith – (D-MN) – Chairwoman

Senator Joni Ernst – (R-IA) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Livestock, Marketing and Agriculture Security*

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) – Chairwoman

Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Conservation, Forestry, and Natural Resources*

Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO) – Chairman

Senator Mike Braun (R-IN) – Ranking Member

### *Subcommittee on Nutrition, Agriculture Research and Specialty Crops*

Senator Deb Fischer (R-NE) – Ranking Member

## Enrollment Open for The Texas International Cotton School

Friday, February 12, 2021

By Whitney Curry

Enrollment for the 40<sup>th</sup> session of the Texas International Cotton School, scheduled for **August 2-12, 2021**, in Lubbock, Texas is now open. Social distancing guidelines will be followed, and the class size has been restricted to 10 students this year, first come, first serve basis of full tuition payment.

The Texas International Cotton School is uniquely structured to provide an integrated understanding of the Texas cotton industry and how it interacts with the global cotton/textile complex. The intensive two-week program covers all aspects of cotton, from field to the fabric. Since its inception, the school has been a collaboration between the Texas cotton merchants who make up the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and the faculty and staff of the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute of Texas Tech University.

During the two weeks of the school, more than 30 experts from across the United States teach the students, who learn about the cotton marketing chain – including seed breeding, farm production, harvesting, ginning, warehousing, merchandising, and textile manufacturing. All aspects of U.S. and global trade of cotton are covered, so the students obtain an understanding of what is required to successfully participate in the U.S. cotton market and to deliver the cottons needed in diverse export markets. They learn about the important quality attributes of cotton fibers and how these translate into processing efficiency and textile product quality. Throughout the program, students have repeated opportunities to interact with the cotton merchants of the Lubbock Cotton Exchange and the fiber and textile experts of Texas Tech University.

For more information, including tuition and curriculum, visit <https://www.texasintl cottonschool.com/>.

### **PLAINS COTTON GROWERS, INC.**

#### **64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

Friday, April 9, 2021

Overton Hotel & Conference Center

Featured Speaker:

Jim Wiesemeyer, ProFarmer Journalist & Analyst –  
Washington, D.C.,

*Sponsored by Farmers Cooperative Compress*

**Editor's Note:**

“Cotton News”, a weekly service of Plains Cotton Growers to the cotton industry and news media in the 41-county High Plains area, is mailed from Lubbock each Friday. Its contents are confined to news items and comments pertaining to the High Plains cotton industry which is so vital to U.S. all. Anyone interested in making comments about the contents of this column can call 806-792-4904 or Email PCG at: [editor@plainscotton.org](mailto:editor@plainscotton.org)