Review of 2014 Cotton Season

Guy D. Collins, Ph.D.
Extension Cotton Agronomist

D. Dodds, K. Edmisten, D. Fromme, A. Jones, M. Jones,
T. Raper, B. Robertson, J. Whitaker, D. Wright,
U.S. Cotton Producing States
Southeast

University Cotton Specialists

Guy Collins – GA
Jared Whitaker – GA
Hunter Frame - VA
Keith Edmisten – NC
Mike Jones – SC
Charlie Burmester – AL
Dale Monks - AL
David Wright - FL

2,650,000 acres
- USDA NASS, 10/1/2014
University Cotton Specialists

Guy Collins – GA
Jared Whitaker – GA
Hunter Frame - VA
Keith Edmisten – NC
Mike Jones – SC
Charlie Burmester – AL
Dale Monks - AL
David Wright - FL

2,650,000 acres
- USDA NASS, 10/1/2014
Midsouth

University Cotton Specialists

Darrin Dodds – MS
Bill Robertson – AR
Dan Fromme – LA
Andrea Jones – MO
Tyson Raper – TN

1,420,000 acres
- USDA NASS, 10/1/2014
Midsouth

University Cotton Specialists

Darrin Dodds – MS
Bill Robertson – AR
Dan Fromme – LA
Andrea Jones – MO
Tyson Raper – TN

1,420,000 acres
- USDA NASS, 10/1/2014
Missouri

Overview

- Heavy rains in late April, delays in planting
- Milder than normal thrips pressure, good performance of seed treatments
- June and July: Cool and wet
  - Above avg rainfall, below avg heat unit accumulation
- ~5 plant bug applications, good retention
- Plant growth: less aggressive than normal
- Yields as predicted
Tennessee

Overview

- Very wet June – limited field work
- Moderate/cool temperatures
  - slow development
- July – crop 7-10 days behind
- Plant bug pressure although good retention
- August – crop gained some ground, well-timed rains, decent boll load
- September/October – warmer weather helped mature the top crop
All N applied preplant – heavy rains

Temperature Normals, ° F

Abnormally low temperatures during the effective flowering period

Deviation from normal rainfall trends beginning in June and continuing through September
Not a large portion of TN acres affected by flooding, but for those who were - a very big problem!
Arkansas Overview

- Cold spring, delayed & compressed planting into ~5 days, heavy rains
- Slow growth, poor root development, increased replants
- Nutrient deficiencies (roots)
- Mild July, yield potential good
- Major hail storm in October caused severe damage to 24,000 acres (total of 60,000 acres affected)
Before and after severe Hail storm
Mississippi Overview

- Planting delayed to mid/late May due to rains
- Wet weather resulted in slow growth
- Shallow roots, nutrient deficiencies
- Thrips, plant bugs lower than normal
- Summer cooler than normal
- Excellent retention and yield potential (2nd highest on record)
- Fairly smooth harvest, high ginout
- Gradual nutrient depletion, dry weather late, shallow roots, leaf drop
Overview

- Planting: warm temps, good emergence, no seedling disease
- Insect pressure: low to moderate, excellent retention
- Target spot in late August, more apparent in rank cotton
- Less than normal heat units
- Timely rains, excessive in some parishes
- 2\textsuperscript{nd} highest yields expected, high micronaire
North Carolina

Overview

- Decent planting weather
- Relatively good summer, mild temperatures, timely rains
- Higher than normal incidence of plant bugs
  - Brown Marmorated Stinkbug in southwestern part of the state
- Excellent yield potential
- Some hardlock, boll rot
Overview

- Good early planting weather during late April – early May
- Dry during mid-May
- Rains returned in late May allowing for continued planting
- June – July = good weather, timely rains, low insect pressure
- Dry during August
- Good defoliation and harvest
- Above average yields expected
Georgia & Florida

Overview

- Cool, wet spring: delays in planting
- Planting progress normal by late May
- Adequate rains up to July
- Plant Bugs, Armyworms
- Hot, dry July and August
- Dryland crop marginal, early maturing
- Mid May irrigated cotton appeared to fair the best
- Yields widely variable (irrigation)
- Rains resumed in September
- Regrowth and boll rot on an already marginal early crop