

TALKIN' COTTON

GROWING COTTON in the Rolling Plains of North Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas is not only labor-intensive, it is money-intensive. Recognizing this, in 2011, cottonseed companies are offering seed replant and drought relief programs. This information has been compiled in one report by Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., Lubbock, Tx.

Copies of company-provided information sheets outlining covered varieties, specific eligibility requirements, deadlines and claim procedures can be found at the ntokcotton.org website. The link to the PCG website is provided by North Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas Cotton, a cotton industry partnership which supports and encourages increased cotton production in the Rolling Plains of North Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas.

For help with specific questions, growers are advised to contact their cottonseed distributor or appropriate seed company representatives.

Cottonseed companies providing information on their specific plans are All-Tex Seed, Americot/NexGen, CROPLAN Genetics, Dyna-Gro, Monsanto/Delta & Pine Land, FiberMax/Stoneville Cotton Seed and Phytogen.

18 MILLION BALE US crop is projected by the USDA in its May, 2011 report for the 2011-12 marketing year. Mill use is projected at 3.8 million bales while exports are projected to fall to 13.5 million bales. The estimated total offtake stands at 17.3 million bales. With beginning stocks of 1.75 million bales, this would result in US ending stocks of 2.5 million bales on July 31, 2012 and a stocks-to-use ratio of 14.5 percent.

USDA's final US 2010-11 cotton production number was 18.1 million bales unchanged from the previous month and down from the January estimate of 18.32 million bales. The upland crop was lowered 217,000 bales from the January estimate to 17.6 million bales while the extra long staple crop increased 6,000 bales to 504,000.

Final planted area is pegged at 10.97 million acres and final harvested area comes in at 10.70 million acres. The 2010-11 national upland yield is set at 805 pounds per harvested acre, 11 pounds below the five-year average of 816 pounds. The national average ELS yield of 1,200 pounds per harvested acre represents a 45 pounds decrease in yield when compared to the five-year average.

Mill use for 2010-11 was raised 100,000 bales to 3.8 million bales and exports were lowered 250,000 bales to 15.5 million bales. The estimated total offtake now stands at 19.3 million bales, generating ending stocks of 1.75 million bales and a stocks-to-use ratio of 9.1 percent.

For the 2011-12 marketing year, USDA's May report projects record world production of 124.72 million bales with India, China and Pakistan accounting for 70 percent of the sharp increase. Mill use is set at 119.5 million bales, With beginning stocks at 42.52 million bales, this would result in world ending stocks of 47.93 million bales on July 21, 2012, and a stocks-to-use ratio of 40.1 percent. (This information provided by the National Cotton Council)

MORE INFORMATION on the cotton scene may be obtained at ntokcotton.org and okiecotton.org. For questions or comments on Talkin' Cotton, contact a new email address bustersbarn1@yahoo.com.