

Beltwide Cotton Conferences

January 5-7, 2015 · Marriott Rivercenter Hotel · San Antonio, Texas



SAN ANTONIO

Beltwide Cotton Conferences

The Beltwide Cotton Conferences (BWCC) speed the transfer of new technology to U.S. cotton producers and other industry members with the goal of strengthening U.S. cotton's competitive position in the world marketplace and enhancing industry members' profitability.

Coordinated by the National Cotton Council (NCC) and its cooperating partners, this annual forum is recognized as the global champion for cotton technology transfer. Three days of individual reports, panel discussions, and seminars are designed to enlighten industry members about the latest research developments and their practical applications in cotton production and processing. The 600-plus reports are subsequently made available on CD-ROM and on the Beltwide web site at <http://www.cotton.org/beltwide>.

While cotton industry members recognize the wealth and range of information made available through these reports, they also gain valuable information from fellow attendees - processors, researchers, Extension, consultants, agribusiness representatives and others. This dialogue among all who have a vested stake in a healthy U.S. cotton sector helps industry members tailor new products and production/processing systems to their operations for maximum efficiency.

The Conferences' success can be attributed to the alliance of the NCC and its many partners. Federal and State Agricultural Experiment Stations, the Cooperative Extension Service, Universities, USDA, Cotton Foundation members, news media and other regional and national cotton organizations all contribute and support the Beltwide Cotton Conferences. This partnership leads to increased U.S. cotton industry productivity and profitability.

Table of Contents

General Information	2
Beltwide Contacts	2
Schedule at a Glance	3
2015 Conference Highlights.....	4
Housing Information.....	7
Housing Questions and Answers.....	8
San Antonio Area Map.....	9
Registration Information	10
Travel.....	10
2016 Beltwide Cotton Conferences	11



Courtesy of San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

General Information

The information below, along with conference updates, online meeting registration, housing and travel reservations, can be found on the Beltwide web site. Visit <http://www.cotton.org/beltwide> for the latest information about the Conferences.

Meeting/Banquet Rooms

A function room request form is required to reserve a meeting/banquet room. The request form (http://www.cotton.org/beltwide/index.cfm?page=meeting_banquet_rooms) may be completed online from the Conference web site. The deadline to reserve a meeting room is Monday, December 1, 2014. Rooms are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Continuing Education and Certification Credits

Applications will be filed for continuing education credit approval of the 2015 Beltwide Cotton Conferences for pest control advisors and certified applicators for Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

A request also will be made to the American Society of Agronomy for approval of continuing education credit for Certified Crop Advisors attending the conferences. Additional information will be available at the conferences' CEU help desk located on Level 3 at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel.

Beltwide Contacts

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Schedule At A Glance

Marriott Rivercenter Hotel

Monday, January 5

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Onsite Registration, Badge Printing and
Cashier Stations Open

Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Cotton Consultants Conference
(Open to all registered attendees)
New Developments from Industry:
varieties, chemistry, equipment,
emerging technologies

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Welcome Reception
(Open to all registered attendees)
BASF

Tuesday, January 6

6:30 - 8:00 a.m.

High Cotton Award
(By invitation only)
Farm Press and The Cotton Foundation

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Onsite Registration, Badge Printing and
Cashier Stations Open

8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Joint Poster Session

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Consultants Conference
(Open to all registered attendees)
• Selected presentations from Technical
Conferences

8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Technical Conferences
(Hours posted in final schedule)

- Cotton Agronomy & Physiology Conference
- Cotton Disease Council
- Cotton Economics and Marketing Conference
- Cotton Engineering-Systems Conference
- Cotton Ginning Conference
- Cotton Improvement Conference
- Cotton Insect Research and Control Conference
- Cotton Quality Measurement Conference
- Cotton Soil Management & Plant Nutrition Conference
- Cotton Weed Science Research Conference

Noon - 1:30 p.m.

Cotton Grower Beltwide Luncheon
(By invitation only)
Meister Media Worldwide

Wednesday, January 7

7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Onsite Registration, Badge Printing and
Cashier Stations Open

8:00 a.m. – Noon

Joint Poster Session

8:00 a.m. – Noon

Technical Conferences
(Hours posted in final schedule)

- Cotton Agronomy & Physiology Conference
- Cotton Disease Council
- Cotton Economics and Marketing Conference
- Joint Session: Cotton Engineering-Systems and Ginning
- Cotton Improvement Conference
- Cotton Insect Research and Control Conference
- Cotton Soil Management & Plant Nutrition Conference
- Cotton Utilization Conference
- Cotton Weed Science Research Conference

2015 Conference Highlights

Technical Conferences

Monday, January 5 and Tuesday, January 6

Cotton Consultants Conference

8th Annual

The Cotton Consultants Conference is comprised of invited presentations to help satisfy the technical needs of the cotton consultant and others involved in agronomic and pest management decision making. This conference is open to all individuals who desire technical pest management and production related updates needed in the development of efficacious and cost effect management decisions. Crop consultants, county Extension agents, dealer and distributor field reps, industry field and tech reps are encouraged to attend.

2015 Conference Highlights

Technical Conferences

Tuesday, January 6 and Wednesday, January 7

Cotton Agronomy and Physiology Conference

69th Annual

The Cotton Agronomy and Physiology Conference provides a forum for a discussion of the life processes of cotton plants. Presenters will discuss topics from molecular biology to applied agronomic research. Research to be presented will range from basic studies designed to provide understanding of these life processes to studies on the genetic, chemical, biological and physical means of manipulating the physiology of the plant for higher yield and improved fiber quality. Applied research relating to physiological aspects of cotton growth, production and management also is part of the program.

Cotton Disease Council

75th Annual

The Cotton Disease Council represents all areas of cotton disease and nematode research, Extension, teaching, industry and production. Participation is open to all individuals with an interest in diseases and nematodes of cotton. The program includes committee reports from the chairmen of the three standing committees and formal presentations and posters relating to diseases and nematodes of cotton.

Cotton Economics and Marketing Conference

39th Annual

The conference addresses a wide range of topics, from the microeconomics of cotton production to macroeconomic issues related to the structure of the cotton industry, markets and trade. The conference will include a Cotton Economics Forum which will explore issues and perspectives related to market outlook, policy and trade issues. Subsequent session presentations and poster displays from researchers in industry, government and academia will focus on improving understanding of the marketing and economic factors affecting the cotton industry.

Cotton Engineering-Systems Conference

64th Annual

The conference provides an opportunity for discussions between engineering researchers and individuals from other industry segments. Engineers and other researchers from industry, universities and federal agencies present information on an array of engineering solutions to problems in cotton production, harvesting and processing.

2015 Conference Highlights

Technical Conferences

Tuesday, January 6 and Wednesday, January 7

Cotton Ginning Conference

31st Annual

The Cotton Ginning Conference provides a forum for researchers and industry representatives to exchange information on new technology to improve gin operation efficiency and the preservation of fiber quality. Industry issues are addressed by researchers and industry experts covering areas such as innovative management strategies, energy conservation, environmental regulations and compliance, labor law compliance and safety.

A joint session with the Cotton Engineering Systems Conference will include the most recent cotton ginning and harvesting research results, with a primary focus on those related to cotton ginning and harvesting, environmental quality measurements and fiber quality preservation.

Cotton Improvement Conference

67th Annual

The Cotton Improvement Conference focuses on breeding and genetics research and development, including classical and newer molecular approaches. The conference provides a forum for scientists and representatives from both industry and public institutions to share the results of their research and development efforts among plant breeders, applied and molecular geneticists, other research scientists and the public.

Cotton Insect Research and Control Conference

68th Annual

The Cotton Insect Research and Control Conference highlights the latest developments in cotton insect pest management with technical papers and posters. A blend of university and industry presentations provides technical as well as practical information to farmers, agricultural consultants and crop managers.

Cotton Quality Measurements Conference

27th Annual

The Cotton Quality Measurements Conference provides an opportunity for researchers focused on aspects pertaining to cotton quality and the measurements of cotton quality to share their research. The conference includes presentations on active and recent research pertaining to instruments and procedures used to measure and evaluate the diverse properties of cotton fibers. Issues being faced in this field include the measurement challenges in cotton breeding and biotechnology programs, global competition and discussions of a universal classing system, and the acceptance of globally recognized cotton standards and cotton testing conditions. The conference is a forum for discussing relationships among fiber quality, processing efficiency and product quality as well as measurement characteristics such as fiber length distribution, fiber neps and contamination (e.g., trash, seed coat fragments and stickiness) along with new developments in measurement and fiber evaluation technology.

Cotton Soil Management and Plant Nutrition Conference

32nd Annual

The Cotton Soil Management and Plant Nutrition Conference focus is on interactions among plant and soil variables that affect crop performance and profitability of production. Oral and poster presentations from recent and on-going research will address broad topics related to all aspects of crop production including rotations, plant nutrition, fertilizer formulations, rates and techniques, beneficial use of wastes (manures and biosolids), tillage methods, irrigation technology and precision agriculture.

2015 Conference Highlights

Technical Conferences

Tuesday, January 6 and Wednesday, January 7

Cotton Utilization Conference

23rd Annual

The Cotton Utilization Conference is concerned with the marketability of cotton fiber as a manufacturing raw material. This includes all aspects of cotton fiber processability, textile yarn and fabric manufacturing, fabric finishing and processing machinery. This Conference provides an excellent opportunity for cotton researchers to formulate research goals for new and expanded markets in cotton textile and nonwovens manufacturing.

- Textile Technology Symposium: The Cotton Textile Technology Symposium will explore the latest research into practical aspects of cotton's openability, cleanability and processability as the key to its raw-material value for utilization in textile processing.

- Fabric Chemistry, Nonwovens & Products Symposium: This symposium will address the potential for expansion of consumption of cotton fiber in nonwovens as well as focusing on traditional textile finishing chemistry, cellulose modification and applications to innovative cotton finishes, and novel products that can open and expand new high volume and high-value-added markets.

Cotton Weed Science Research Conference

39th Annual

The Cotton Weed Science Research Conference will include paper and poster presentations highlighting the latest research on weed management systems in cotton. Papers will emphasize practical and economical weed control programs involving overviews of new herbicides and technological advances, control options for difficult weed control and resistance management, weed control in reduced tillage and row-spacing systems, and management systems for various herbicide tolerant traits.



Courtesy of San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

Housing Information

To Book, Modify or Cancel Reservations:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/beltwidecotton>

Hotel Information

Hotel

Marriott Rivercenter Hotel
101 Bowie Street and Commerce Street
San Antonio, TX 78205
210-223-1000
800-648-4462

Rates*

\$149 single/double

**Applicable taxes not included*

Parking*

Valet \$37/day

Self \$27/day

**Taxes included*

Confirmation of Reservations

An acknowledgement will be sent via email at the time the reservation is made. A hotel confirmation will be sent via email from the hotel after December 15. Paper acknowledgements will not be mailed.

Room Rates & Taxes

All rates are per room and are subject to 16.75% tax per day. To take advantage of the special Beltwide rates, book your reservation no later than Friday, December 15, 2014. After December 15, the BWCC room block will be released and the hotel may charge higher rates.

Room Guarantee

All reservations require a credit card to hold the reservation.

Payment Methods Accepted

The following credit cards can be used to confirm your reservations: VISA, MASTERCARD, AMERICAN EXPRESS, DINERS CLUB. Checks will only be accepted as payment upon checkout.

Special Requests

Special requests cannot be guaranteed; however, the hotel will try to honor all requests. You will be assigned specific room types upon check-in, based on availability.

Reservation Changes

Changes to your reservation may be made by phoning the hotel or online.

Cancellations/Refunds:

Reservations may be cancelled without penalty within 48 hours prior to your arrival date.

Group Housing

A minimum of 10 rooms is required to establish a group block.

To reserve a block of rooms under a company or individual name, go to <http://www.cotton.org/beltwide>, click on the housing link, and download a group request form. Complete the form and fax to the hotel. You will then receive a contract from the hotel. Contract must be signed and returned to the hotel to confirm the group block. Upon signing the contract, the company or individual is responsible for 100% of the total room block for each night, whether used or unused.

Housing Questions and Answers

I can find a lower rate on the Internet, why should I book at the official BWCC hotel?

Negotiated hotel rates incorporate many benefits for you and the Beltwide Cotton Conferences. Based on the number of rooms in the block, other facilities in the hotel including meeting rooms, banquet space, speaker/staff rooms, etc. are made available to the BWCC at a reduced cost. As the number of room nights is reduced, rates for space and equipment, as well as room rates and registration fees for attendees will rise. Additionally, room pickup is the BWCC's strongest negotiating tool for future meeting rates and space.

Why does the hotel assess a cancellation fee after the cut-off date?

Over the past several years, it has become increasingly difficult to manage hotel room blocks for the BWCC. When the BWCC room blocks fill up prematurely with reservations that are cancelled before the conference, other members cannot get a hotel room in the official hotels. If the hotels cannot rebook the room with another BWCC attendee or individual guest, they charge attrition fees to the BWCC.

Due to the substantial number of cancellations that occurred after the cut-off date and prior to the 1999 Conferences, the BWCC Steering Committee modified its cancellation fee policy for the 2000 Conferences. Since this time, attendees have taken greater ownership in canceling unneeded rooms in a more timely fashion, giving more opportunities for the rooms to be resold. If the rooms are not resold, the BWCC may be liable for hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Simply raising or lowering our room block does not alleviate any of the problems associated with cancellations or rooms reserved outside of the official hotels. Hotels are booked three to five years in advance based on room pickup history. To protect the BWCC block and the hotel for this long term commitment, the BWCC is contractually liable for attrition penalties because of unfilled rooms. Unfilled rooms include unbooked rooms as well as those caused by early departure.

If I change the number of room nights reserved after the cut-off date will it affect the BWCC room block?

The second type of attrition possibility results from individuals who book a room for the entire period, then leave early or push back their arrival date. Although an attendee has, in fact, used their reservation, they have reduced the number of room nights that the BWCC will be picking up in the block. By planning well and reserving the correct number of nights, the hotel has a greater opportunity to resell those rooms so that the BWCC will not be liable for them. Reserve only the number of rooms you need for the time you expect to stay.

Who can I contact if I still have questions?

In short, it's good business to stay in the designated official hotels. By doing so, you gain the opportunity to further network with your industry peers and remain in the center of the activity surrounding the conference. The BWCC Steering Committee is committed to providing you with the best possible service by continually reviewing and modifying the Conferences practices and policies.

We appreciate your support of the Conferences by continuing to book your guest room in our official hotels. If you have any questions, please contact the National Cotton Council's Meeting & Travel Department at (901) 274-9030.

San Antonio Area Map



Registration Information

<http://www.cotton.org/beltwide> **Click on Registration Link**

Deadline for Discounted Registration Fees is December 15.

You must register online at <http://www.cotton.org/beltwide>. Registration opens September 16th will continue on-site through the last day of the conference. Discounted pre-registration fees will be in effect through December 15.

Spouse registration is complimentary, but required and is not intended for business partners or associates.

Cancellation/Refund Policy

Full refunds will be granted if the request is received in writing by Monday, December 15, 2014.

Conference registration will be located in the the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter Hotel beginning at 9 a.m., Monday, January 5, continuing through 1 p.m., Wednesday, January 7.

Note: Name badge is required for entrance into all conference functions.

Registration fee includes

- All meetings of the Beltwide Cotton Conferences
- Entry to Poster Board Display
- Access to more than 600 technical papers
- Upon request, one copy of proceedings on CD-ROM mailed mid-May, 2015 (extra charge will apply). An electronic version of the proceedings may be accessed through the Beltwide web site for Beltwide attendees and all NCC and Cotton Foundation members.

Registration Fees Through December 15th

General.....	\$175.00
Students.....	\$ 80.00
International Research, Extension, Associations, Consultants.....	\$300.00

Registration Fees Beginning December 16th

General.....	\$200.00
Students.....	\$100.00
International Research, Extension, Associations, Consultants.....	\$350.00

Travel

Airline Tickets & Rental Car Reservations

Call our travel consultant, Kitty Rutledge at Travelennium for air and/or car reservations at 800-844-4924, ext. 322, or by email at krutledge@travelelennium.com.

- Airline Tickets: Discounted rates available on Delta and American. Fare discounts will be reflected when you book through Travelennium.
- Car Rental:
- Discounted rates with Hertz. Call Kitty, or call Hertz at 800-654-3131 or online at www.hertz.com and refer to Hertz discount number 1715002.

Airport Ground Transportation

San Antonio International Airport (SAT) is located approximately 8 miles from the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel. Transfer cost by shuttle is approximately \$20 one-way per person. Taxi fare is approximately \$25-29 per person one-way for one or two people.

