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COTTON VARIETY TEST RESULTS FOR LOUISIANA, 2002

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Abstract

To ensure that Louisiana cotton growers remain competitive in the U. S. and global textile markets, cotton varieties are tested and evaluated on an annual basis at test locations that represent soil and climatic conditions across the cotton-producing areas of the state. These test locations are the Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria; the Red River Research Station, Bossier City; the Northeast Research Station, St. Joseph; and the Macon Ridge Research Station, Winnsboro. Varieties submitted for testing were divided into two groups (early or medium) based on maturity classification determined by the companies submitting the variety. In 2002, 28 varieties were evaluated in the early maturity group and 30 varieties were evaluated in the medium maturity group. Each test was planted in a randomized complete block design with four replications. Yield was determined after defoliation by harvesting the center two rows of each plot with a two-row mechanical harvester. Transgenic varieties were evaluated in tests with non-transgenic cotton varieties and received the same recommended cultural practices as the non-transgenic varieties. Data from these tests are used by scientists of the LSU AgCenter to develop a list of recommended and promising cotton varieties for the state.