

COTTONSEED QUALITY FACTORS

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Abstract

The cotton Improvement Program of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station at Lubbock-Halfway has devoted some resources to addressing problems associated with cottonseed quality. The primary issues addressed were factors influencing the quality of cottonseed when used as planting seed. Planting seed utilizes approximately 5% of the cottonseed produced. Other uses for cottonseed concern the cottonseed crushing industry and the wholeseed feed industry. As researchers address issues related to improving cottonseed quality, a concerted effort should be forthcoming that strives to insure that improvements in the use of cottonseed for a given segment of consumers does not serve as a detriment to another segment. One area that was addressed concerns ionophores. Another issue of concern centers around the feasibility of producing cottonseed with very unique qualities such that segregation of seed of various qualities would have to be implemented. The central theme of this issue concerns economic feasibility. As scientists enter into an era of new research concerning cottonseed quality, serious concern should be given the practical, social and economic implications and ramifications that would arise as a result of these new improvements.