2024 Conference Descriptions

Technical Conferences

Wednesday, January 3, and Thursday, January 4 (a.m. only)

Cotton Consultants Conference
The Cotton Consultants Conference is comprised of invited presentations to help satisfy the technical needs of cotton consultants 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.

Thursday, January 4, and Friday, January 5

Cotton Agronomy, Physiology and Soil Conference
The Cotton Agronomy, Physiology and Soil Conference provides a forum for a discussion of the life processes of cotton plants and interactions among plant and soil variables that affect crop performance and profitability. Presentations and posters will focus on topics ranging from molecular biology to applied agronomic research. This includes recent and on-going research that addresses broad topics related to all aspects of cotton production, including, but not limited to rotations, plant nutrition, fertilizer formulations, fertilizer application rates and techniques, beneficial use of wastes (manures and biosolids), tillage methods, irrigation technology, remote sensing, and precision agriculture. Research presented will include basic studies designed to provide a better understanding of these life processes to studies on the genetic, chemical, biological and physical means of manipulating the cotton physiology of the plant for higher yield and improved fiber quality. Applied research relating to physiological aspects of cotton growth, production and management are also part of the program.

Cotton Disease Council
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 formal presentations and posters relating to diseases and nematodes of cotton.

Cotton Economics and Marketing Conference
The conference addresses a wide range of topics including marketing, production, consumer demand, trade, policy analysis, and risk management. The conference includes a Cotton Economics Forum, which explores the market outlook as well as developments in policy and trade. Subsequent sessions and poster displays from researchers in industry, government and academia focus on the improvement of understanding of economic and policy-related factors affecting cotton production and downstream industries.

Cotton Engineering-Systems Conference
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.

Cotton Ginning Conference
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, contamination, 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.
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**Cotton Improvement Conference**
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**
The Cotton Insect Research and Control Conference highlights the latest developments in cotton insect pest management with technical papers and posters, and a student paper competition. A blend of university and industry presentations provide technical as well as practical information to farmers, agricultural consultants and crop managers.

**Cotton Quality and Utilization Conference**
The Cotton Quality and Utilization Conference provides a forum for participants from the entire cotton supply chain to discuss and promote quality and utilization challenges, opportunities, and developments for cotton. This conference provides an excellent opportunity for cotton researchers and industry representatives to come together and exchange information and new developments for the measurement of cotton quality and/or utilization of cotton fiber as a manufacturing raw material. Issues being faced in this field include the measurement challenges in cotton breeding and biotechnology programs, fiber competition and the acceptance of globally recognized cotton standards and classing.

**Cotton Sustainability Conference**
The Cotton Sustainability Conference is a forum for participants from the entire cotton value chain to discuss and promote continuous improvement in the sustainability of US cotton. Participation from universities, producers and consultants, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and brands and retailers will allow for a holistic conversation of current sustainability trends in the industry. This forum will also cover new sustainability programs and best management practices; industry, brand, and retail sustainability goals; market opportunities and downstream perspectives.

**Cotton Weed Science Research Conference**
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 weed control and resistance management, weed control in reduced tillage and row-spacing systems, and management systems for various herbicide tolerant traits.