## PICK UP THE PACE WITH THE JOHN DEERE 9996 COTTON PICKER Henry C. Sink John Deere Des Moines, IA

## **Abstract**

The John Deere 9996 Cotton Picker will benefit a wide spectrum of cotton harvesting customers. The 9996 builds off the basis and tradition of the 9986. It can be outfitted with PRO-16, PRO-12, or the new PRO-12 VRS picking units in either 4 or 6 row configurations. This allows the versatility to pick cotton in rows from 15" up to 40" as well as various skip row patterns. The 9996 is powered by a John Deere 8.1 L, Tier II engine that pumps out 350 Hp, which is a 25 Hp improvement over the previous model. For improved throughput in scrapping situations, the 9996 has a maximum second gear scrapping speed of 4.9 mph. This is an improvement of 0.4 mph, which means an extra 0.9 acres per hour more. The 9996 also carries 200 gallons of diesel fuel and 345 gallons of water allowing operators up to 12 hours between fill ups. Picking unit improvements include a high-speed rear drum gear for PRO-16 units thus allowing more spindle rotations per running foot of row length. Also improvements in the PRO-16 and PRO-12 unit pressure door profiles force the cotton in the spindles longer resulting in a more efficient pick. All of these improvements will help cotton harvesting customers pick up the pace with the John Deere 9996 Cotton Picker.