

**GEOGRAPHICAL SAMPLING CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES FOR COTTON PEST MANAGEMENT  
- BASIC AND INTERMEDIATE CONCEPTS**

**Jeffery L. Willers**

**USDA, ARS, Genetics and Precision Agriculture Research Unit**

**Mississippi State University**

**Starkville, MS**

**Patrick J. English**

**Delta Research and Extension Center**

**Mississippi State University**

**Stoneville, MS**

**Abstract**

Adopting a geographical perspective reduces the sampling time for several cotton pests (including tarnished plant bugs) without loss of accuracy. Reasons why site-specific thresholds use sample extremes instead of sample averages are discussed. A simple technique to graph geographical trends based on sample extremes is demonstrated. Building a sitespecific cotton pesticide application map to reduce control costs is illustrated using field counts. Also shown is how a blanket application is also a site-specific application.