ALL-TEX EDGE B2RF: AN EARLY MATURITY VARIETY FOR THE SOUTHWEST

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Introduction

All-Tex Edge B2RF is an early to mid-early maturity upland variety that produces good yield and fiber traits, has excellent seedling vigor, and is highly adapted to the Southwest cotton growing region. Edge is characterized by having an early maturity, but indeterminate growth habit. Plant height is medium. Leaves are semi-smooth and boll size is large with bolls possessing good storm tolerance. Edge has moderate tolerance to *Verticillium* wilt and good tolerance to *Fusarium* wilt. Tested over multiple locations, lint percent of Edge averages 35-40%. Micronaire ranges from 3.5-4.8. Staple length, fiber strength, and uniformity are in the ranges of 1.15-1.22 inches, 29-33 g/tex and 80-81%, respectively. Average seed size is 4350-4450 seed/lb.

Results and Discussion

DynaGro Proving Ground testing provides extensive, multiple location variety testing and information collection. Edge was evaluated in these tests across numerous environments, soil types, and moisture regimes in West Texas. The 10 location average for the Lubbock North locations show that Edge is well adapted to the irrigated northern portion of Texas High Plains and results showed lint yields that were 9% better than the average lint yield of the competitor varieties, 1732 lb/acre versus 1584 lb/acre (Fig. 1). These tests were compared under relatively good irrigation conditions (>3 gal H_2O). The Lubbock South plots were conducted under more limited water (<2 gal H_2O) or dryland conditions. Across the eight test locations, lint yields of Edge were again 9% greater than the average yield of the competitor varieties (Fig. 2). Edge has also shown excellent adaptation to Kansas growing conditions. In Fig. 3, average lint yield across five Kansas OVT locations for Edge ranged from a yield advantage of 2.7-30.6%. These results indicate that this early maturing variety appears to be well adapted to the short growing of Kansas season and yet maintains a very highly competitive yield potential and yield advantage.

In conclusion, results show that Edge is an excellent early to mid-early variety for cotton production in west Texas and fits well in the good irrigation regions of Lubbock North and the dryland and more limited water conditions of Lubbock South. In addition, results from the five locations OVT in Kansas demonstrate the wide adaptability Edge has to the different cotton growing regions of Kansas. Edge is highly recommended for higher altitude growing conditions with a short growing season. It responds well to plant growth regulators but in most cases Edge does not require extensive management. Edge possesses good fiber quality, excellent seedling vigor, a storm tolerant boll type, and moderate tolerance to *Verticillium* wilt.

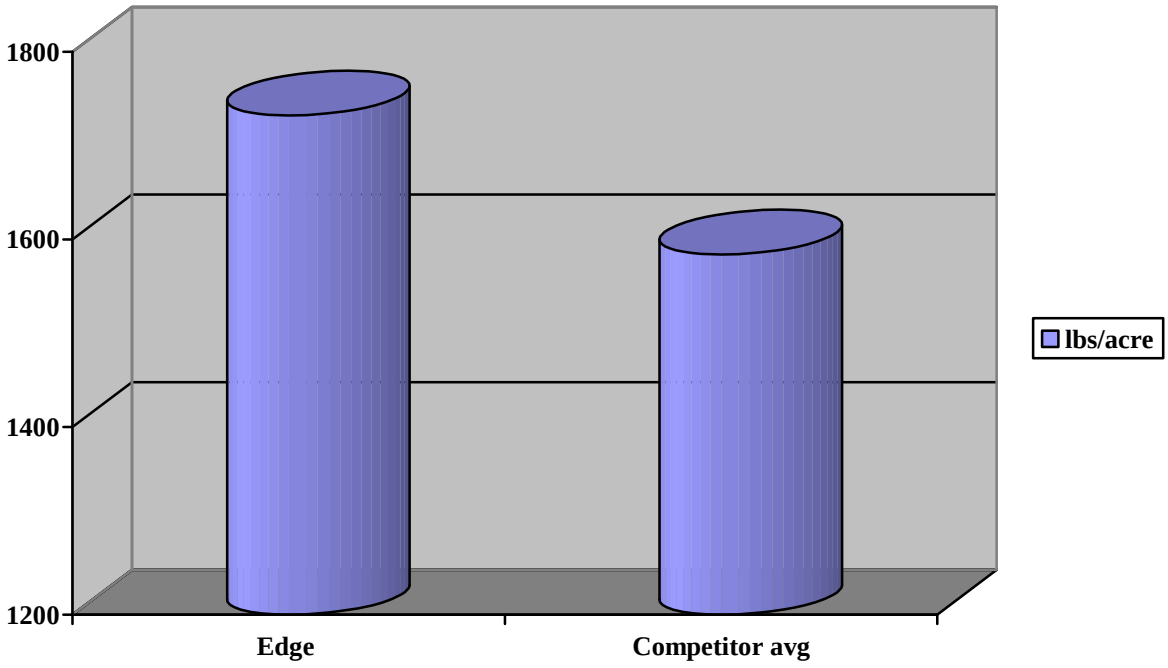

Figure 1. All-Tex Edge B2RF average lint yield across 10 Lubbock North test locations, 2013.

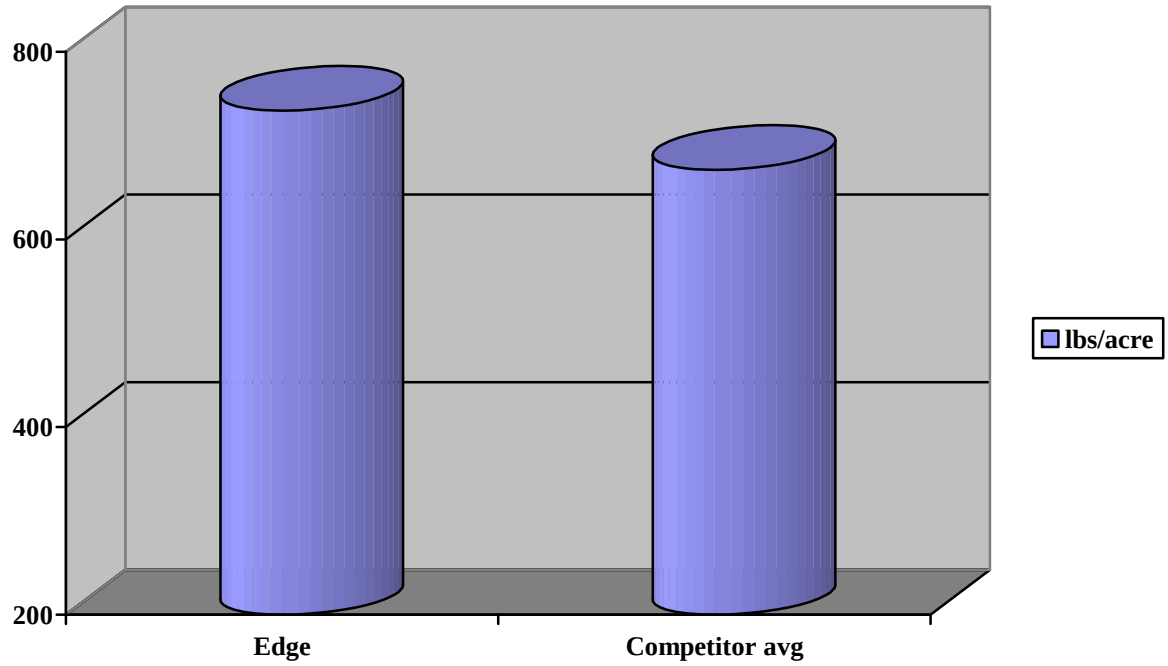

Figure 2. All-Tex Edge B2RF average lint yield across 8 Lubbock South test locations, 2013.

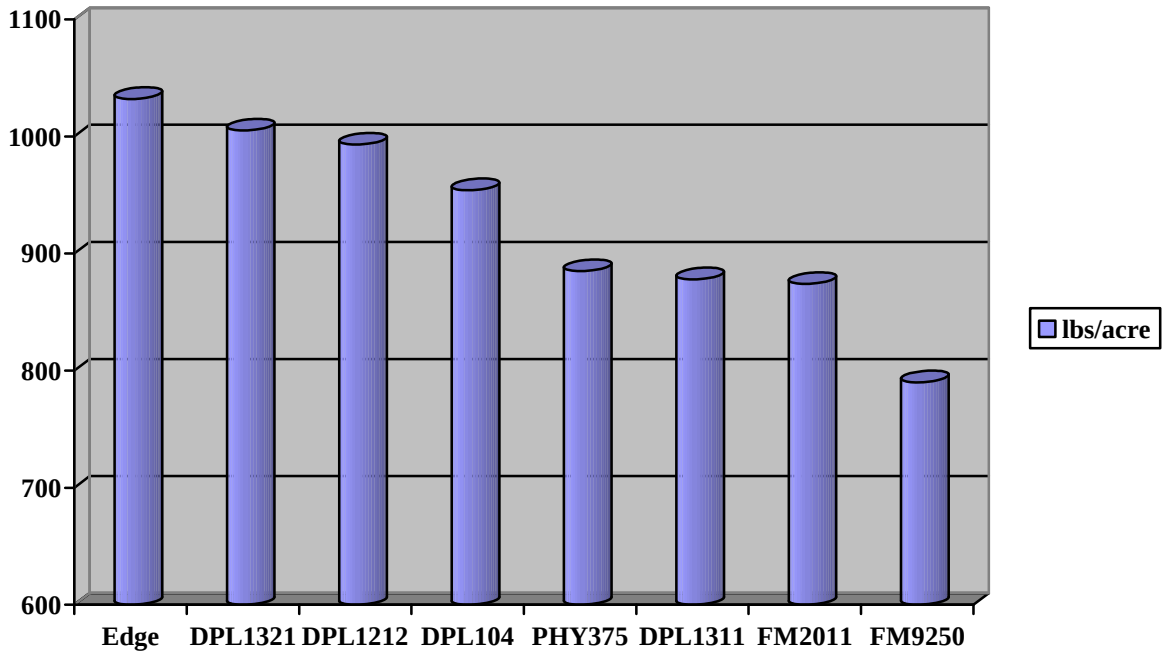

Figure 3. All-Tex Edge B2RF average lint yield across five Kansas test locations, 2012.