GENETIC DIVERSITY AMONG TETRAPLOID ACCESSIONS IN THE US NATIONAL COTTON GERMPLASM COLLECTION N. Kothari J. Dever Texas A&M AgriLife Research, TX J. Frelichowski L. Hinze R. Percy USDA-ARS, TX J. Scheffler USDA-ARS, MS D. Jones Cotton Inc.

Abstract

Cotton is the primary source of natural fiber and an important oilseed crop. The National Cotton Germplasm Collection (NCGC) located in College Station, TX is one of the largest collections consisting of species and accessions with great genetic diversity. Reporting this diversity is important for optimizing the utility of the collection for researchers. Diversity within *Gossypium* species in the collection has been reviewed for this study. High Volume Instrument (HVI) fiber data, morphological descriptors and historical collection management has been reported here.