

**LONG-TERM YIELD AND FIBER QUALITY TRENDS IN DELTAPINE® VARIETIES
RELEASED FROM 1980 TO 2018**

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Abstract

An evaluation was conducted to analyze the long-term yield and fiber quality trends of Deltapine® cotton varieties released since 1980. The analysis included data from Bayer Technology Development trials, Market Development trials, New Product Evaluator, and University Official Variety Trials and on-farm trials from 1994 to 2017 growing seasons (n=10,316 trials).

Analysis of yield data from Deltapine cotton varieties released from 1980 to 2018 showed improvements with incremental average yield step above the trend line. However, this data also showed these average yield improvements (within a year of release group) have typically been accompanied with fiber length below the trend line. The recent introduction of the Deltapine Class of 2016 and 2018 cotton varieties demonstrated both an incremental step for average yield and average fiber length. Evaluation of data by region (Midsouth, Texas, Southeast) for average yield and average length by year of variety release showed similar patterns when compared across the Beltwide regional trends.

Performance may vary, from location to location and from year to year, as local growing, soil and weather conditions may vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower's fields.

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