# PRELIMINARY RESULTS FOR 48-INCH ROW SPACING IN COTTON IN SOUTH ALABAMA

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## Abstract

Trials were established at the Brewton Research Unit (BRU), Brewton, AL, and the Wiregrass Research and Extension Center (WREC), Headland, AL, to evaluate the performance of cotton planted in 48-inch row spacings. Two varieties, DP 2055 B3XF and PHY 400 W3FE, were planted in 48-in and standard (36-inch) row spacings and managed with 3 PGR regimens, aggressive, moderate and untreated. We made two errors: at both locations, plant populations were equivalent on a per acre basis rather than the intended plants per foot basis. At BRU, the two row patterns were planted in adjacent, separate blocks. In terms of measured growth and lint yield, varietal differences were more common than row spacing effects. Yields were comparable for both row spacings. The DP variety produced significantly higher yields than the PHY variety at WREC. At BRU in the 48-in rows, the DP variety produced superior yields to PHY. That yields were not sacrificed in wide rows is encouraging. If similar yields can be achieved with identical down-the-row seeding rates, significant seed savings can be gained. It is also possible that wide row patterns might prove advantageous in mid-season drought conditions and during late season weather that favors boll rot and hardlock. Wide rows might also reduce harvest costs.