

**THE COTTON PICKIN' WEB: A NEW  
INFORMATION SOURCE FOR COTTON  
PRODUCERS**

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**Abstract**

Cotton Incorporated and the National IPM Network have joined together with the National Science Foundation Center for Integrated Pest Management to develop a new Web Site providing accurate, up-to-date, and unbiased production information to growers, consultants, and others with a need for such information. Access to the Web Site is free. Although our section names are meant to give you a chuckle, the information is the latest and best. Below are descriptions of the types of information available in the various sections of the site -- a map to cotton production on the Internet (ipmwww@ncsu.edu/CottonPickin/).

**Growin' Cotton**

**Production.** This section has links to hundreds of extension documents from all of the major cotton growing states. From variety selection and planting to harvesting and markets, the latest techniques and technologies from around the U.S. are available 24 hours a day.

**Cotton Critters.** Weed problems, diseases and the latest on insect pest occurrences and control can be found in these links. Full color pictures, state control recommendations, pest alerts from many state extension services are just some of the pages users can visit from here.

**Ag Safety.** From pesticide training and potential poison response to the latest information from OSHA, FDA, and EPA, it's all here. Did you know that many companies now have their labels and MSDSs online? We have links to those involving cotton, and much more.

**State Contacts.** Need a name in your state? We don't have all of the Cotton Specialists yet, but we can give you an electronic contact with your state's IPM and Pesticide folks, as well as the Web address for your State Cooperative Extension Service.

**Searchin'.** Have you tried to search Yahoo or Alta Vista for cotton information? Was it accurate and unbiased? With our Cooperative Search Engine, you'll only search extension and other university computers holding public

agriculture information, without advertising. Those that maintain these machines have all agreed to NIPMN standards which require author identification and review of materials for accuracy and timeliness.

**Cotton Hap'nin's**

**Cotton Marketin'.** USDA Market news online, the New York Cotton Exchange, futures, and help in planning your selling options can all be found under Marketin'. We have links to Cotton Incorporated national and international market news as well.

**Cotton News.** This section keeps users abreast of the latest in research in our *Research Highlights*, ag happenin's on the Internet with our *Monthly Pickin's* of key people, places, and new technologies. Finally, *Ag Weather* keeps users up-to-date with the latest weather reports and forecasts from both commercial and NOAA sources.

**Other Pickin's**

**Other Ag Sites.** Although we all know that Cotton is King, there are other crops. For information on these other crops, we have links to all sorts of Internet sources.

**Software/Decision Aids.** As more and more software and decision aids become available either directly on the Internet or through downloading of Windows/Mac programs, we'll provide links to the information.

**Contactin'**

Whether you want to pass on some suggestions to us, or find out who can provide information from your state, this section will help you get where you want to go and contact the specialist in your area. As our efforts progress, we hope to provide you with an electronic contact to the cotton specialists in every state, but in some areas, that will have to wait until these folks are all connected to the Internet and cooperating with the Cotton Pickin' Web!

**Surveyin'**

So that we can do a better job, this section contains a survey. From time to time, we'll ask about user concerns and about the production issues that impact cotton. Right now, the survey asks about this site and what we can do to make it better and easier to use.