

**FUTURE INVOLVEMENT OF THE  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE IN GIN  
PROCESS CONTROL**

**W. Stanley Anthony  
Supervisory Agricultural Engineer  
USDA-ARS, Cotton Ginning Research Unit  
Stoneville, MS**

**Abstract**

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has developed a computerized cotton ginning process control system (CCGPCS) to optimize fiber quality and profits for the textile mill and farmer. Recently several related patents were licensed to Zellweger Uster for commercialization of the technology. The ARS will continue to participate in refining and expanding the technology for the benefit of the cotton industry.

The ARS will: 1) implement the moisture measurement component of the technology during harvesting and moduling thereby enabling farmers to make more precise risk assessments regarding moisture (this information will aid the CCGPCS in optimization of gin processing), 2) update current mathematical relationships relating fiber quality and machine performance, 3) evaluate offline measurements of factors such as neps, short fiber content, seed-coat fragments, micronaire, etc., 4) expand the CCGPCS to include stripper-harvested cotton, 5) improve bypass valves, 6) develop method to assess the moisture of the bottom of a module, 7) develop new cleaning machines to achieve reduced cleaning and fiber damage, 8) implement online measurement of entomological sugar and develop mitigation techniques, and 9) develop method to measure the softness of cotton seeds.

The ARS will participate responsively with Zellweger Uster in making the CCGPCS technology available to the cotton industry.