AN ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM FOR DETERMINING SMALL-PLOT HARVEST WEIGHTS

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Abstract

Cotton studies on a University experiment station come in a lot of different sizes and the harvest needs associated with those studies vary. The cost to purchase and maintain a spindle picker makes it difficult to justify more than one picker for the small total acreage commonly found. Work was done at the University of Arkansas Northeast Research and Extension Center at Keiser to develop a system that was easily convertible between small plots and large plots or normal harvesting and was quickly able to account for the effect of the large volume of air needed to move seedcotton through a picker. A system was developed that allowed accurate weight of small amounts of seedcotton (5 – 40 lb) without having to stop or divert the air. The system was easily removed so that in less than an hour the picker could be used without the weighing system.

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