

COTTON VARIETY TEST RESULTS FOR LOUISIANA, 2001

W.D. Caldwell, J.A. Hayes and E.P. Millhollon

Red River Research Station

Baton Rouge, LA

M. Stewart

Dean Lee Research Station

D.J. Boquet and S.S. Hague

Northeast Research Station

Baton Rouge, LA

J.I. Dickson

Agronomy Department

LSU AgCenter

Baton Rouge, LA

Abstract

To ensure that Louisiana cotton growers remain competitive in the U. S. and global textile markets, cotton varieties are tested and evaluated on an annual basis at test locations that represent soil and climatic conditions across the cotton-producing areas of the state. These test locations are Dean Lee Research Station, Alexandria; Red River Research Station, Bossier City; Northeast Research Station, St. Joseph; and Macon Ridge Research Station, Winnsboro. Varieties submitted for testing were divided into two groups based on maturity classification (early or medium) determined by the companies submitting the variety. In 2001, 32 varieties were evaluated in the early maturity group and 18 varieties were evaluated in the medium maturity group. Each test was planted in a randomized complete block design with four replications. Yield is determined after defoliation by harvesting the center two rows of each plot with a two-row mechanical harvester. All transgenic varieties were evaluated in tests with non-transgenic cotton varieties and received the same recommended cultural practices as the non-transgenic varieties. Data from these tests are used by scientists of the LSU AgCenter to develop a list of recommended and promising cotton varieties for the state. Selection of a cotton variety or varieties for maximum economic return is one of the first management decisions a cotton producer makes each season.