

AGRONOMIC COMPARISONS OF NEXT GENERATION ROUNDUP READY® COTTON
Amy Martens, Jesse Hart, Zach Shappley, Eric Cerny, Scott Huber and Mark Oppenhuizen
Monsanto Ag Technology
St. Louis, MO

Abstract

In 2001 field studies were conducted in ten states to evaluate agronomic characteristics of several new Roundup Ready transgenic cotton (*Gossypium hirsutum*) events. Trials were designed solely for the purpose of comparing homozygous positive plots to the homozygous negative plot from the same transgenic Roundup Ready event. This comparison highlights any possible agronomic differences that may be due to the Roundup Ready transgene. Trials were conducted using a paired strip plot design with four replications. There were six new Roundup Ready events in each trial. All studies were conducted using standard weed and insect control practices for each site. All events used in these trials were in a Coker 130 background and data collected included stand counts, final plant map, yield, and complete fiber analysis.

Final plant mapping of the new Roundup Ready events indicates that there was no difference in boll size for any of the new events at any location. Fiber analysis across locations also indicates that there was no difference in length, strength, or micronaire when comparing the negative event to the same event containing the new Roundup Ready transgene. Average lint yield across locations was not different in those plots containing the new Roundup Ready transgene compared to the same event without the transgene.