



2018 Arkansas Cotton Update &
2018 Cotton Research Verification / Sustainability Weekly Update
July 6, 2018
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Overview

Our crop is running well ahead of schedule. We missed some opportunities for rainfall in June that would have gone a long ways toward having our crop where we want to be at this time. The lack of rain is obvious now. Some cotton at first flower is running 6 or 7 nodes above white flower (NAWF). Our target is 9 to 10 at first flower. A lot of fields I looked at this last week were already at 5 or 6 NAWF and haven't been blooming that long. The challenge now is to try to keep plants from cutting out prematurely. Ideally we would like to maintain NAWF values at current levels if at 5 to 6 NAWF for a couple of weeks before we cutout. We will be happy with the crop at harvest if we can follow through like that. We want to maintain enough moisture to keep plants in the reproductive phase for another couple of weeks, and staying on top of plant growth regulator applications is also important.

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Crop Progress and Condition Report for the week ending July 1 reported cotton setting bolls at 35% which was ahead of the five-year average of 11%. Crop progress should continue to be well ahead of the five-year averages long as favorable conditions for growth exist. They also reported that 89% of the cotton was in good (43%) to excellent (46%) condition with only 10% being fair, 1% poor, and none rated very poor.

**2018 Cotton Research Verification / Sustainability
Weekly Update**

Update No. 6

July 6, 2018

General	There are 12 Cotton Research Verification / Sustainability Program fields in 2018. Fruiting nodes across fields range from a low of 8.9 to a high of 11.3. All fields with the exception of the Mississippi County fields are blooming. A difference has been noted among all but one of the No-till vs. Farmer Standard fields, plants are taller in No-till fields with the exception of Manila Airport field. Plants in no-till with cover are often taller as plants are having to compete for light as it is shaded by cover crop during the first few weeks after planting.								
County	Field Name (Tillage Practice/ Cover Crop)	Date Planted	Variety	% Square Shed	# of Fruiting Nodes	Plant Height (inches)	Estimated Date of First Flower	NAWF (* estimated NAWF at First Flower)	General Information
Desha	East Weaver (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	1.9	10.9	30.0	6/27	7.60	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/2 and 1.06" of water was applied. During field visit an average of 4.5 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population, aphids were present but not as many as in no-till field. Cotton has good color, slight bleaching was seen on very few cotton leaves. Crusting was noticed in furrows, and no square shedding was seen.
Desha	East Weaver (No-till / Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	2.1	10.8	32.8	6/27	6.95	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/3 and 1.49" of water was applied. During field visit an average of 10 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population, aphids were also present. Cotton has good color, only weeds noted was spurge.
Desha	Grain Bin (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	3.5	10.5	27.3	6/25	7.47	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/2, and .50" of water was applied. During field visit an average of 10.67 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population.

									Cotton has good color. Farmer standard side of the field had more square shedding than no-till cover.
Desha	Grain Bin (No-till / Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	1.7	11.0	29.0	6/27	7.47	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/2 and 1" was applied. During field visit an average of 7.33 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population. Cotton has good color, very little square shedding was seen at time of field visit.
Desha	Shop (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	4.4	11.3	27.5	6/26	7.55	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/2 and 2.27" was applied. During field visit, no harmful insects were seen in insect checks, and no weeds were noted. Cotton in this field was a slightly lighter color of green, square shedding was seen at time of field visit.
Desha	Shop (No-till / Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	1.4	10.6	28.3	6/26	7.35	Last field visit was on 7/5. Field still had good moisture at time of field visit, field was last irrigated on 7/3 and 1.28" was applied. During field visit an average of 4 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population. Cotton in this field was a slightly lighter color of green. No square shed was seen in the furrow during time of field visit.
Desha	Homeplace (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	4/30	DP 1646 B2XF	1.3	10.7	25.5	6/24	7.20	Last field visit was on 7/5, field was getting dry and irrigation was triggered on 7/5. During field visit an average of 17 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks, fields were treated for insects last week and should still be killing out the plant bug nymph population. Cotton has good color, some square shedding is occurring, no weed pressure was noted at time of field visit.
Desha	Wellcot (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	5/2	DP 1646 B2XF	2.2	9.9	21.8	6/23	7.20	Last field visit was on 7/5, field was getting dry and irrigation was triggered on 7/5. During field visit an average of 1.5 plant bug nymphs per 5 foot of row were counted in insect checks which is below threshold. Cotton has good color, some square shedding is occurring, no weed pressure was noted at time of field visit.
St. Francis	Conder's (Farmer Standard / No Cover)	5/5	DP 1725 B2XF	0.0	9.1	22.3	6/27	5.07	Last field visit was on 7/6, field is getting dry if a rain is not received soon the pivots will be turned on. Cotton has good color, no square shedding noticed in furrows. No

									harmful insects were seen in insect checks, and no weeds were seen.
St. Francis	Conder's (No-till / Cover)	5/6	DP 1725 B2XF	2.6	9.9	29.2	7/3	*10.0	Last field visit was on 7/6, field has fair moisture. Cotton has good color, no square shedding noticed in furrows. No harmful insects were seen in insect checks, and no weeds were seen.
Mississippi	Manila Airport (Farmer Standard / Cover)	5/15	DP 1518 B2XF	3.0	8.9	24.7	*7/7	*11.0	Last field visit was on 7/3. Field is still putting on a new node every 50-60 heat units at this time. At time of field visit there was good moisture, 1.10 inches of rainfall was received since last field visit. Very few cotton leaves had a bleaching appearance, as a whole field had good color and was growing well. Insect checks were clean, very little pigweed was present.
Mississippi	Manila Airport (No-till / Cover)	5/15	DP 1518 B2XF	0.7	9.7	23.2	*7/7	*11.0	Last field visit was on 7/3. Field is still putting on a new node every 50-60 heat units at this time. At time of field visit there was good moisture, 1.10 inches of rainfall was received since last field visit. Cotton has good color and is growing well. There was no insects or weeds present at this time.