



# COTTON TRENDS

Late Summer 2010

## 2010 NC Cotton Field Day & Exhibition to be held on Sept. 23rd in Beaufort Co.

### Cotton Trends

For Members of  
The North  
Carolina Cotton  
Producers  
Association, Inc.

As announced in our spring issue of Cotton Trends, the 21st NC Cotton Field Day & Exhibition event will be held Sept. 23rd at the Gary Respass farm in Beaufort Co. By holding the event for the first time in a new and growing area of cotton production in the state, hopefully more growers from the eastern part of the state will take part in the field day.

The day's agenda will focus on numerous test plots conducted by NC State cotton researchers. Also, in the exhibit area, there will be cotton-related exhibits on display from educational and commercial groups.

Tour participants will not want to miss registering and being present to win some excellent door prizes to be given out during the dinner hour. Among them will be \$500 U.S. savings bonds.



Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) and Recertification Credits for Commercial and Private Applicators - (Categories N, O, D, & X) are pending for all who take the field tours.

Variety Demonstration

Planting Date

Nitrogen Rate X Additive  
Potash (rate + foliar)  
Starter + Additive  
Chicken Manure

Liberty Link + Pre-Herbicide  
Roundup + Pre-Herbicide  
Residual Post-Herbicide  
Burndown & Residual  
Herbicides

Stink Bug Test  
Thrips Test  
Thrips Insecticide

Foliar Fungicides  
Fungicide Seed  
Treatments

Growth Regulators

Defoliation

Cotton Harvesting  
Demonstrations

### NC Cotton Field Day Schedule

12:30 p.m. Arrival, Registration and Exhibits Open  
1:15 p.m. Welcome and Tour Instructions  
1:30 p.m. Field Tours begin

# Tour Stops on the NC Cotton Field Day Agenda

## Tour Stop 1:

### Organic and Inorganic Soil Fertility Inputs for Cotton

Carl Crozier, NC State Soil Science

What's essential (considering both economic and environmental implications) to stimulate the growth of young cotton plants and getting them off to a good and vigorous start.

### Herbicide Resistance in NC, Resistance Management Programs, and Current Recommendations for the Most Troublesome Resistant Weeds

Alan York, NC State Crop Science

Recommendations for management of herbicide-resistant weeds, especially Palmer amaranth, horseweed, and common ragweed, which are becoming a very serious issue for growers.



## Tour Stop 2:

### Seed Treatments and Fungicide Usage on Cotton

Steve Koenning, NC State Plant Pathology

The necessity of seed treatments (fungicide, nematocide, insecticide, and biological) are critical to improve cotton production and quality.

### Evaluation of Foliar Insecticide Applications following Preventative Insecticide for Thrips Management

Dominic Reisig, NCSU Entomology

By using automatic foliar applications on cotton previously treated with a preventative insecticide, the abundance of thrips will determine the economic benefit/costs and application timing in relation to yield.

### A Decision Aid Field Template for Enhanced Stink Bug Management in the Southeast

Jack Bacheler, NC State Entomology

A new field template has been designed to make stink bug scouting more widely practiced and accurate for southeast cotton producers. This scouting aid will be discussed and handed out to tour stop attendees.



## Tour Stop 3:

### Planting Date Impact on Yields in Tidewater Region

Gaylon Ambrose, NC State

Beaufort Co. Extension

Hear what 5 years of Tidewater region on-farm test results have shown on the impact of early planting dates on cotton yields.



### Defoliation Issues for the 2010 Cotton Crop

Keith Edmisten, NC State Crop Science

Harvest-aid application decisions are made on a number of factors, including crop and weather conditions. But, the two most important factors on when to defoliate are crop maturity and desired harvest schedule.

### Applying Precision Ag Technologies to Tillage: Variable Depth Tillage

Alan Meijer, NC State Soil Science

Subsoilers can be adjusted to the appropriate depth for all soil types present in the field, maximizing yield and conserving fuel and energy spent on subsoiling.

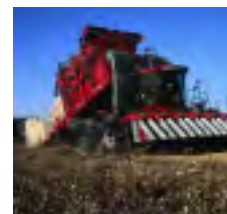
## Tour Stop 4:

### Economic Analysis of Conventional Systems vs. the New On-Board Module Building Systems

Danny Clayton, Beaufort Co.

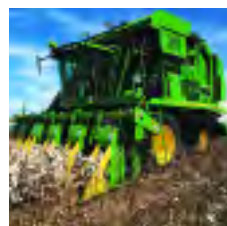
Cotton Producer

Compare the economics of conventional harvesting systems (boll buggies, module builders, etc.) versus the new, on-board John Deere and Case-IH module builder picker systems.



### Cotton Harvest Picking System Demonstration

Both the John Deere and Case-IH on-board, cotton module picker systems will be demonstrated. Manufacturer representatives will be on hand to answer questions about their equipment.



## 5:00 p.m. Dinner & program

Gary Respass, President, NC Cotton Producers Assn. presiding

Remarks from Dr. Johnny Wynne, NCSU Dean CALS







## NC Cotton Producers Association President to Host 2010 NC Cotton Field Day Event

Flatland Farms in Beaufort Co., the host farm of the 21st NC Cotton Field Day & Exhibition, is owned and operated by the current NC Cotton Producers Assn. president, Gary Respass.

Born and raised on his family's cash crop farm near Pantego, Gary graduated from Atlantic Christian College and taught a year of junior high health and PE and coached football and baseball.

But, when his father unfortunately died in a farming accident in fall of 1971, Gary and his wife, Elaine, moved home and started Gary Respass Farms.

While another farmer put the crops out for two years, Gary's initial focus was to start a sow farrow-to-finish operation with the help of his father-in-law, Leamon Allen Sr. Once he got the hog farm up and running, Gary started renting land and grew 240 acres of corn and soybeans in 1974. In the late '70s, he rented another 800 acres, and in 1986, another 1,000 acres of cropland.

In 1980, Gary doubled his swine operation to a 550 farrow-to-finish unit. But, he divested his swine operation in mid-1990.

Twenty years after his return to farming, Gary planted his first cotton crop, part of more than 4,000 total acres he farmed in 1995. A year later, Gary was among a group of farmers who built Coastal Carolina Gin in Pantego, NC, and just three years later, the group expanded and built a sister gin in Fairfield, NC.

In 1998, Flatland Farms & Associates was formed when Gary and Elaine's son-in-law, Derick Tetterton, joined the family-owned farming operation. Kenneth Van Stalduin, who's worked with Gary for more than 25 years and farms land of his own, acts as farm manager and directs the day-to-day operations with two additional employees. Gary's wife, Elaine, retired from daily office work (bookkeeper and parts "go fer") when their grandchildren started showing up.

Gary, who is now serving a two-year term as president of NC Cotton Producers Assn., is also a delegate of the National Cotton Council, a board member of American Cotton Producers Assn., and a board member of Southern-Southeastern Cotton Producers Assn.

### Flatland Farm's Cotton Operation Grows With Technology

"We are a relatively new area in cotton [production]," says Gary, "and if the technology of weed control had not come about, I really don't feel we would be growing cotton here. With that tech, we can grow cotton as cheap as anyone and have a relatively good yield."

Ever since he started growing cotton, Gary has been working with crop consultant Bill Peele of Impact Agronomics on everything from soil sampling and fertilization to weed control and harvest aides. Says Gary, "We keep real good records of all inputs and harvest history, which we find to be very beneficial in making decisions for our future."



Gary Respass (right) and his son-in-law, Derick Tetterton, inspect cotton in a field on Flatland Farm.

### NC Cotton Men involved in NCC's 2010 PIE Program

In mid-July, two NC cotton growers, Mark Lassiter of Conway and Sam Fulton of Laurinburg, traveled to the mid-South to learn more about the cotton industry in that region through the Producer Information Exchange Program (PIE). In return, mid-South growers visited the NC/VA cotton growing region a few weeks ago.

The PIE program, now in its 12th year, is sponsored by Bayer CropScience through a grant to the Cotton Foundation. Over 900 cotton growers have participated in the program since its inception.



NC and mid-South growers view Bayer CropScience cotton variety trials during NCC's PIE Tour in NC.

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## NCC-PAC Cotton Boll Golf Tournament Results

The NC Cotton Growers Political Action Committee held its 4th Annual Cotton Cup Golf Tournament with 24 participating teams. The event was once again held in late June at the Pine Hollow Golf Club near Clayton.

The tournament is a key fundraising effort of the NCC-PAC, which enables and supports members of the NC cotton production and growing and ginning industry in communicating their views to decision makers in Washington, DC. The two dozen foursomes included cotton growers, bankers, agribusiness reps, and cotton industry leaders. The winning low gross team was once again from McGee Farms.

For more information on how to make an individual contribution to the NCC-PAC, contact Billy Carter at 252-459-3130 or email: [billycarter@nccotton.org](mailto:billycarter@nccotton.org).



*Members of the winning McGee Farms' foursome included Mark McGee, Jimmy Liverman, Mike and Danny Ordnung.*

## Wolfpack Football Broadcasts Will Promote NC Cotton

Listen for commercials promoting NC Cotton and its producers during 2010 NC State football games on WRAL-101.5 FM and affiliate stations around the state. Go Wolfpack! Go Cotton!

### 2010 NC COTTON PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

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