

Cotton Questions

1. The cotton plant is a tropical perennial. The Cotton Physiology Today newsletter “Think Like a Cotton Plant” does a good job covering the topic.

General Cotton Questions

2. Which states in the U.S.A. grow cotton?

Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

3. What state grows the most cotton? Texas, 5.5 to 6.0 million acres each year.

4. What country grows the most cotton? China; had a 26.2 million bale crop in 2005.

5. What country plants the most cotton? India; planted 22 million acres in 2005.

6. How much does a bale of cotton weigh? 480 pounds

7. How many pounds of cottonseed would you expect per bale of cotton ginned? Varies by variety but is in the range of 800 to 900 pounds of cottonseed per bale.

8. What is a good lint turnout? Picker cotton can be above 40 percent. Stripper cotton using a bur extractor can be 32 to 35 percent. Stripper cotton with burs can be as low as 14 percent and as high as 29 percent.

9. What is a cotton module? It is a tool used to compress cotton so it can be stored in the field until it is transported to the gin.

10. How many bales of cotton does a cotton module contain? It will usually be in the range of 8 to 14 bales in a cotton module.

11. How is cotton harvested? Two very different type of harvesters; 1) a picker does a very good job extracting the lint and seed from the bur. It is an expensive machine to purchase and requires a high level of maintenance. 2) a stripper takes the bur, leaves, lint and seed from the plant and the gin removes the waste and separates the lint from the cottonseed. The machine is about half the price of a picker and less maintenance is required.

12. What is Pima cotton? *Gossypium barbadense*

13. Where is Pima cotton grown in Texas? Most of the Pima cotton is grown in El Paso and Hudspeth Counties.

14. What is Cotton Incorporated?

American cotton growers fund Cotton Incorporated through per bale assessments. Cotton Incorporated is designed and operated to build demand for cotton in the U.S. market and for U.S. cotton in world markets.