

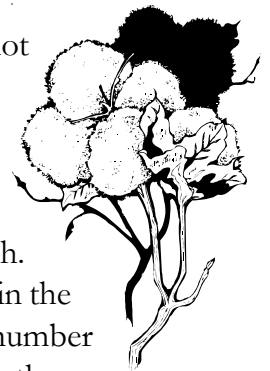
# Assessing Regrowth After Cotton Defoliation

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Criteria for rating cotton regrowth following the application of harvest-aids has not been standardized among investigators. The numbers indicating the amount of regrowth varies between individuals — researchers, industry and Extension specialists — hence, when reading information on trials, it is almost impossible to compare product performance. The set of drawings in this publication attempt to standardize regrowth ratings, regardless if a test is from California or South Carolina, so the investigator can easily visualize and quantify the amount of regrowth in a field.

The following set of illustrations, if utilized, will provide the opportunity to standardize ratings and statistically compare the regrowth of different harvest-aid treatments. Such ratings can be made by almost anyone, it does not require technical knowledge, can be done quickly and efficiently with practice, and without specialized equipment. There may be some differences among individual investigators, but it should be minimized with practice and experience. Ratings are visual and do not involve collecting, drying, weighing, or having to measure leaf sizes. Since most plants in a field will have different amounts of regrowth it is important to determine how many plants or foot-of-row are necessary to form a fair evaluation zone. Once this is established the investigator should provide an

overall rating number for the plot or field that is typical of most of the plants. Cotton regrowth in the same field will range from none, to a plant that may be dead, to lush growth. It is the average of most plants in the rated zone that will best fit the number of leaves in the drawings. Since the same illustrations will be used by all investigators, they can always be referred to while in the field.



The following drawings represent regrowth exhibited by cotton in six distinct “stages”. These “stages” are divided into different numeric ranges from 0 to 100. The lower numeric ranges indicate little or no regrowth, while the larger numeric ranges indicate substantial regrowth. Since ratings are numerical, they can be averaged if replication is used.

In the following illustrations these abbreviations will be used:

- T - top of plant (upper 6” of growth)
- B - lower half of plant (area below 6” of growth)

For additional information see our website at:  
<http://soilcrop.tamu.edu>

T (0-10%)

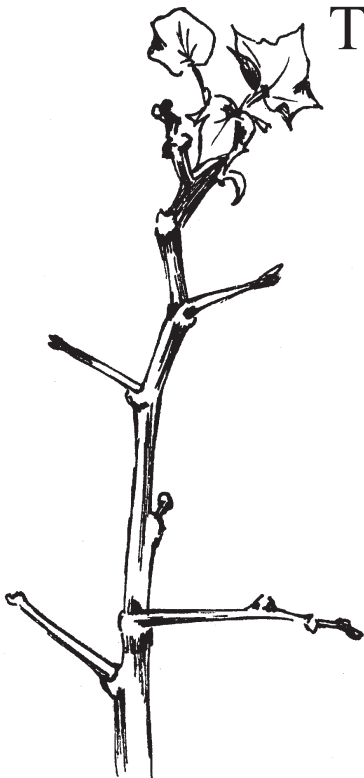


B (0-10%)

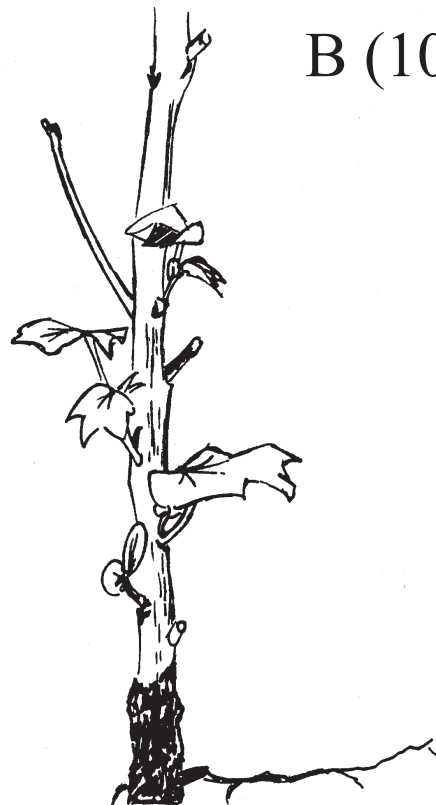


Little or no regrowth

T (10-30%)



B (10-30%)



Buds breaking — generally only 1/4 inch maximum length

T (30-50%)



B (30-50%)



Buds beginning to unfold as small leaves — less than a 1/2 inch in size

T (50-70%)



B (50-70%)

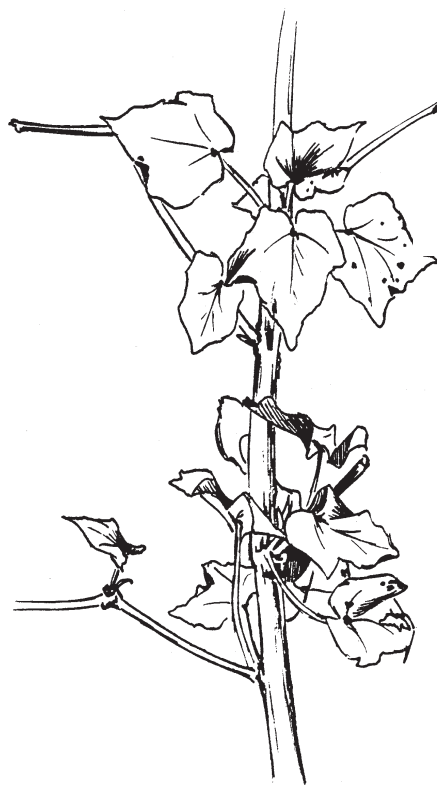


Leaves unfolded and beginning to grow — basal growth is beginning to form stems from vegetative nodes  
Leaves about 1/2 to 1" in size

T (70-90%)



B (70-90%)



Leaves 1 to 3 inches in diameter — stems formed with leaves attached

T (90-100%)



B (90-100%)



Full canopy of leaves grown — some leaves 3 inches or larger