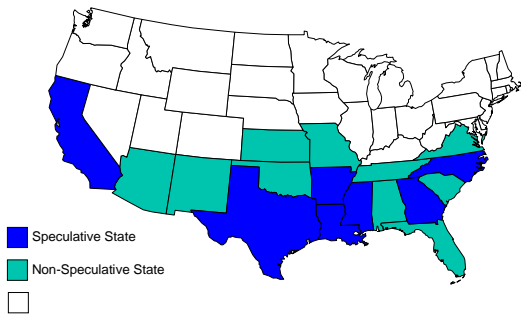


Cotton Estimating States



Monthly Upland Cotton Production Forecast

- Board Forecast based on 3 indications
 - Monthly Agriculture Yield Survey
Aug 1 – Nov 1
 - Monthly Objective Yield Survey
Aug 1 – Dec 1
 - Ginnings Production Forecast
Oct 1 – Feb 1

Monthly Agriculture Yield Survey

- Cotton one of approximately 20 crops asked
- 17 states asked - Virtually all US Production
- Produces both a Prob and Non-prob indication
- Subjective survey

Monthly Objective Yield Survey

- 7 Speculative States - 78% of US Production
- Produces a Prob indication based on acreage
- Objective measure based on boll count, boll wt, bolls per plant, plants per acre and total acreage

Estimate Setting Process: Monthly Crop Production

Headquarters Review:

Nonspeculative States Estimates

- Reviewed 6-8th
- Checked by commodity Statistician & Section Head

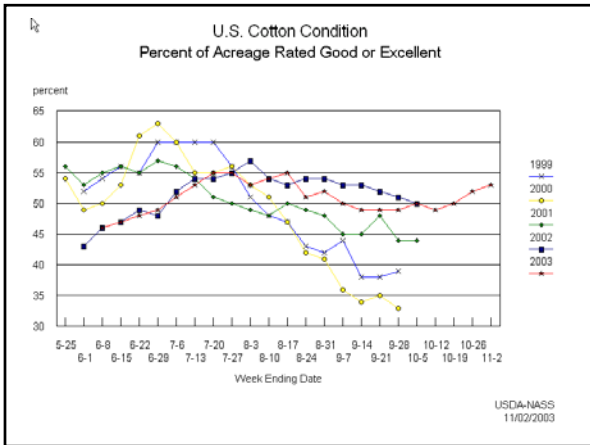
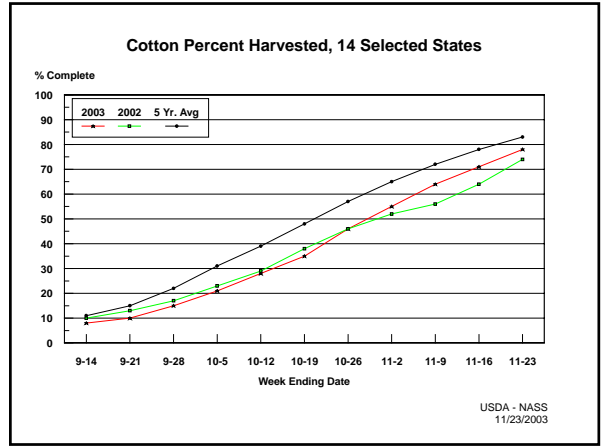
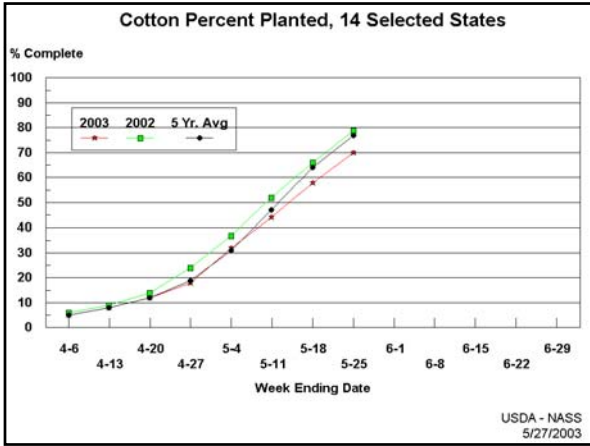
Speculative State Estimates

- Board sets Region estimate
- Commodity Stat & Section Head review States

Report Prepared and Published: 10-12th at 8:30 am

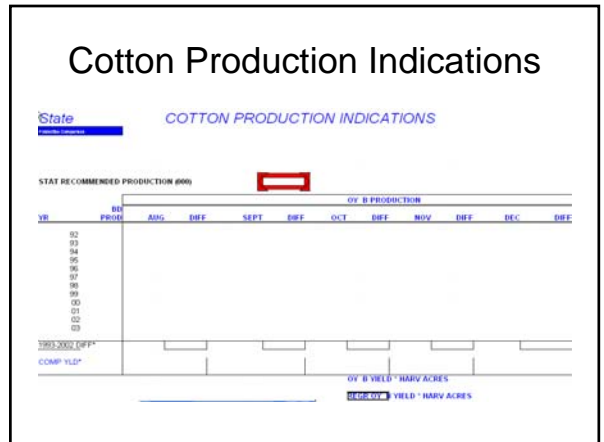
Monthly Ginnings Forecast

- Oct 1 approx 30% ginned to date (7 state)
- Nov 1 approx 45%
- Dec 1 approx 75%
- Jan 1 approx 95%

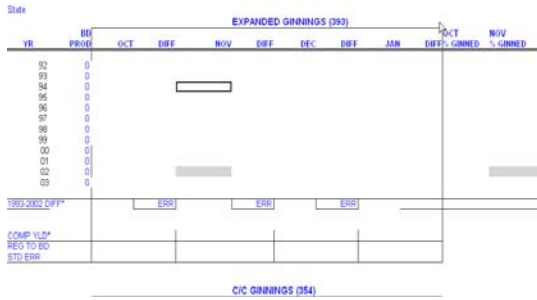


Board Process

- Analyze all indications available
- Use any extraneous data such as crop condition, current weather and stresses
- Forecast based on indications and conditions as of the first of the month



Cotton Ginnings Indications



Cotton Objective Yield Components

