



# San Patricio Agriculture

“Agriculture Affects Everyone”

219 N. Vineyard, Sinton, TX 78387; Phone: 361-587-3400; Fax: 361-364-6237

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST: December, 2023

- \* Southeast Region Row Crop Team Grain, Cotton, and Livestock Marketing update **3rd Wednesday** of month via TEAMS
- \* January 4 - Field Crop Symposium
- \* January 31 - Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection Event
- \* February 28 - Edible Container Gardening Workshop

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter by email instead of by U.S. Postal Service, please contact the Extension Office at 361/587-3400 or by email - [sanpatri@aq.tamu.edu](mailto:sanpatri@aq.tamu.edu)

County Website:  
<http://sanpatricio.agrilife.org>

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The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.

Hello Again,

We are at the end of another year, and as is so often is in agriculture, things have been far from what we envision as normal. The record high temperatures, with extended drought, caused some issues with most ag producers. However, grain sorghum and corn yields were exceptionally good, maybe the best yields recorded for the county as a whole. Cotton on the other hand, took a hit and in a large portion of the county yields were well below average. Livestock and ranchers in general had a rough summer also but as of now things have gotten better and most livestock are finding quality forage to consume. There has been some hay baled and some being baled, but hay supplies will continue to be tight through the winter. Hopefully we have a mild winter and some moisture and don't need a lot of hay, but that is yet to be determined. There is a lot of equipment running across the area, getting fertilizer out and fields ready for 2024.

The annual Field Crop Symposium, hosted by Nueces and San Patricio County AgriLife Extension, is scheduled for January 4, 2024 at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center, 10345 Hwy 44 in Corpus. We expect to offer 5 TDA CEU's and 5 CCA CEU's.

I am also looking forward to hosting an Edible Container Gardening Workshop on February 28, 2024 at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds Civic Center in Sinton. Dr. Monte Nesbitt, Extension Horticulture Specialist, College Station and Paul Winski, Extension Program Specialist will be on hand for the presentations. Dr. Nesbitt will discuss various plants and plant care and Mr. Winski will talk about, soil, design, and management. If you or anyone you know is interested in attending please call 361-587-3400 and let us know so as we begin registration and promotion we don't miss you. There will be more information available as we get closer to the workshop.

I have also included the results from the 2023 Cotton RACE Trial along with the Row Spacing Comparison results. We are planning to look at row spacing in cotton again in 2024 and hopefully get some good yield data also. I would also like to thank Rieder Farms, Barrett Farms and Setliff Farms for their management and resources of these trials along with AgriLife Research.

Please take note of the Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection on January 31, 2024 in Robstown. This is a great opportunity to be able to dispose of un-wanted chemicals. On the included flyer there is a list of what and will not be accepted. Please call if you have any questions.

Finally, I have included a fact sheet on poinsettias. Many receive or purchase these plants this time of the year, but the poinsettia will continue to grow and remain healthy if cared for properly for a long time.

As I usually conclude this time of the year I hope you get to spend time with family, eat some great food, get a nap or two, and enjoy Christmas.

Till Next Time  
Merry Christmas!

So often in Agriculture, there is not a simple answer to a simple question.



## *Caring for Poinsettias at Home*

*Prepared by: Dr. Kevin Ong (Dallas) & Dr. Karl Steddom (Overton), Asst. Professor & Extension Urban Plant Pathologist*

Did you know that the Poinsettia is a native plant of Mexico? The Aztecs used to cultivate these plants for their brilliant colors. During the Christmas season, we see lots of poinsettias in the lab. Here are some tips to care for your poinsettia to keep them looking good and to avoid some of the common diseases that affect them.

### COMMON DISEASES:

Pythium root rot is a common pathogen of Poinsettias. The pathogen attacks the roots of the poinsettia, causing them to change from a clean white to brown and mushy. When the poinsettias are sold, they are typically placed in a protective sleeve to prevent damage during shipping. These sleeves do not have drainage holes in the bottom. When water is allowed to stand in this sleeve, it encourages root rot from this pathogen. As the roots are destroyed, the plant will begin yellowing and dropping leaves. So remove the sleeves as soon as you get home! There are also several diseases that show up as spots or blotches on the leaves of poinsettias, typically on the lower (green) leaves. Many times, these are due to improper watering and stressing the plant. Removing the leaves and properly caring for your poinsettia will usually reduce the disease. However, prevention is always better than cure.

Here are some tips for reducing environmental stress on your poinsettia:

- Do NOT expose to cold or hot drafts. Poinsettias does best at 60-70 °F. If these plants get too cold, they can turn yellow and drop leaves rapidly.
- Do NOT drown poinsettia. Water only when the soil feels dry to the touch. Overwatering will encourage diseases.
- Do NOT fertilize when in bloom. This will help to maintain the bright colors through the Christmas season. DO fertilize after the season if you wish to keep the plant growing.

For more information on the history and diseases of poinsettias, check out this feature from the American Phytopathological Society at

<http://www.apsnet.org/online/feature/xmasflower/>



# Result Demonstration Report

## 2023 Replicated Agronomic Cotton Evaluation

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service San Patricio County 2023

Cooperators: Bobby Rieder Farms

Authors: Bobby R. McCool, Dr. Josh McGinty

### Summary

This test was located on the Bobby Rieder Farm in West Sinton, Texas. Ten cotton varieties were evaluated for agronomic performance. Soil moisture conditions were decent at planting and a good stand was established; however, high temperatures and drought took a big toll on the crop. PhytoGen 400 W3FE and PhytoGen 415 W3FE exhibited the highest yields and lint value. Yields across most of the county were well below the yearly county average.

### Objective

To provide an economic comparison of commercially available cotton varieties under San Patricio County rain-fed conditions in a replicated evaluation.

### Materials and Methods

The evaluation was done on Raymondville clay with a 0 to 1% slope. It was planted on March 23<sup>rd</sup> with a White Precision planter at a rate of 45,000 seeds/acre. Plots were 6 rows (38-inch spacing) by 2445 feet long and were replicated three times in a randomized complete block design. The test was fertilized with 48 lbs. / acre of nitrogen, 16 lbs. P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, 6 lbs. Sulfur and 4 lbs. Zinc. Weed control pre-plant consisted of 1 oz Valor /ac. During the growing season, 1.25 oz Centric and 24 oz glyphosate were applied for insect and weed control. Defoliation was accomplished with two applications of 2.1 oz of Klean- Pic®, per acre.

The test was harvested on August 21, 2023, using a JD 690 Picker, and individual bales were weighed on the turn-row with a portable bale scale, lint samples were pulled and turn-out was calculated using AgriLife gin results. Fiber quality measurements were obtained from HVI conducted at the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute at Texas Tech University.

### Results and Discussion

A summary of these results is shown below in Table 1. In this table, varieties are ranked based on their gross value per acre.

**Table 1.** Yield and economic comparison of San Patricio County RACE trial cotton varieties.

| Variety      | Yield (lbs/acre) |     | Turnout % | Micronaire |    | Length (inches) |    | Strength (g/tex) |     | Uniformity |    | Loan Value (¢/lbs) |     | Lint Value (\$/Ac) |    |
|--------------|------------------|-----|-----------|------------|----|-----------------|----|------------------|-----|------------|----|--------------------|-----|--------------------|----|
| PHY 400 W3FE | 407              | a   | 42.6      | 4.6        | c  | 1.10            | bc | 32.6             | ab  | 82.5       | ab | 53.42              | ab  | 218                | a  |
| PHY 415 W3FE | 403              | ab  | 41.4      | 4.5        | cd | 1.11            | b  | 34.1             | a   | 83.3       | a  | 53.42              | ab  | 215                | a  |
| PHY 332 W3FE | 379              | bc  | 40.5      | 4.4        | d  | 1.12            | ab | 32.6             | ab  | 82.9       | a  | 53.92              | a   | 204                | ab |
| DP 2020 B3XF | 385              | abc | 40.7      | 4.4        | d  | 1.10            | bc | 28.8             | def | 81.9       | bc | 52.90              | abc | 204                | ab |
| DP 2012 B3XF | 375              | cd  | 40.8      | 4.4        | d  | 1.08            | c  | 28.3             | ef  | 81.2       | c  | 52.72              | bc  | 198                | b  |
| NG 4190 B3XF | 348              | de  | 42.9      | 4.8        | b  | 1.10            | bc | 27.7             | f   | 82.5       | ab | 52.12              | c   | 182                | c  |
| DG 3519 B3XF | 321              | ef  | 40.3      | 4.5        | cd | 1.11            | b  | 31.4             | bc  | 82.7       | ab | 53.53              | ab  | 172                | c  |
| DG 3528 B3XF | 293              | g   | 41.1      | 4.8        | b  | 1.10            | bc | 29.9             | cde | 82.9       | a  | 53.07              | abc | 156                | d  |
| FM 2498 GLT  | 300              | fg  | 41.5      | 5.2        | a  | 1.11            | bc | 30.3             | cd  | 82.7       | ab | 50.68              | d   | 152                | d  |
| DP 2239 B3XF | 274              | g   | 42.0      | 4.5        | cd | 1.14            | a  | 29.2             | def | 81.5       | c  | 53.72              | ab  | 147                | d  |
| Mean         | 349              |     | 41.4      | 4.6        |    | 1.11            |    | 30.5             |     | 82.4       |    | 52.95              |     | 185                |    |
| P>F          | <0.0001          |     | 0.4176    | <0.0001    |    | 0.0599          |    | <0.0001          |     | 0.0272     |    | 0.0037             |     | <0.0001            |    |
| LSD (P=.10)  | 27.4             |     | NS        | 0.20       |    | 0.024           |    | 1.63             |     | 0.95       |    | 1.117              |     | 14.2               |    |
| STD DEV      | 51.24            |     | 1.42      | 0.28       |    | 0.02            |    | 2.27             |     | 0.86       |    | 1.14               |     | 28.30              |    |
| CV%          | 14.69            |     | 3.44      | 6.13       |    | 1.86            |    | 7.44             |     | 1.04       |    | 2.16               |     | 15.31              |    |

### Conclusions

Using the yield and other factors listed above PhytoGen 400 W3FE (\$218) /acre had the highest economic return, whereas the lowest economic return of the test was \$147/ acre, a difference of \$71.00 / acre. In this test we can see a statistical difference in the economic returns of the various varieties. Thus, the continued testing of cotton varieties in local conditions is necessary for the advancement of varieties suited for this county.

### Acknowledgements

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bobby Rieder Farms and sons Joey and Jake for the use of their resources, management and support of AgriLife Extension and our County endeavors. To Dr. Josh McGinty, Jonathan Rameriz, Clint Livingston, Rudy Alaniz, Jerry Kostroun, and Danny Gonzales in help with data collection and the seed companies for their support in this endeavor.



## Result Demonstration Report

# 2023 Row Spacing Comparison

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service San Patricio County 2023

Cooperators: Setliff Farms, Barrett Farms

Authors: Bobby R. McCool, Dr. Josh McGinty

### Summary

To evaluate future possibilities of using wider rows to efficiently grow cotton in this area, two efforts were undertaken in 2023 – on-farm demonstrations of wide row vs conventional row spacings at three San Patricio County sites, and a replicated experiment focused on row spacings and seeding rates at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Corpus Christi. In San Patricio County, Field 1 (F1) was located on FM 1069 near Tynan, Field 2 (F2) was located on FM 1069 near Edroy and Field 3 (F3) was located on FM 666 west of Mathis. These on-farm demonstrations were not replicated but were done to get an idea of whether yields and lint quality would be similar and if future evaluations were warranted. The replicated trial at Corpus Christi was designed to evaluate a number of row spacing configurations and seeding rates in a replicated manner to accompany the on-farm demonstrations in San Patricio County.

### Objective

To provide a side-by-side and replicated comparisons of wide row cotton and conventionally planted cotton under the same management scheme under rainfed Coastal Bend conditions to determine if yield and fiber quality are affected.

### Materials and Methods

For the on-farm demonstrations, three fields at separate locations were used. Field 1 was 24 rows on 80 inches, Field 2 was 48 rows on 80 inches and Field 3 was 72 rows on 60 inches. Each plot was managed the same as the rest of the field. Module weights were taken using on-board scales and lint samples were hand pulled from the wide row modules and surrounding conventional row modules.

Field 1 and 2 were harvested with a JD CP 690, and Field 3 a JD CP 770 both machines had on-board scales. Lint samples were pulled and turn-out was calculated using AgriLife gin results. Fiber quality measurements were obtained from HVI conducted at the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute (FBRI) at Texas Tech University.

The replicated trial included row spacings of 38, 45, and 76 inches as well as 2:1 skip-row on 38 inch spacing as well as several seeding rates of each. This trial was designed as a randomized complete block with four replications with 25 x 35' plots. Phytogen 400 W3FE was planted on March 28<sup>th</sup> and emerged to good stands. The trial received 6 oz of mepiquat on May 30, followed by 12 oz on June 13. Plots were harvested with a JD 9930 plot picker on August 7, seed cotton was ginned on a 10-saw tabletop gin, and fiber samples were sent to FBRI for HVI analysis.

### Results and Discussion

A summary of the results of the on-farm demonstrations is shown below in Table 1. In this table, lint quality and values were determined by AgriLife Research gin and HVI at the FBRI in Lubbock, TX.

**Table 1.** Lint results from three locations in San Patricio County, Conventional Row spacings vs. Wide Row spacings.

| Plot          | Turnout (%) | Micronaire | Length (inches) | Uniformity (%) | Strength (g/tex) | Loan Value (cents/lb) |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| F1 CON 40"    | 41.9        | 4.33       | 1.11            | 82.3           | 28.2             | 53.55                 |
| F1 SKIP 80"   | 39.7        | 4.06       | 1.17            | 83.9           | 30.1             | 54.10                 |
| F2 40' FIELD  | 40.4        | 4.03       | 1.08            | 81.3           | 27.7             | 52.65                 |
| F2 SKIP 1 80" | 38.7        | 3.89       | 1.10            | 82.5           | 29.9             | 52.75                 |
| F2 SKIP 2 80" | 38.8        | 3.94       | 1.15            | 84.3           | 31.9             | 54.30                 |
| F3 30" (A)    | 41.6        | 3.89       | 1.12            | 82.4           | 33.9             | 54.15                 |
| F3 (A) 60"    | 41.3        | 3.95       | 1.14            | 83.1           | 36.8             | 54.40                 |
| F3 30" (B)    | 42.5        | 3.93       | 1.12            | 83.4           | 32.8             | 54.05                 |
| F3 (B) 60"    | 35.6        | 4.30       | 1.11            | 82.6           | 35.1             | 54.05                 |

A summary of the results of the replicated trial at Corpus Christi is shown in Table 2 (final page). Significant differences among treatments were detected for lint yield, fiber strength, and lint value.

### Conclusions

For the on-farm demonstrations, the yield results in F1 and F2 were somewhat distorted in collection and will not be recorded but the wide rows trended toward a slightly better yield. F3 was comparable in data collection and showed an increase of 124# in the 30" rows over the 60" row spacing. There was also a trend toward greater fiber strength in wider row spacings at these locations. The initial assessment of these results should not be construed as a reason to use or not to use wide rows, but to give an initial look into the possible impacts of these row configurations.

In the replicated experiment at Corpus Christi, some significant differences were detected among treatments, however no clear trends were observed for either row spacings or seeding rates. This may be attributed to the unusually stressful growing conditions experienced in the latter half of the 2023 growing season. To better understand the impacts of these row spacings, further testing is needed in this region.

### Acknowledgements

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Setliff Farms and Barrett Farms for the use of their resources, management and support of AgriLife Extension and our County endeavors. Many thanks are also extended to the Texas State Support Committee for funding the replicated experiment at Corpus Christi.

**Table 2.** Summary of lint yield, HVI, and loan value of various row spacings and seeding rates, Corpus Christi, TX, 2023.

| Row Spacing  | Seed Drop seed/ft | Seed/field acre  | Lint Yield lb/A | Turnout % | Micronaire | Length inches | Uniformity % | Strength g/tex | Loan value cents/lb | Lint Value \$/A |
|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 2:1 skip 38" | 2.25              | 20,634           | 710 a           | 43.5      | 4.04       | 1.08          | 83.0         | 32.4 ab        | 53.11               | 377 a           |
| 45"          | 3.58              | 41,268           | 643 ab          | 41.7      | 3.75       | 1.07          | 81.5         | 30.7 bc        | 51.28               | 331 ab          |
| 76"          | 6                 | 41,268           | 616 ab          | 41.2      | 3.83       | 1.09          | 82.4         | 32.1 ab        | 53.50               | 329 ab          |
| 38"          | 3                 | 27,512           | 620 ab          | 41.6      | 3.68       | 1.07          | 81.5         | 30.0 c         | 52.51               | 325 ab          |
| 76"          | 3                 | 20,634           | 593 ab          | 42.7      | 3.87       | 1.10          | 83.2         | 32.9 a         | 53.20               | 315 ab          |
| 2:1 skip 38" | 4.5               | 41,268           | 524 bc          | 42.1      | 3.94       | 1.08          | 81.9         | 31.2 abc       | 52.73               | 277 bc          |
| 2:1 skip 38" | 3                 | 27,512           | 446 c           | 41.7      | 3.75       | 1.07          | 81.9         | 31.1 abc       | 52.81               | 236 c           |
| 38"          | 1.5               | 20,634           | 400 c           | 41.9      | 3.87       | 1.07          | 81.8         | 29.9 c         | 52.20               | 209 c           |
|              |                   | <b>MEAN</b>      | 569             | 42.0      | 3.86       | 1.08          | 82.2         | 31.4           | 52.67               | 300             |
|              |                   | <b>PROB&gt;F</b> | 0.005           | 0.2903    | 0.1504     | 0.3699        | 0.2423       | 0.023          | 0.2628              | 0.005           |



# FIELD CROP SYMPOSIUM

**JANUARY 4, 2024**

**Online Registration \$25  
In-Person \$40 (includes lunch)**

**Registration will begin at 7:30 am**

**Auxin Training at 7:45 am**

**Program begins at 9:00 am**

**This program will provide updates to Growers on Crop Management considerations for the 2024 growing season including: 2023 Research Trials and Observations, Weed and Insect Management in Cotton and Sorghum in the Coastal Bend, and Field Crop Diseases. 4 TDA CEU's expected to be offered and 1 Auxin Training Laws and Regulations.**



**USE THE QR CODE OR LINK AT THE BOTTOM TO REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/2024-FIELD-CROP-SYMPOSIUM-TICKETS-779768046217?AFF=ODDTDTCREATOR](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-field-crop-symposium-tickets-779768046217?aff=ODDTDTCREATOR)**

**OR BY CALLING JOSIE AT 361.767.5223 ON OR BEFORE JAN 3, 2024**



**Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center  
10345 Highway 44, Corpus Christi, TX  
8am - 3pm**

**For additional information, please contact Jaime Lopez at 361.767.5220 or Bobby McCool at 361.587.3400**



# Agricultural Pesticide Waste Collection Event

Wednesday, January 31, 2024 | 8 AM - Noon

**Richard M. Borchard Fairgrounds  
1213 Terry Shamsie Blvd  
Robstown, TX 78380**

Unwanted or Surplus Agricultural Pesticides?  
Dispose of them Free and Anonymously without leaving your Vehicle!

### MATERIALS ACCEPTED

Outdated, Discontinued or Unwanted:

- Pesticides
- Insecticides
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Rodenticides
- Nematicides
- Growth Regulators
- Treated Seed

**Keep pesticides in original containers. If damaged, place into a larger chemical resistant container.**

### MATERIALS NOT ACCEPTED

- Dioxins (2,4-5T, Silvex, TCDD, etc.)
- Empty Totes
- Fertilizers
- Fumigant Canisters
- Household Hazardous Wastes (HHW)
- Methyl-Bromide Cylinders
- Motor Oil
- Paint
- Pesticide Rinsate
- Phostoxins
- Propane or Butane Cylinders
- Radioactive Substances
- Tires

For questions or additional information, contact the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) at (512) 463-7622, TDA San Juan Regional Office at (956) 787-8866, or the Nueces County AgriLife Extension office at (361) 767-5223



CleanEarth.



**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER**

# TEXAS A&M AGRI LIFE EXTENSION

*Bobby R. McCool  
San Patricio County Extension Agent  
Agriculture/Natural Resources  
219 N. Vineyard  
Sinton, TX 78387*

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Individuals with disabilities who require an auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any Extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-587-3400 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

In the event of a name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service  
219 N. Vineyard Attn: Ag/NR  
Sinton, Texas 78387  
(361) 587-3400

*Bobby R. McCool  
County Extension Agent  
Agriculture/Natural Resources  
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, San Patricio County  
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