

Williamson County Result Demonstration Report



COTTON HARVEST AID EVALUATION

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SUMMARY:

Twenty-three harvest aid treatments were applied on August 4, 2003 to cotton just east of Hutto. Treatments containing Dropp and/or Ginstar generally provided the best defoliation. Also, the same treatments did not exhibit regrowth through 10 DAT (days after treatment) as did the desiccant treatments.

OBJECTIVE:

The effectiveness of cotton harvest aids vary from season to season and even within a season based on various environmental factors. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the performance/economics of 23 potential harvest aid treatments under early harvest-season environmental conditions.

MATERIALS & METHODS:

Treatments were applied on August 4, 2003 to a field of DP 20B that was planted on March 27. The field was about 3 miles east of Hutto on CR 132. The cotton was on 38" rows and plots were 4 rows wide and approximately 150 ft. in length. Treatments were applied with a self-propelled sprayer operating at 3 mph. Two 11002 nozzles per row were operated at 50 psi delivering 11 gallons per acre.

Trade names of commercial products used in this report are included only for better understanding and clarity. Reference to commercial products or trade names is made with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Texas A&M University System is implied. Readers should realize that results from one experiment do not represent conclusive evidence that the same response would occur where conditions vary.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

A list of all of the harvest aid treatments applied for this evaluation, including the untreated check are listed in Table 1. Dropp @ 0.1 lb/acre + Ginstar @ 4.3 oz/acre provided the highest defoliation rating of all the treatments at 7 DAT (days after treatment) with a rating of 96% defoliation (Table 2). Ginstar @ 6 oz/acre, Ginstar @ 3 oz/acre + Finish @ 12 oz/acre, and Leafless @ 12 oz/acre each provided 90% or better defoliation at 7 DAT. Cyclone Max @ 16 oz/acre had the lowest defoliation rating at 7 DAT with about 50% defoliation. Cyclone Max @ 8 oz/acre had a defoliation rating of 85% at 7 DAT.

Dropp @ 0.1 lb/acre + Ginstar @ 4.3 oz/acre also provided the highest overall performance rating at 7 DAT. Because the variety was not Roundup Ready, the grower was able to use Roundup as a harvest aid for regrowth suppression. Although performance of the Roundup was not at the level of the top treatments at 7 DAT, the Roundup Ultra Max @ 16 oz/acre + Dropp @ 0.1 lb/acre provided excellent performance between 10-14 DAT.

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