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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
Cotton Branch

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CHARGES FOR GINNING COTTON, COSTS OF SERVICES INCIDENT TO
MARKETING, AND RELATED DATA, SEASON 1951-52 1/

Ginning charges. Cotton producers in the United States paid \$12.04 on the average for ginning and wrapping a 500-pound gross-weight bale during the 1951-52 season. This charge represents an increase of 7.6 percent when compared with the similar charge by ginners during the 1950-51 season. Charges for bagging and ties represented about 30 percent of the total ginning charge or an average of \$3.62 per pattern for the Cotton Belt as a whole. Charges for ginning and wrapping in 1951-52, by States, ranged from \$17.75 per standard weight bale in Missouri to \$8.37 in Alabama. Ginning charges increased in all cotton-producing States, but the largest advances occurred in the southwest and western areas. In New Mexico, average charges were greater than those of 1950-51 by about 29 percent, or \$3.28 per bale. Charges increased from 10 to 20 percent in California, Texas, Oklahoma, and Arizona. Relatively moderate advances occurred in the South Central States ranging from 1 percent in Missouri to 6 percent in Louisiana. In the Southeast, the cost to growers for ginning increased by from 5 to 20 percent with the largest advances occurring in the fringe States of Florida and Virginia. Charges for ginning American Egyptian cotton on roller gins in the western area averaged \$21.24 per 500-pound bale or less than 1 percent above the average charge in 1950-51.

Pounds of seed cotton required for a 500-pound gross-weight bale. The average amount of hand-picked seed cotton needed to produce a standard weight bale of upland cotton in 1951-52 was 1,371 pounds for the Cotton Belt as compared with 1,356 pounds in 1950-51. For upland cotton harvested by hand-snapping, 2,015 pounds of seed cotton were necessary in 1951-52. Producers of American Egyptian cotton required 1,654 pounds of hand-picked cotton to provide a 500-pound bale.

Methods of harvesting. Ginners estimated that about 61 percent of the 1951-52 crop was harvested by hand-picking, 24 percent by hand-snapping, and 15 percent by other methods such as mechanical pickers or machine strippers. Hand-picking continues as the most important harvesting method in all States except California, Oklahoma, and Texas. More than one-half of the production in California in 1951-52 was harvested by mechanical pickers whereas major parts of the production in Oklahoma and Texas were hand-snapped.

Purchases of cotton by ginners. In 1951-52, cotton sold by growers to ginners in the United States represented about 29 percent of the total crop. Each season, from about one-fifth to one-third of the cotton crop is sold by growers to ginners. From 1 to 7 percent of the crop in the various States was purchased in the form of seed cotton, consisting mostly of remnant or less-than-bale lots.

Services incident to marketing. On the whole in 1951-52, costs associated with the primary marketing of cotton remained fairly stable. Receiving charges at compresses and warehouses in the United States averaged 65 cents per bale which was identical with that of the 1950-51 season. The monthly storage rate increased slightly, averaging 37 cents per bale. Compression charges for standard density and high density bales averaged \$1.19 and \$1.34 per bale, respectively, for the Cotton Belt as a whole, an increase of 2 cents and 3 cents above charges for similar services in 1950-51.

1/ This study was conducted under the direction of John W. Wright, Chief, Research and Testing Division, Cotton Branch. Collection of the original data was made possible by the cooperation of field representatives of the Cotton Branch and ginners, compressmen, and warehousemen.

(See reverse side of this sheet for more detailed information by States.)

Average charges for ginning upland cotton, extent of ginner purchases of cotton, average charges for services incident to marketing, and related information, by States, season 1951-52

Item	U. S.	Ala.	Ariz.	Ark.	Calif.	Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Mo.	N. Mex.	N. C.	Okla.	S. C.	Tenn.	Tex.	Va.
CHARGES FOR GINNING AND WRAPPING UPLAND COTTON																	
Total charge per 500-pound gross-weight bale.....dollars	12.04	8.37	11.41	13.42	11.20	10.00	9.71	11.17	10.68	17.75	11.42	10.07	15.48	9.58	10.40	11.18	8.68
Charge per bale for bagging and ties when assessed separately.....dollars	3.62	3.07	3.44	3.73	3.45	3.00	3.12	3.63	3.72	4.51	3.88	3.26	3.75	3.16	3.72	3.78	--
WEIGHT OF SEED COTTON PER 500-POUND BALE																	
Hand-picked.....pounds	1,371	1,534	1,440	1,596	1,400	2,132	1,400	1,319	1,500	1,500	1,411	1,542	1,410	2,132	1,354	1,432	1,309
Hand-sampled.....pounds	2,015	1,818	2,285	2,037	2,132	2,132	2,037	1,621	2,175	2,175	2,240	1,866	1,970	2,132	1,932	2,001	--
METHOD OF HAULING																	
Hand-picked.....percent	61	94	58	78	40	94	93	84	90	72	65	98	4	97	85	26	100
Hand-sampled.....percent	24	6	16	20	7	5	5	5	3	27	30	1	83	1/4	17	55	--
Other 3/4.....percent	15	1/4	26	2	53	1	2	11	7	1	7	1	13	3	1/4	19	--
PROPORTION OF PRODUCTION PURCHASED FROM GINNERS BY GINNERS																	
Purchased as seed cotton.....percent	1	1	--	1	--	4	1/4	1/4	1/4	1	1/4	7	6	1/4	7	1	57
Purchased as baled lint.....percent	28	33	--	35	--	94	33	28	1	96	3	45	51	26	85	34	28
METHOD OF HAULING SEED COTTON TO GINS																	
By growers:																	
With wagons.....percent	6	14	--	11	--	7	8	17	12	1	--	8	1/4	7	20	1	8
With motor vehicles.....percent	80	78	100	85	100	88	78	81	84	97	100	78	90	77	77	64	78
By ginners' trucks.....percent	3	4	--	1/4	--	--	12	1	1	--	--	11	--	11	2	1/4	14
By commercial truckers.....percent	11	4	1/4	4	--	5	2	1	3	2	--	3	10	5	1	35	--
COST PER BALE TO GINNERS FOR HAULING PERFORMED BY--																	
Ginners.....dollars	1.62	1.70	--	1.87	--	--	1.57	2.77	1.55	--	--	1.67	--	1.52	1.26	2.49	1.90
Commercial truckers 2/3.....dollars	5.96	2.81	6/7	2.90	--	2.64	2.33	2.05	2.45	2.50	--	2.12	5.53	2.19	2.03	6.55	--
CHARGES FOR WAREHOUSING AND RELATED SERVICES																	
Charge per bale for receiving cotton at public cotton storage facilities.....cents	65	56	75	56	78	6/7	53	57	57	55	75	44	75	46	50	76	6/7
Charge per bale per month for storage 1/3.....cents	37	44	30	34	30	6/7	46	35	35	33	37	40	45	41	36	40	6/7
Charge per bale for compressing cotton to-- Standard density.....dollars	1.19	1.16	1.40	1.00	1.40	6/7	1.08	1.11	1.08	1.00	1.60	6/7	1.25	1.04	1.00	1.32	--
High density.....dollars	1.34	1.25	1.50	1.25	1.50	5/7	1.19	1.24	1.28	1.25	1.85	--	1.25	1.12	1.25	1.34	--

1/ Includes separate charges for drying seed cotton.
 2/ Seed cotton customarily not weighed since charges largely were assessed on the basis of the weight of lint.
 3/ Includes machine-picking and machine-stripping.
 4/ Loss less than 0.5 percent.
 5/ Excludes any part of hauling cost which was paid by ginners.
 6/ Insufficient data.
 7/ Approximately 82 percent of storage firms included insurance in the storage charge.