

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Economic Research Service, Marketing Economics Division, and  
Consumer and Marketing Service, Cotton Division 1/

CHARGES FOR GINNING COTTON, COSTS OF SELECTED SERVICES INCIDENT TO  
MARKETING, AND RELATED INFORMATION, SEASON 1967-68

Ginning charges.--The average charge for saw ginning and wrapping a 500-pound gross-weight bale of upland cotton in the United States was \$18.60 during the 1967-68 season, an increase of 35 cents over the 1966-67 average. The average charge, by States, varied from \$21.36 per bale in California to \$13.36 in Alabama. Total per bale charges in 1967-68, compared with 1966-67, were down in 10 States and up in five. There was virtually no production reported for Virginia. Charges for bagging and ties, when assessed separately, averaged \$5.69 per bale, or 21 cents more than in the previous season. The 1967-68 average charge for roller ginning and wrapping a 500-pound bale of American-Egyptian cotton was \$28.13--up from \$27.09 in 1967-68.

Production of upland cotton was down more than 2 million bales from the 1966 and 7 million bales from the 1965 productions. The Census report showed a decline in active gins from 4,870 in 1965 to 4,608 in 1966 and to only 4,202 in 1967.

Methods of harvesting.--This season, 94 percent of upland cotton was machine-harvested, compared with 89 percent last season. Throughout the Cotton Belt, 5 percent was hand-picked, 1 percent hand-snapped, 67 percent machine-picked, 26 percent machine-stripped, and 1 percent machine-scraped, or harvested from the ground.

Pounds of seed cotton required for a 500-pound gross-weight bale.--In 1967-68, pounds of seed cotton required per 500-pound upland bale were: hand-picked, 1,370; hand-snapped, 2,322; machine-picked, 1,528; machine-stripped, 2,294; and machine-scraped, 2,513. There was a significant increase in machine-picked seed cotton required per bale, and a moderate decrease in machine-stripped seed cotton required per bale. These changes resulted in markedly higher ginning charges in some States, especially California, and lower charges in Oklahoma, where most cotton is machine-stripped.

Purchases of cotton by ginners.--Growers sold 22 percent of their crop to ginners, compared with 21 percent of the 1966-67 crop.

Selected services incident to marketing.--The average receiving charge made by public warehouses was 83 cents per bale. The average tariff charge for storage was 54 cents per bale per month for cotton not under Government loan or acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Compression charges averaged \$1.87 per bale for standard density and \$2.12 for high density, up 17 and 16 cents per bale, respectively. Effective February 1, 1968, there was a further increase in charges for compressing due to increased minimum wages, but most of the 1967 crop had been processed by that time.

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1/ Primary data were collected and preliminary computations were made by the Cotton Division, Consumer and Marketing Service, with the cooperation of ginners and warehousemen. (See reverse of this sheet for detailed figures by States.)

Average charges for saw ginning upland cotton, average charges for selected services incident to marketing, and related information, by State, season 1967-68

Item	U.S.	Ala.	Ariz. and Nev.	Ark.	Calif.	Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Mo.	N. Mex.	N.C.	Okla.	S.C.	Tenn.	Texas
BALES GINNED* (running bales)..... thousands	7,339	198	417	503	1,056	7	229	430	1,061	60	134	48	189	184	145	2,676
WRAPPING AND GINNING CHARGES PER BALE:																
Total charge per 500-pound gross-weight bale 1/..... dollars	18.60	13.36	20.64	18.00	21.36	14.31	13.65	17.48	16.08	20.48	19.21	15.08	19.25	15.37	18.42	19.48
Charge per bale for bagging and ties when assessed separately..... dollars	5.69	4.36	2/	5.47	2/	4.50	4.04	5.37	5.76	5.97	5.42	4.67	5.00	4.31	5.40	5.98
METHOD OF HARVESTING:																
Hand-picked..... percent	5	16	3/	6	3/	3	11	7	13	4	5	20	3/	27	10	1
Hand-snapped..... percent	1	3	--	1	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	4	--	2	--	7	2
Machine-picked..... percent	67	81	91	93	99	97	89	93	87	96	81	80	10	73	83	29
Machine-stripped..... percent	26	--	--	3/	--	--	3/	--	--	--	8	3/	88	--	--	67
Machine-scrapped..... percent	1	--	9	3/	1	--	--	--	3/	--	2	--	--	--	--	1
WEIGHT OF SEED COTTON PER 500-POUND BALE:																
Hand-picked..... pounds	1,370	1,399	1,531	1,448	1,496	4/	4/	1,372	1,332	1,504	1,386	1,344	1,452	4/	1,419	1,425
Hand-snapped..... pounds	2,322	1,436	--	2,108	2,359	5/	4/	2,079	1,510	2,345	2,043	--	2,056	--	2,158	2,492
Machine-picked..... pounds	1,528	1,478	1,478	1,495	1,595	4/	4/	1,509	1,432	1,537	1,501	1,428	1,465	4/	1,612	1,604
Machine-stripped..... pounds	2,294	--	--	2,864	--	--	5/	--	--	--	2,187	5/	2,116	--	--	2,311
Machine-scrapped..... pounds	2,513	--	2,393	2,179	2,446	--	--	--	2,865	--	2,542	--	--	--	--	2,641
PROPORTION OF PRODUCTION PURCHASED FROM GROWERS BY GINNERS:																
Purchased as seed cotton..... percent	3/	1	--	3/	--	3/	3/	3/	3/	3/	--	1	3/	--	1	3/
Purchased as baled lint..... percent	22	35	--	17	3	80	27	13	6	96	3/	51	39	71	86	29
CHARGES FOR WAREHOUSING AND RELATED SERVICES:																
Charge per bale for receiving cotton at public warehouses..... cents	83	106	73	75	50	6/	106	82	79	75	75	62	75	80	76	98
Charge per bale per month for insured storage 7/..... cents	54	60	59	55	51	6/	58	53	55	55	47	53	50	56	55	53
Charge per bale for compressing cotton co--	1.87	1.69	2.00	1.68	2.00	--	1.65	1.55	1.46	1.35	2.10	1.75	2.27	1.75	1.37	2.12
Standard density 8/..... dollars	2.12	1.94	2.25	2.16	2.21	--	2.10	1.92	2.03	1.80	2.20	2.00	2.27	2.00	1.81	2.14
High density 8/..... dollars																

1/ Includes bagging and ties, drying of seed cotton, and use of lint cleaners.  
 2/ Separate charges customarily not made for bagging and ties.  
 3/ Less than 0.5 percent.  
 4/ Seed cotton usually not weighed.  
 5/ Insignificant proportion of cotton harvested by this method.  
 6/ Not specified because of small number of facilities.  
 7/ Based on published tariffs. For storage under Government price-support programs, warehousemen are paid lower rates.  
 8/ Excludes extra charges occasionally made for high density compression of standard density bales as compared to that for flat bales. Most compresses make the same charge for either type of bale.  
 \* Based on the report of March 26, 1968, by Bureau of the Census but excluding all American-Egyptian bales and an estimated 24,191 bales of roller-ginned upland cotton. Also excluded are 328 bales ginned in Illinois, Kentucky, and Virginia.