

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Economic Research Service, Commodity Economics Division and
Agricultural Marketing Service, Cotton Division 1/

CHARGES FOR GINNING COTTON, COSTS OF SELECTED SERVICES INCIDENT TO
MARKETING, AND RELATED INFORMATION, SEASON 1973-74

Ginning charges.--The average charge for saw ginning and wrapping a 480-pound net-weight bale of upland cotton in the United States was \$23.74 during the 1973-74 season, an increase of \$2.73 over the 1972-73 average. The average charges varied from \$19.10 in Alabama to \$27.71 in Tennessee. Total per bale charges in 1973-74 were up in all States. The most noticeable increases were in New Mexico and Tennessee, where charges went up \$5.56 and \$8.90, respectively. Increases in charges ranged from \$0.44 in California to \$8.90 in Tennessee. Charges for bagging and ties, when assessed separately, increased from \$6.33 to \$7.20 a bale. The 1973-74 average charge for roller ginning and wrapping a 480-pound net-weight bale of American Pima cotton was \$32.73--up from \$31.90 in 1972-73.

Production of upland cotton was down 653 thousand bales from 1972 and up 2,405 thousand bales from 1971. Production of American Pima cotton decreased approximately 16 thousand bales from 1972. The number of active gins for the 1973 crop was 3,280 compared with 3,517 in 1972 and 3,623 in 1971.

Method of harvesting.--Almost 100 percent of upland cotton was machine-harvested, as in 1972. Throughout the Cotton Belt, less than 0.5 percent was hand-picked; less than 0.5 percent hand-snapped; 63 percent machine-picked; 36 percent machine-stripped; and 1 percent machine-scraped.

Pounds of seed cotton required for a 480-pound net-weight bale.--In 1973-74, pounds of seed cotton required per 480-pound upland bale were: hand-picked, 1,339; hand-snapped, 1,973; machine-picked, 1,445; machine-stripped, 2,132; and machine-scraped, 2,370. The most noticeable changes were in the reduced amounts of hand-snapped and machine-stripped seed cotton weights required per bale.

Purchases of cotton by ginners.--Growers sold 25 percent of their crop to ginners as baled lint, down 3 percent from 1972-73. The percentages varied from 100 percent in Missouri to practically none in California, Mississippi, and New Mexico.

Selected services incident to marketing.--Average receiving charges made by warehousemen rose 8 cents a bale to \$1.18. The average storage charge increased 7 cents a bale per month to 76 cents for cotton not under Government loan, or acquired by the Commodity Credit Corporation. Compression charges averaged \$2.73, \$2.76, and \$2.72 for standard, high, and universal density, respectively. Standard density cost rose 37 cents and high density rose 10 cents per bale over the previous year.

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

Average charges for saw ginned upland cotton, average charges for selected services incident to marketing and related information, by State, season 1973-74

Item	U.S.	Ala.	Ariz.	Ark.	Calif.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Mo.	New Mex.	N.C.	OKla.	S.C.	Tenn.	Texas	
BALES GINNED* (running bales).....	Thousands	12,500	442	605	1,014	1,755	377	508	1,733	177	133	165	411	287	424	4,470
WRAPPING AND GINNING CHARGES PER BALE:																
Total charge per 480-pound net-weight bale 1/.....	Dollars	23.74	19.10	23.47	22.74	23.50	20.12	21.86	21.03	26.65	25.64	24.45	22.79	24.23	27.71	25.60
Charges per bale for bagging and ties when assessed separately.....	"	7.20	5.30	2/	6.22	2/	4.81	5.76	6.91	6.65	5.69	5.85	5.50	5.46	2/	8.00
METHOD OF HARVESTING:																
Hand-picked.....	Percent	3/	1	---	3/	3/	1	3/	1	---	1	1	---	2	1	3/
Hand-snapped.....	"	3/	6	---	3/	---	3/	3/	---	---	3/	---	3/	---	---	3/
Machine-picked.....	"	63	93	91	100	99	99	100	99	100	75	99	3/	98	99	9
Machine-stripped.....	"	36	3/	1	3/	---	---	---	---	---	18	---	100	---	3/	90
Machine-scraped.....	"	1	---	8	---	1	---	---	---	---	6	---	3/	---	---	1
WEIGHT OF SEED COTTON PER 480-POUND NET-WEIGHT BALE:																
Hand-picked.....	Pounds	1,339	1,307	---	1,356	---	4/	1,243	---	---	1,348	1,339	---	1,566	1,373	1,459
Hand-snapped.....	"	1,973	---	---	1,875	---	4/	---	---	---	1,809	---	---	1,909	---	2,038
Machine-picked.....	"	1,445	1,397	1,554	1,440	1,531	4/	1,296	1,451	1,527	1,479	1,375	1,532	1,440	1,533	---
Machine-stripped.....	"	2,132	---	1,878	2,052	---	4/	---	---	---	2,092	---	2,035	---	1,708	2,143
Machine-scraped.....	"	2,370	---	2,262	---	2,449	4/	---	---	---	2,412	---	2,227	---	---	2,506
PROPORTION OF PRODUCTION PURCHASED FROM GROWERS BY GINNERS:																
Purchased as Baled lint.....	Percent	25	36	2	13	---	33	4	---	100	---	27	66	49	69	38
CHARGES FOR WAREHOUSING AND RELATED SERVICES:																
Charge per bale for receiving cotton at public warehouses.....	Dollars	1.18	1.37	2/	1.16	2/	1.40	1.23	1.19	1.15	.83	.92	1.10	1.03	1.15	1.17
Charge per bale per month for insured storage 5/.....	"	.76	.75	.71	.90	.67	.74	.77	.78	.86	.68	.65	1.19	.66	.88	.72
Charge per bale for compressing cotton to--																
Standard density.....	"	2.73	2.65	2.59	2.67	2.58	2.33	2.59	2.63	2.64	2.75	2.55	3.00	2.39	2.64	2.88
High density 6/.....	"	2.76	2.75	2.60	---	2.83	2.85	2.15	2.81	2.18	---	2.70	---	3.65	3.02	2.76
Universal density.....	"	2.72	---	2.60	2.67	---	---	2.63	2.55	2.64	2.75	---	---	---	2.64	2.76

1/ Includes bagging and ties, drying of seed cotton, and use of lint cleaners, but does not reflect any patronage dividends or customer rebates.
 2/ Separate charges customarily not made. 3/ Less than 0.5 percent. 4/ Seed cotton usually not weighed. 5/ Based on published tariffs. For storage under Government price-support programs, warehousemen are paid lower rates. 6/ Excludes extra charges occasionally made for high density compression of standard density bales, compared with that for flat bales. Most compresses made the same charge for either type of bale.
 *Based on report of April 1974 by Bureau of the Census, but excluding all American Pima bales. Also excluded are 15,959 bales ginned in Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Nevada, and Virginia. Totals will not exactly equal census figures due to rounding.