

April 1950

CHARGES FOR GINNING COTTON AND RELATED DATA, SEASON 1949-50 1/

Ginning charges: According to data obtained from 12.5 percent of the gins in active operation during the 1949-50 season, the average charge paid by growers for ginning and wrapping a 500-pound gross-weight bale of upland cotton was \$10.47. During 1948-49, the similar charge was \$9.65 per standard-weight bale. Charges at gins for bagging and ties in 1949-50 averaged \$3.38 per bale or about 32 percent of the total charges. In 1948-49 the average charge for bagging and ties was \$3.09 per bale. Ginning charges by States in the 1949-50 season ranged from an average of \$13.79 per 500-pound bale in Missouri to \$7.22 per bale in Alabama. In Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, and Texas, ginning charges in 1949-50 were about 50 cents per bale or more greater than similar charges in the previous season. Charges per bale in 1949-50 were somewhat lower on the average in Alabama, Arizona, North Carolina, and Virginia than in 1948-49. During the 1949-50 season, ginnings of American Egyptian cotton totaled 3,724 bales. This extra-long staple cotton is ginned at roller gins and charges per standard-weight bale averaged \$18.20 in 1949-50, as compared with \$17.90 in 1948-49.

Pounds of seed cotton required to produce a 500-pound gross-weight bale: The average weight of hand-picked seed cotton needed to gin a 500-pound gross-weight bale of upland cotton in 1949-50 was 1,358 pounds as compared with 1,316 pounds in 1948-49. For upland cotton harvested by hand-snapping, 1,856 pounds were required per standard-weight bale in 1949-50. For American Egyptian cotton, 1,599 pounds of hand-picked seed cotton was required on the average in 1949-50 to produce a 500-pound bale.

Methods of harvesting: Estimates of ginners indicated that slightly more than two-thirds of the 1949-50 crop was harvested by hand-picking. Approximately one-fourth of the production in 1949-50 was harvested by hand-snapping, this method being used to the greatest extent in Oklahoma and Texas where about nine-tenths and one-half, respectively, of the cotton was gathered in this manner.

Methods of assessing ginning charges: Ginners in 1949-50 assessed charges chiefly on the basis of the hundredweight of seed cotton in most States except in the Southeast where ginning was charged for primarily according to the hundredweight of lint cotton or on a per bale basis. Use of the various methods tend to depend largely upon local custom and there have been few changes in the proportionate use of each method in recent years.

Methods of hauling cotton from farms to gins: For the Cotton Belt, as a whole, growers transported 83 percent of the cotton for the 1949-50 season from the farms to the gins, principally by motor vehicles. In the Southeast, ginners transport most of the cotton not hauled by growers. Elsewhere growers who do not do their own hauling of seed cotton to gins depend largely on commercial truckers for this service.

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

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 the ginners who furnished the information.

Average charge for ginning and wrapping a 500-pound gross-weight bale of upland cotton and related data, by States, season 1949-50 <sup>1/2</sup>

Item	U. S.	Ala.	Ariz.	Ark.	Calif.	Fla.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Mo.	N. Mex.	N. Car.	Okla.	S. Car.	Tenn.	Tex.	Va.
<b>CHARGES FOR GINNING AND WRAPPING UPLAND COTTON</b>																	
Total charge per 500-pound gross-weight bale (dollars).....	10.47 <sup>2/3</sup>	7.22	9.10	10.48	9.54 <sup>2/3</sup>	7.59	7.74	9.08	9.55	13.79	11.70	8.31	12.76	8.01	8.48	12.02	7.57
Charge per bale for bagging and ties when assessed separately (dollars)....	3.38	2.48	3.27	3.36	3.25	3.00	2.90	3.23	3.44	4.04	3.48	2.74	3.40	2.82	3.41	3.55	2.50
<b>WEIGHT OF SEED COTTON PER 500-POUND BALE</b>																	
Hand-picked (pounds).....	1,358	1,341	1,333	1,375	1,327	2/	2/	2/	1,330	1,481	1,327	1,350	1,378	2/	1,360	1,376	1,393
Hand-snapped (pounds).....	1,856	1,929	2,050	1,835	2,280	—	3/	3/	1,612	2,050	2,121	1,890	1,877	3/	1,970	1,834	—
<b>METHOD OF HARVESTING</b>																	
Hand-picked (percent).....	68	99	90	85	84	100	99	99	94	77	67	97	9	97	91	37	100
Hand-snapped (percent).....	26	1	6	14	3	—	1	1	2	21	30	3	89	2	9	52	—
Other <sup>1/2</sup> (percent).....	6	2/	4	1	13	—	2/	2/	4	2	3	2/	2	1	5/	11	—
<b>METHOD OF ASSESSING GINNING CHARGE</b>																	
Per bale (percent).....	8	68	—	3	—	64	4	1	10	—	—	26	—	1	59	—	49
Per hundredweight lint (percent).....	17	28	—	4	—	36	89	84	10	—	—	40	—	91	1	7	—
Per hundredweight seed cotton (percent).....	75	3	100	92	100	—	3	15	80	94	100	33	100	8	37	93	51
Seed cotton toll (percent).....	2/	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cottonseed toll (percent).....	2/	—	—	1	—	—	—	2/	—	6	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
<b>METHOD OF HAULING SEED COTTON TO GINS</b>																	
By growers:																	
With wagons (percent).....	9	26	2/	18	—	14	17	23	16	2	2/	18	1	14	28	1	13
With motor vehicles (percent).....	74	65	95	79	100	86	65	72	80	95	100	60	94	65	69	64	53
By ginners' trucks (percent).....	3	4	—	1	—	—	17	1	1	—	—	22	2/	21	2/	2/	34
By commercial truckers (percent).....	14	5	5	2	—	—	1	4	3	3	2/	2/	5	5/	3	35	—
<b>COST PER BALE TO GROWERS FOR HAULING PERFORMED BY--</b>																	
Ginners (dollars).....	1.54	1.45	—	1.79	—	—	1.41	1.76	1.37	—	—	1.58	5.00	1.64	1.66	1.94	1.12
Commercial truckers (dollars) <sup>5/</sup> .....	5.16	2.34	3.88	4.03	—	—	1.93	2.44	2.05	7.50	4.25	1.71	4.63	1.68	2.26	5.38	—

<sup>1/2</sup> Data based on records and estimates obtained from 12.5 percent of the active gins in the United States.  
<sup>2/</sup> Includes a separate charge per bale for drying seed cotton, averaging 82 cents per bale in California and 6 cents per bale for the United States.  
<sup>3/</sup> Seed cotton customarily not weighed since charges largely were made on the basis of the weight of lint.  
<sup>4/</sup> Includes machine-picking and machine-stripping.  
<sup>5/</sup> Less than 0.5 percent.  
<sup>6/</sup> Excludes portion of total cost paid by ginners in Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee where from \$0.06 to \$0.33 of the total per bale hauling charge made by commercial truckers was paid by ginners.