

Cotton Ginning Charges, Harvesting Practices, and Selected Marketing Costs, 1981/82 Season



United States
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Research
Service

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GINNING CHARGES

The average charge for saw-ginning and wrapping a 480-pound net weight bale of upland cotton in the United States was \$42.90 during the 1981/82 season, a decrease of 87 cents per bale from 1980/81. Average charges varied from \$31.25 in Louisiana to \$48.83 in Oklahoma. Total charges were down in eight States and up in six States. The State with the largest decline in ginning charges was Missouri at \$7.42 per bale, followed by Texas at \$5.49 per bale. Oklahoma showed the greatest increase at \$11.16 per bale and was followed by South Carolina with a \$6.41 increase. Charges for bagging and ties when assessed separately were \$12.43 per bale in 1981/82, compared with \$11.12 last season. Charges for ginning American Pima cotton averaged \$56.27 per bale during the 1981/82 season, an increase of \$4.04 over charges in 1980/81.

The number of active cotton gins in 1981/82 was 2,186, compared with 2,253 during 1980/81. Gin numbers varied from 40 in North Carolina to 759 in Texas.

METHOD OF HARVESTING

Machine-picking and machine-stripping are the primary methods of harvesting cotton. A small volume of cotton is still hand-picked, but detailed estimates are no longer available. The percentage of U.S. cotton harvested by the machine-stripping method increased to 37 percent during 1981/82, compared with 27 percent last season. However, most of this increase is attributed to a much larger share of the Texas crop being machine-stripped this season--up to 91 percent from 80 percent in 1980/81. Ginning cotton from field-stored modules continues to gain in importance, with 39 percent of the 1981/82 crop processed in this manner, compared with 32 percent last season and 26 percent in the 1979/80 season.

POUNDS OF SEED COTTON REQUIRED FOR A 480-POUND NET WEIGHT BALE

For the 1981/82 season, approximately 1,509 pounds of seed cotton were required to yield a 480-pound net weight bale of cotton by the machine-picked method of harvesting, only slightly less than last year. However, under the machine-stripped method, 2,203 pounds of seed cotton were needed--over 21 percent less than that required in 1980/81.

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Average charges for saw-ginned upland cotton,
marketing and related information

Item	Unit	U.S.	Ala.	Ariz.	Ark.	Calif.
BALES GINNED <u>1/</u> (running bales).....	Thous.	15,055	401	1,497	602	---
ACTIVE GINS <u>2/</u>	No.	2,186	107	120	175	---
WRAPPING & GINNING CHARGES PER BALE:						
Total charge per 480-lb. net weight bale <u>3/</u>	Dol.	42.90	31.79	42.91	35.02	---
Charges per bale for bagging and ties when assessed separately.....	Dol.	12.43	<u>4/</u>	5.00	8.00	---
METHOD OF HARVESTING:						
Machine-picked.....	Pct.	62	99	89	100	---
Machine-stripped.....	Pct.	37	1	3	---	---
Machine-scrapped.....	Pct.	1	---	8	---	---
WEIGHT OF SEED COTTON PER 480-LB. NET-WEIGHT BALE:						
Machine-picked.....	Lbs.	1,509	<u>6/</u>	1,459	1,485	---
Machine-stripped.....	Lbs.	2,203	---	2,057	---	---
Machine-scrapped.....	Lbs.	2,053	---	1,872	---	---
COTTON GINNED FROM:						
Trailers.....	Pct.	60	97	44	98	---
Modules.....	Pct.	39	3	56	2	---
Ricks.....	Pct.	1	---	---	---	---
PROPORTION OF PRODUCTION PURCHASED BY GINNERS FROM GROWERS AS BALED LINT:...						
Ginners purchases as--	Pct.	4	6	<u>5/</u>	---	---
Principal.....	Pct.	17	97	---	---	---
Agents.....	Pct.	83	3	100	---	---
CHARGES FOR WAREHOUSING AND RELATED SERVICES <u>8/</u> :						
Charge per bale for receiving.....	Dol.	2.19	2.80	<u>4/</u>	1.65	---
Charge per bale per month for insured storage.....	Dol.	1.38	1.44	1.65	1.19	---
Charge per bale for compressing to universal density.....	Dol.	6.51	5.70	6.21	6.87	---
Charge per bale for outhandling.....	Dol.	4.28	3.05	5.20	3.79	---

--- = 0. 1/ Based on report of March 1982 by Bureau of the Census, but excluded are 17,613 bales ginned in Fla. and Nev. 2/ Based on Bureau of the Census information on gin cleaners, but does not reflect any patronage dividends or customer rebates. 4/ Usually not weighed. 7/ No data available. 8/ Based on published tariffs.

and cotton, average charges for selected services incident to
 ginning information by State, 1981/82 season

Ark.	Calif.	Ga.	La.	Miss.	Mo.	N. Mex.	N.C.	Okla.	S.C.	Tenn.	Tex.
602	3,433	155	719	1,511	157	117	96	427	152	302	5,486
175	207	59	96	283	65	42	40	87	58	88	759
35.02	46.38	41.91	31.25	34.71	38.40	48.55	39.65	48.83	38.83	31.66	46.69
8.00	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	6.26	5.00	<u>4/</u>	8.03	<u>4/</u>	8.30	<u>4/</u>	<u>4/</u>	13.07
100	98	100	99	100	100	58	100	6	100	97	9
---	<u>5/</u>	---	1	<u>5/</u>	---	41	---	93	---	3	91
---	2	---	---	---	---	1	---	1	---	---	<u>5/</u>
1,485	1,507	<u>6/</u>	<u>7/</u>	<u>6/</u>	<u>7/</u>	1,513	<u>6/</u>	1,739	<u>6/</u>	<u>7/</u>	1,510
---	2,055	---	<u>7/</u>	---	---	2,467	---	2,078	---	<u>7/</u>	2,340
---	2,009	---	---	---	---	2,286	---	2,974	---	---	<u>7/</u>
98	53	97	93	93	100	87	100	76	98	100	40
2	46	3	7	7	---	13	---	24	2	---	59
---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	<u>5/</u>	---	---	1
---	<u>5/</u>	1	---	---	7	---	<u>5/</u>	12	<u>5/</u>	38	7
---	---	100	---	---	100	---	100	1	100	47	2
---	100	---	---	---	---	---	---	99	---	53	98
1.65	<u>4/</u>	2.28	2.65	1.95	2.00	1.68	1.54	2.02	1.95	<u>4/</u>	2.25
1.19	1.44	1.56	1.51	1.29	1.28	1.30	1.15	1.31	1.20	0.95	1.33
6.87	5.74	---	6.10	6.91	6.80	6.89	---	6.45	---	7.00	7.02
3.79	4.32	3.48	4.20	4.97	4.10	4.05	2.07	3.56	2.58	7.00	3.99

excluding all American-Pima and upland cotton ginned on roller gins. Also excluded
 census information. 3/ Includes bagging and ties, drying of seed cotton & use of lint
 rates. 4/ Separate charges not available. 5/ Less than 1 percent. 6/ Seed cotton
 giffs.

**PURCHASES OF COTTON
BY GINNERS**

Ginners purchase only 4 percent of the 1981/82 crop from growers at time of harvest--down from 11 percent a year ago. Purchasing variations by State ranged from no reported purchases in four States to purchases by ginners amounting to 38 percent of the Tennessee crop. Eighty-three percent of the purchases made by ginners were made by those acting as agents for other buyers, the same percentage as in 1980/81.

**SELECTED SERVICES
INCIDENT TO
MARKETING**

Charges for the four primary cotton warehousing functions increased during 1981/82. Average receiving charges were up 31 cents a bale to \$2.19. Charges for insured storage averaged \$1.38 a month--an increase of 2 cents, while universal density compression charges averaged \$6.51 a bale, up 57 cents from the 1980/81 charges. The average charge for outhandling was \$4.28 a bale during 1981/82, compared with \$4.18 last season.

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