

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
COTTON DIVISION  
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Weekly Cotton Market Review  
(Week ended March 25)

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March 26, 1982

Spot cotton prices reached the highest level in over five months, according to the Cotton Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA. Trading was slow. Overall merchant demand was weak and offerings were light. Domestic and foreign mill purchases remained limited. Growers in several states forward contracted a small volume of 1982-crop cotton. Growers made good progress with land preparation in most localities. Planting neared completion in the Harlingen, Texas area. The average staple length of upland cotton in the 1981 crop was the shortest since the crop of 1977.

Spot cotton prices continued to move higher. The average price for grade 41 staple 34, mike 35-49 cotton, in the designated markets ended the week on Thursday, March 25, at 60.85 cents per pound. This compares with 60.30 cents a week earlier and 81.57 cents on the corresponding Thursday last season. On Wednesday the average of 61.15 cents was the highest price since October 16, 1981. The New York May futures settlement price ended the week on Thursday at 65.77 cents per pound compared with 65.60 cents a week earlier. The December settlement price was 71.45 cents against 71.17 cents last Thursday.

Trading remained slow on spot cotton markets, despite higher prices. Growers offered more freely in a few markets but in general offerings declined. Some merchants were actively seeking selected qualities to fill nearby commitments. The light volume of purchases by domestic mills was mostly small lots needed for fill-ins. Export trading was limited, with most sales made to Far Eastern mills for prompt through September shipment. Purchases reported by cotton exchanges in the designated markets totaled 166,900 bales in the week ended Thursday, March 25. This compares with 161,100 bales a week earlier and 114,300 bales in the corresponding week last season.

Textile mill report. Most mills had enough cotton to last into late summer if current production levels are maintained and bought only small lots needed for fill-ins. A few large mills had bought 1982-crop cotton for fall delivery but most mills appeared willing to delay purchasing until nearer the time the cotton is needed. Mills continued to closely monitor their inventories of both raw materials and products and were attempting to control inventory buildups by asking for delayed shipment on raw materials and curtailing production of finished products. Most mills reported sales of finished products were slow. Mills making athletic and sportswear items reported some improvement in product sales.

The 1981 United States upland cotton crop averaged 33.6 thirty-seconds inches in length. This was the shortest average since the 1977 crop and was down from 34.0 thirty-seconds inches last season. The white grades, combined, accounted for almost 54 percent of upland ginnings, down from 66 percent a year earlier and the smallest proportion in the white grades since records began with the 1938 crop. Grades 41 and 42, at 21 percent each, were the predominant grades this season. Grade 31 was the predominant quality last season. Cotton in the 35-49 mike range accounted for 74 percent of ginnings, down from 80 percent the previous year. Average mike was 41 compared with 43 in 1980. Average fiber strength was 24.1 grams per tex, up from 24.0 the previous season.



1982 upland acreage reduction sign up. Through March 12, growers had enrolled 1.8 million acres of upland cotton in the 1982 upland cotton program. This represents 12 percent of the 15.3 million acreage base. Growers who sign up to participate in the acreage reduction program for upland cotton agree to reduce their base acreage by 15 percent. The acreage taken out of production will be devoted to conservation uses. Participation is voluntary, but producers must take part to be eligible for program benefits such as target price protection and Commodity Credit Corporation loans. The sign up deadline is April 16.

CCC loan entries of 1981-crop cotton totaled 5,661,000 running bales through March 10. Repayments had been made on 604,100 bales. Loans were outstanding on 5,056,900 bales, of which 2,310,700 were Form A (producer) and 2,746,200 were Form G (cooperative) loans. Entries of 1980-crop cotton totaled 2,328,100 bales, repayments were 2,202,600 and loans were outstanding on 125,100 bales. Loans remained outstanding on 49,700 bales of Form A and 75,400 of Form G.

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COTTON: Ginnings in running bales, equivalent 480-pound net weight bales and average bale weights, crops of 1980 and 1981

| State            | Running    |            | 480-pound net |            | Average bale weight |        |
|------------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------------|--------|
|                  | 1981       | 1980       | 1981          | 1980       | 1981                | 1980   |
|                  | Bales      | Bales      | Bales         | Bales      | Pounds              | Pounds |
| United States    | 15,149,546 | 10,826,242 | 15,626,701    | 11,117,129 | 495.1               | 492.9  |
| Upland           | 15,072,140 | 10,724,266 | 15,547,397    | 11,013,099 | 495.1               | 492.9  |
| American Pima    | 77,406     | 101,976    | 79,304        | 104,030    | 491.8               | 489.7  |
| Alabama          | 400,737    | 264,423    | 420,814       | 272,984    | 504.0               | 495.5  |
| Arizona          | 1,549,270  | 1,382,903  | 1,592,132     | 1,410,974  | 493.3               | 489.7  |
| Upland           | 1,496,658  | 1,311,529  | 1,538,551     | 1,338,736  | 493.4               | 490.0  |
| American Pima    | 52,612     | 71,374     | 53,581        | 72,238     | 488.8               | 485.8  |
| Arkansas         | 601,975    | 434,777    | 614,404       | 445,586    | 489.9               | 491.9  |
| California       | 3,432,767  | 3,030,882  | 3,549,998     | 3,123,267  | 496.4               | 494.6  |
| Georgia          | 154,724    | 83,576     | 162,292       | 86,205     | 503.5               | 495.1  |
| Louisiana        | 719,274    | 450,298    | 737,161       | 458,403    | 491.9               | 488.6  |
| Mississippi      | 1,510,653  | 1,108,222  | 1,565,520     | 1,146,711  | 497.4               | 496.7  |
| Missouri         | 157,449    | 172,723    | 159,768       | 174,642    | 487.1               | 485.3  |
| New Mexico       | 118,984    | 102,123    | 121,426       | 104,623    | 489.9               | 491.7  |
| Upland           | 116,598    | 99,778     | 118,964       | 102,187    | 489.7               | 491.6  |
| American Pima    | 2,386      | 2,345      | 2,462         | 2,436      | 495.5               | 498.6  |
| North Carolina   | 95,930     | 52,812     | 99,640        | 54,465     | 498.6               | 495.0  |
| Oklahoma         | 427,210    | 201,467    | 434,715       | 202,937    | 488.4               | 483.5  |
| South Carolina   | 152,142    | 71,600     | 159,560       | 74,560     | 503.4               | 499.8  |
| Tennessee        | 302,299    | 193,780    | 311,220       | 197,844    | 494.2               | 490.1  |
| Texas            | 5,508,519  | 3,269,028  | 5,679,893     | 3,355,969  | 494.9               | 492.8  |
| Upland           | 5,486,111  | 3,240,771  | 5,656,632     | 3,326,613  | 494.9               | 492.7  |
| American Pima    | 22,408     | 28,257     | 23,261        | 29,356     | 498.3               | 498.7  |
| All other states | 17,613     | 7,628      | 18,158        | 7,959      | -                   | -      |

Source: Bureau of the Census.

United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Cotton Division



Estimated grade and staple of upland cotton ginned in the United States, 1981 crop 1/

| Grade Code          | Staple         |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  | All Staples |  |
|---------------------|----------------|--------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|-------|---------------|---------------|-------|--|-------------|--|
|                     | 26 and shorter | 28     | 29      | 30      | 31        | 32        | 33        | 34        | 35        | 36        | 37      | 38     | 39    | 40 and longer | Bales         | Pct.  |  |             |  |
| <b>White:</b>       |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 11                  | 1              | 4      | 16      | 17      | 24        | 236       | 139       | 583       | 52        | 3         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 1,075         | *     |  |             |  |
| 21                  | 5              | 33     | 147     | 222     | 209       | 2,005     | 17,363    | 86,181    | 39,136    | 394       | 7       | 2      | 5     | 5             | 145,712       | 1.0   |  |             |  |
| 30                  | -              | 1      | 45      | 11      | 50        | 132       | 772       | 13,641    | 9,839     | 120       | 5       | -      | -     | 4             | 24,647        | 0.2   |  |             |  |
| 31                  | 1              | 48     | 6,632   | 18,890  | 15,666    | 51,510    | 390,110   | 1,264,373 | 784,256   | 19,115    | 1,770   | 125    | 140   | 140           | 2,553,435     | 16.9  |  |             |  |
| 40                  | 1              | 11     | 226     | 588     | 1,506     | 11,143    | 52,506    | 177,453   | 168,335   | 6,242     | 834     | 66     | 33    | 33            | 418,944       | 2.8   |  |             |  |
| 41                  | 14             | 56     | 10,354  | 56,407  | 93,406    | 236,591   | 952,298   | 1,223,816 | 564,497   | 39,299    | 8,463   | 716    | 378   | 378           | 3,187,060     | 21.2  |  |             |  |
| 50                  | -              | 1      | 16      | 222     | 3,427     | 19,922    | 104,436   | 149,681   | 66,257    | 5,105     | 1,527   | 293    | 52    | 52            | 352,219       | 2.3   |  |             |  |
| 51                  | 6              | 27     | 3,445   | 21,625  | 46,860    | 87,793    | 310,775   | 458,498   | 170,087   | 11,932    | 4,225   | 914    | 140   | 140           | 1,116,546     | 7.4   |  |             |  |
| 60                  | -              | -      | 20      | 158     | 478       | 1,458     | 5,763     | 10,254    | 4,303     | 374       | 18      | 12     | 3     | 3             | 22,841        | 0.2   |  |             |  |
| 61                  | 3              | 9      | 1,073   | 7,171   | 17,824    | 31,982    | 51,030    | 58,017    | 19,230    | 1,697     | 365     | 55     | 16    | 16            | 188,547       | 1.3   |  |             |  |
| 70                  | -              | -      | -       | 8       | 19        | 55        | 216       | 258       | 111       | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 667           | *     |  |             |  |
| 71                  | 2              | 4      | 249     | 1,385   | 4,656     | 9,391     | 10,752    | 7,810     | 1,969     | 189       | 38      | 3      | 3     | 3             | 36,475        | 0.2   |  |             |  |
| <b>Lt. Spotted:</b> |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 12                  | -              | -      | 4       | 5       | 71        | 67        | 69        | 12        | 1         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 229           | *     |  |             |  |
| 22                  | 1              | 80     | 577     | 1,210   | 258       | 158       | 437       | 832       | 231       | 8         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 4,620         | *     |  |             |  |
| 32                  | 181            | 3,008  | 21,623  | 124,005 | 228,064   | 119,873   | 72,855    | 85,648    | 27,971    | 3,375     | 424     | 85     | 26    | 26            | 721,173       | 4.8   |  |             |  |
| 42                  | 354            | 5,503  | 43,148  | 286,559 | 815,663   | 647,630   | 281,949   | 467,425   | 147,203   | 14,480    | 4,382   | 653    | 103   | 103           | 3,187,565     | 21.3  |  |             |  |
| 52                  | 175            | 2,765  | 26,070  | 173,390 | 494,649   | 519,297   | 257,698   | 247,120   | 67,470    | 8,349     | 2,101   | 516    | 122   | 122           | 2,025,869     | 13.4  |  |             |  |
| <b>Spotted:</b>     |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 13                  | -              | -      | 3       | 5       | 3         | 22        | 9         | 8         | 6         | 3         | 2       | -      | -     | 3             | 65            | *     |  |             |  |
| 23                  | 10             | 179    | 187     | 415     | 345       | 87        | 85        | 228       | 71        | 4         | -       | -      | -     | 19            | 1,776         | *     |  |             |  |
| 33                  | 168            | 2,193  | 7,591   | 20,591  | 20,405    | 2,949     | 3,217     | 8,117     | 2,696     | 37        | 3       | 2      | 5     | 5             | 76,839        | 0.5   |  |             |  |
| 43                  | 324            | 4,282  | 22,847  | 70,265  | 88,934    | 52,671    | 20,856    | 27,715    | 7,843     | 323       | 45      | 6      | 19    | 19            | 321,868       | 2.1   |  |             |  |
| 53                  | 130            | 3,070  | 20,798  | 73,552  | 102,410   | 73,416    | 32,479    | 24,215    | 4,519     | 476       | 91      | 24     | 14    | 14            | 369,143       | 2.4   |  |             |  |
| <b>Tinged:</b>      |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 24                  | 1              | 1      | 2       | 1       | 2         | 4         | 4         | 6         | 3         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 29            | *     |  |             |  |
| 34                  | 16             | 146    | 311     | 403     | 281       | 98        | 194       | 289       | 108       | -         | -       | -      | -     | 7             | 1,974         | *     |  |             |  |
| 44                  | 151            | 795    | 1,755   | 2,277   | 1,779     | 806       | 2,096     | 1,359     | 288       | 7         | -       | -      | 1     | 5             | 12,056        | 0.1   |  |             |  |
| 54                  | 132            | 680    | 1,545   | 2,735   | 2,152     | 1,189     | 1,916     | 1,212     | 124       | 20        | -       | -      | -     | -             | 12,595        | 0.1   |  |             |  |
| <b>Stained:</b>     |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 25                  | -              | 1      | 1       | 2       | 2         | 4         | 3         | 1         | 2         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 17            | *     |  |             |  |
| 35                  | -              | 2      | 12      | 25      | 10        | 25        | 14        | 22        | 11        | -         | -       | -      | -     | 7             | 132           | *     |  |             |  |
| <b>Lt. Gray:</b>    |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 16                  | -              | -      | -       | -       | -         | 1         | -         | -         | 6         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 7             | *     |  |             |  |
| 26                  | -              | -      | 4       | 13      | 21        | 22        | 94        | 287       | 94        | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 535           | *     |  |             |  |
| 36                  | -              | -      | 11      | 142     | 454       | 385       | 1,111     | 3,409     | 1,338     | 1         | -       | -      | -     | 9             | 6,979         | *     |  |             |  |
| 46                  | -              | -      | 1       | 53      | 240       | 147       | 550       | 1,431     | 697       | 1         | -       | -      | -     | 9             | 3,222         | *     |  |             |  |
| <b>Gray:</b>        |                |        |         |         |           |           |           |           |           |           |         |        |       |               |               |       |  |             |  |
| 17                  | -              | -      | -       | -       | -         | -         | 1         | -         | -         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 2             | *     |  |             |  |
| 27                  | -              | -      | 1       | 3       | 3         | -         | 1         | -         | 3         | -         | -       | -      | -     | -             | 8             | *     |  |             |  |
| 37                  | -              | -      | -       | 11      | 20        | 18        | 22        | 206       | 94        | 2         | -       | -      | -     | 1             | 378           | *     |  |             |  |
| 47                  | -              | -      | -       | 7       | 22        | 19        | 79        | 269       | 131       | 4         | 1       | -      | 3     | 3             | 539           | *     |  |             |  |
| Below Grade         | 254            | 938    | 4,330   | 23,117  | 51,245    | 73,083    | 36,465    | 19,987    | 4,743     | 618       | 255     | 29     | 5     | 5             | 276,352       | 1.8   |  |             |  |
| All grades          | 1,930          | 23,792 | 152,783 | 801,258 | 1,907,239 | 1,681,824 | 1,154,129 | 2,789,614 | 4,324,478 | 2,093,725 | 112,178 | 24,557 | 3,502 | 1,131         | 15,072,140 2/ | 100.0 |  |             |  |

Percent \* 0.2 1.0 5.3 12.7 11.2 7.7 18.5 28.6 13.9 0.7 0.2 \* \* \*  
 1/ Preliminary.  
 2/ As reported by the Bureau of the Census.  
 \* Less than 0.05 percent.  
 Average staple .....  
 Percentage of rough preparation .....  
 Percent tenderable .....



Maturity date on 1980 loans extended. The USDA announced that producers with 1980-crop cotton under loan are being given the option to extend their loans for an extra year. Producers extending their loans for the added year will be charged an interest rate of 12.25 percent. Producers who wish to extend their loans should contact their County ASCS office.

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New York futures contract settlement, designated spot market average for grade 41 staple 34 and 'A' index cotton prices in cents per pound

| Date    | Grade 41 Staple 34 |         |         |         |         | 9-market average | Grade 31 Staple 35 'A' Index 1/ |
|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|------------------|---------------------------------|
|         | Futures Settlement |         |         |         |         |                  |                                 |
|         | May '82            | Jul '82 | Oct '82 | Dec '82 | Mar '83 |                  |                                 |
| Mar. 18 | 65.60              | 67.47   | 69.98   | 71.17   | 72.80   | 60.30            | 70.65                           |
| 19      | 65.40              | 67.46   | 69.80   | 71.05   | 72.65   | 60.14            | 70.70                           |
| 22      | 66.26              | 68.24   | 70.60   | 71.60   | 73.20   | 61.04            | 70.65                           |
| 23      | 66.27              | 68.30   | 70.52   | 71.67   | 73.30   | 61.04            | 70.75                           |
| 24      | 66.16              | 68.23   | 70.65   | 71.78   | 73.50   | 61.15            | 70.75                           |
| 25      | 65.77              | 67.76   | 70.36   | 71.45   | 73.10   | 60.85            | 70.75                           |

1/ C.I.F. Northern Europe price furnished by Cotton Outlook of Liverpool.

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New Orleans futures contract settlement and designated spot market average for grade 41 staple 32 in cents per pound

| Date    | Grade 41 Staple 32 |         |         |         |         | 5-market average 1/ |
|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------|
|         | Futures Settlement |         |         |         |         |                     |
|         | May '82            | Jul '82 | Oct '82 | Dec '82 | Mar '83 |                     |
| Mar. 18 | 59.10              | 60.31   | 62.35   | 63.35   | -       | 52.41               |
| 19      | 59.04              | 60.26   | 62.30   | 63.25   | -       | 52.29               |
| 22      | 59.30              | 60.56   | 62.30   | 63.66   | -       | 53.11               |
| 23      | 59.15              | 60.42   | 62.50   | 63.50   | -       | 53.11               |
| 24      | 59.10              | 60.40   | 62.50   | 63.50   | -       | 53.15               |
| 25      | 59.00              | 60.26   | 62.45   | 63.40   | -       | 52.91               |

1/ Greenville, Montgomery, Memphis, Dallas and Lubbock.

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U. S. upland cotton export sales and exports, in running bales, for week and year, marketing years 1980-81 and 1981-82

| Description                 | Marketing Year   |                |                  |                |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|                             | 1980-81          |                | 1981-82          |                |
|                             | Through March 19 |                | Through March 18 |                |
|                             | Week             | Marketing year | Week             | Marketing year |
| Outstanding sales           | -                | 1,672,800      | -                | 2,330,100      |
| Exports                     | 188,500          | 3,914,400      | 209,600          | 3,945,600      |
| Total export commitments    | =                | 5,587,200      | -                | 6,275,700      |
| New sales                   | 76,300           | -              | 68,200           | -              |
| Buy-backs and cancellations | 15,100           | -              | 18,800           | -              |
| Net sales                   | 61,200           | -              | 49,400           | -              |
| Sales next marketing year   | 32,200           | 173,800        | 26,700           | 309,800        |

Source: Export Sales Reporting Division, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

Upland cotton export sales. Net sales during the week ended March 18 totaled 49,400 running bales for the 1981-82 marketing year, according to the Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA. The primary increases were to Canada 15,600; South Korea 8,600; Taiwan 6,400 and Japan 6,300. Exports continued at a good pace at 209,600 running bales. Asian destinations accounted for 85 percent of the exports and European destinations 13 percent. Sales for the 1982-83 marketing year increased by 26,700.