

**Development of a Cotton Educational and Applied Research
Information Compact Disc for Texas
Project #05-641TX**

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

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to

COTTON INCORPORATED

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Project Summary
Development of a Cotton Educational and Applied Research Information
Compact Disc for Texas
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Delivery of production information to assist producers, consultants and allied industry in making timely and informed decisions is a constant need. Although traditional methods (cotton clinics and seminars, turn-row meetings, county and regional programs, periodicals, newsletters, etc.) are utilized, it is difficult to compile and disseminate all the necessary and timely information acquired during the production season.

Consequently, a compact disc (CD) for disseminating large amounts of information in a concise and usable format was developed in 2005. The “*Cotton Resource CD – CRCD*” contains information addressing all production aspects of cotton. Sections were divided into: general production, irrigation, fertility, insects, weeds, nematodes and diseases, harvest, fiber quality and ginning, internet resources, photo gallery (weeds, diseases, insects, cotton production photographs), and the 2004 Texas State Support Committee final reports.

Because of the divergent nature of cotton production across Texas, two CRCD’s were developed – one for the western region and one for the eastern region of the state. Both CDs shared common and basic information, but also possessed information specific to each region. Funding for the project allowed for 3000 total CDs to be made – 1500 copies for the western region and 1500 copies for the eastern region.

The CRCDs were distributed to clientele via normal extension channels, allied industry, and to all cotton gin facilities in Texas. Also, the CRCDs were made available for viewing on the Texas A&M University System Research and Extension Center Lubbock website – <http://lubbock.tamu.edu>. Each CRCD has been updated as new information/publications become available. Web statistics for the Lubbock Center site indicated that the CRCD had 100,718 “hits” in 2005 and 171,983 “hits” in 2006. Actual document downloads totaled 32,536. Based on this information, it is apparent that the CRCD is serving as a valuable information resource for producers, consultants, and allied industry.

In 2006, we anticipated burning additional copies of the 2005 version for distribution. However, in 2007 we propose to develop a DVD version of the CRCD which will contain similar information and documentation and videos addressing key production issues. Consequently, rather than duplicate the original CRCD it was deemed appropriate and confirmed by the Texas State Support Committee to expend the 2006 funds (\$5,000) to procure materials in support of the development of the DVD version of the CRCD, which will be distributed in 2007.

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