

How To Obtain Cotton Advisories From The Internet

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Abstract

Weekly production advisories and weather updates are now available from the Internet. Nineteen location-specific advisories are developed each Monday morning and then transferred to the Main AZMET Internet Web Page located at URL address <http://ag.arizona.edu/azmet>. To retrieve advisories or updates from the Internet users must 1) log on to the Internet using the procedures required by your Internet service provider; 2) enter the URL for the Main AZMET Web Page; 3) move to the Cotton Advisory sub-page; and 4) select the advisory or update of interest. Advisories for the most recent week, this year to date, and all of 1999 are available at this Internet address.

Introduction

Weekly production advisories and weather updates published by the Arizona Cotton Advisory Program are available free of charge from the Internet. The advisories, generated weekly for 19 southern and central Arizona locations, are placed on the Internet each Monday at noon. Retrieval of advisories and updates from the Internet offers several benefits over existing postal or fax based delivery systems, including 1) same day delivery; 2) 24-hour availability; 3) weekly service (some counties deliver every other week); 4) access to advisories from all 19 locations; and 5) no subscription fees. This document describes the simple steps required to access cotton advisories and weather updates from the Internet.

Finding Cotton Advisories on the Internet

The cotton advisories are generated each Monday morning in the Data Processing Center of the Arizona Meteorological Network (AZMET). Weather updates are generated by AZMET about once a month. Upon completion, the advisories and/or updates are transferred to the Main AZMET Web Page where they are made available to the public. To view or download an advisory or update from the Internet, follow the simple steps listed below.

Step 1. Access the Main AZMET Web Page

To retrieve cotton advisories from the Internet you must access the Main AZMET Web Page. Internet access of AZMET requires: 1) a computer outfitted with software for Internet access ("browser software"); 2) a high speed telephone modem or Ethernet (coax cable) connection; and 3) access to an Internet service provider (ISP). With these three requirements fulfilled, reaching AZMET is as simple as:

- 1) Logging on to the Internet using your browser software and procedures required by your ISP.
- 2) Entering AZMET's URL Address: <http://ag.arizona.edu/azmet>.

Entry of this address will connect you to the Main AZMET Web Page (Figure 1) which resides on a server operated by the University of Arizona College of Agriculture.

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Step 2. Locate the Cotton Advisories on the AZMET Web Page

The Main AZMET Web Page begins with the AZMET logo followed by a brief description of AZMET and selected AZMET programs (Figure 1). Underneath this descriptive text resides a matrix of labeled boxes which serve as entry ports to the data and information available from AZMET. One of the boxes carries the label “Weekly Cotton Advisories.” Simply move the cursor over this box and click button the mouse. The Cotton Advisory sub-page will appear on your screen (Figure 2).

Step 3. Viewing or Downloading Advisories

The Cotton Advisory sub-page provides access to 19 location-specific advisories (Figure 2). The locations served by the program are listed in lefthand column on the page while the five remaining columns provide boxes (buttons) that allow you to adjust formats and look back at past advisories. To view the current week’s advisory move the cursor to the location of interest and then click on **Current** or **Adobe**. The Adobe version will provide better graphics (Figure 3), but you are required to have the Adobe Acrobat Reader software loaded on your computer. This software is available free of charge and can be downloaded from the Cotton Advisory sub-page by clicking on the label **Download ‘Adobe Acrobat Reader’ Software**. The **Current** version of the advisory comes in ASCII text file format (Figure 4) and does not require the Acrobat software for viewing. Aside from graphics, the Adobe and Current version of the advisories are the same.

The remaining three labels -- **Previous**, **2000** and **1999** --allow you to examine past advisories. Click on **Previous** to view last week’s advisories. Click on **2000** to review any previous advisory for this year, and click on **1999** to review any 1999 advisory. Both the **1999** and **2000** labels provide all of the year’s advisories in an appended chronological format. You may have to scroll through several advisories to view the advisory for a particular date.

You may transfer the files containing advisories to your computer using the download procedure appropriate for your software. In most cases, downloading is as simple as selecting a “Save” or “Save As” command in your browser software. You will need to rename old advisory files each time you download new advisories as the advisory filename remains the same each week.

Step 4. Viewing or Downloading Weather Updates

The section of the Cotton Advisory sub-page labeled **Seasonal Weather Updates** (Figure 5) provides access to all weather-related updates produced by AZMET. These updates are often tailored to specific locations or counties; thus one must select both an update title and a location. To view a particular update, simply click on the button corresponding to the update title and location of interest. The updates are published in Adobe PDF format; thus, you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader software on your computer. This software is available free of charge and can be downloaded from the Cotton Advisory sub-page by clicking on the label **Download ‘Adobe Acrobat Reader’ Software**. You may transfer the files containing advisories to your computer using the download procedure appropriate for your software.

Note! Other production related updates pertaining to agronomy or entomology can be viewed by accessing the Arizona Cotton Information Site (ACIS). A link to this site is provided near the top of the Cotton Advisory sub-page (Figure 2).

Step 5. Printing Tips

If you choose to print out the advisories directly from your browser software, you may want to reduce the margins in the Page Setup feature that is present on most browsers. The left and right margins should be adjusted to about 0.8" to avoid truncated or wrap around lines. If you wish to have the advisory print out on one page, you may need to reduce the top and bottom margins some.

If you choose to download the ASCII text version of the advisories and then wish to print them using either word processing software or the DOS Print Command, be advised that you must change the typeface and type size to obtain a decent copy. The advisories are generated in a non-proportional spaced font (most commonly used typefaces use proportional spaced fonts). Failure to adjust the typeface will result in skewed columns and graphics. Failure to adjust the type size will result in wrap around lines. We recommend using the Courier typeface when printing the advisories. Use of the Courier typeface should keep the graphics and columns in alignment. A type size setting of 11 or lower should prevent wrap around lines.



The Arizona Meteorological Network

The Arizona Meteorological Network (AZMET) provides meteorological data and weather-based information to agricultural and horticultural interests operating in southern and central Arizona. Meteorological data is collected from a network of automated weather stations located in both rural and urban production settings. Meteorological data collected by AZMET include temperature (air and soil), humidity, solar radiation, wind (speed and direction), and precipitation. AZMET also provides a variety of computed variables, including heat units (degree-days), chill hours, and reference crop evapotranspiration (ET₀). AZMET data are summarized in a variety of formats, including several ready-to-use summaries that use English units, and comma-delimited ASCII text files that can be imported into most database and spreadsheet programs. Special reports generated by AZMET include the Phoenix Area Turf Water Use Report and Weekly Cotton Advisories (generated Mondays from February through August). AZMET began operating on Jan 1 1987 ; we have no data prior to this date.

Yesterday's Weather Summary	Phoenix Area Turf Water Use Report	Weekly Cotton Advisories
Maps, Station Locations	Data Access	Logfiles - Equipment, Methods, Formulas, Formats, Applications
1999 Heat Units and ET ₀	Winter 1999/2000 Precipitation Update	Other Sources of Weather Information
AZMET Office Address Personnel	Send an email message to AZMET	Newsletter
Disclaimer		

Figure 1. The main AZMET Web Page. Click on the box labeled Weekly Cotton Advisories to access cotton advisories.



Cotton Advisories



ACIS : Arizona Cotton Information Site

Yuma and Roll will be available on Monday Feb 14 2000
All other stations will be available on Monday Feb 28 2000

	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Aguila	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Buckeye	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Cochise County	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Coolidge	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Eloy	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Harquahala	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Laveen	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Litchfield	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Marana	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Maricopa	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Mohave	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Paloma	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Parker	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Pinal County	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Queen Creek	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Roll	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Safford	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Yuma Valley	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>
Greenlee County	<u>Adobe</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Previous</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>

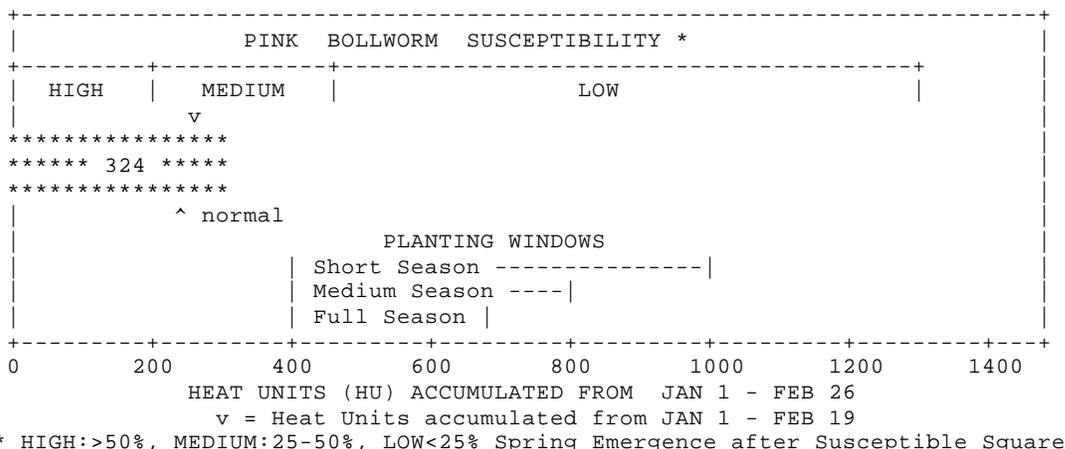
Note :

Pinal County is an average of Coolidge, Maricopa, and Eloy data.

Greenlee County is generated out of data from a National Weather Service station which is located one mile north of Duncan. NWS Station ID #2754; Duncan.

Figure 2. The Cotton Advisory Page provides access to both current and past Weekly Cotton Advisories. **Current** and **Adobe** provide this week's advisory; **Previous** provides last week's advisory; **1999** and **2000** provide all advisories for 1999 and 2000, respectively.

LITCHFIELD FEB 27, 2000
COTTON PLANTING DATE ADVISORY



INSECT UPDATE

Fields suspected of having Root-knot nematode can be sampled now, but assays may be difficult because of the lack of winter rain. Many fields are dry below the plow layer, and for best results, samples should be taken from soil with some moisture. Growers are encouraged to send samples for analysis free of charge to UA Dept of Plant Pathology (<http://Ag.Arizona.Edu/PLP/plpext/>). Fields with detectable levels should be considered for pre-plant fumigation with Telone. Optimum conditions for fumigant application are: (1) soil moisture at injection, preferably 12 inches or more below seedling depth, at 50% field capacity; (2) absence of cotton trash; (3) soil temperatures between 60 - 80 F; (4) application 10-14 days before planting. (mo 2/21/00).

WEATHER UPDATE

Last Week : FEB 20 - FEB 26					This Week : FEB 27 - MAR 4					
	HIGH	LOW	DEWPT	HUs	RAIN		HIGH	LOW	DEWPT	HUs
Normal	75	42	33	51	----	Normal	73	45	37	49
Recorded	69	43	39	35	0.16	1999	70	39	34	36

HUs are running about 10 days ahead of normal.

FORECAST:

The subtropical jet stream will be positioned over AZ this week, bringing unsettled weather. Storm systems are expected to pass along the jet on Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Each system will bring increased cloudiness, winds & a chance for scattered showers. Temperatures will fluctuate with the passing of storms, but none of the storms is expected to be exceptionally cold. Expect temperatures to run about normal for the week.

Soils typically warm to acceptable levels for germination when lows are 48F and above and highs exceed 80F. It is especially important to monitor soil temperatures and the 5-day forecast when planting early.

Last Week's 8am Soil Temp: Max = 60.1 FEB 21 ; Min = 48.7 FEB 26

AGRONOMY UPDATE

The most important factors to consider in an early/optimum planting include: satisfactory soil temperatures for rapid germination and establishment and a good 5-day weather forecast. Soil temperatures have recently been approaching satisfactory levels for planting cotton (>55 F) in many areas. Recent weather patterns have provided cooler, more seasonal temperatures. There have even been a few reports of rain in southern AZ recently. Planting varieties with low seedling vigor should be done with caution early in the season. The weekly cotton advisories and other supplemental bulletins are available at the internet websites for AZMET (<http://ag.arizona.edu/azmet>) and the Arizona Cotton Information Site (ACIS) (<http://ag.arizona.edu/cotton>) (JCS 2/26/00).

Figure 4. Example of an ACSII text file (Current) version of a Weekly Cotton Advisory for Litchfield Park.

Seasonal Weather Updates

	A Good Planting Forecast	Spring Weather Conditions	July Weather Summary	Boll Maturity Estimates
Yuma County				
Maricopa County				
Pima County				
Pinal County				
La Paz County				
Mohave County				
Graham County				

Cotton Report Team :

Weather Update — Paul Brown — pbrown@ag.arizona.edu

Insect Update — Peter Ellsworth - peterell@ag.arizona.edu

Agronomy Update - Jeff Silvertooth - silver@ag.arizona.edu

Layout, graphics — Bruce Russell — brussell@ag.arizona.edu

Other sources of Cotton information



[Download 'Adobe Acrobat Reader' software](#)

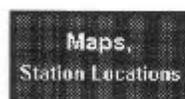


Figure 5. The lower portion of the Cotton Advisory sub-page provides access to seasonal weather updates, email addresses of contributors to the advisories, links to other information on cotton, and a link that allows you to download the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.