

Acala 1517 Commands Five-Cent Premium Over Deltapine

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Acala 1517 cotton is superior to Deltapine in the grade, staple and strength of fiber produced. Acala 1517, therefore, sells for a higher price per pound than Deltapine.

In 1963, 96 percent of the acreage of short staple cotton that was grown in Maricopa County was Deltapine Smooth Leaf. In Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties, 97 percent of the acreage was planted to Acala 1517C and 1517D. The difference in the quality of Deltapine and Acala 1517 cotton is indicated by the percentage distribution of the grade and staple lengths of the cotton ginned in those areas in that year (Table 1).

A larger percentage of Deltapine cotton than of Acala 1517 cotton is picked up by Rood scrappers because Deltapine sets lower bolls and is more easily knocked onto the ground than Acala 1517. In the Deltapine area, 6 percent of the cotton was "below grade," but only 4/10 of 1 percent of the Acala 1517 was so classified. Of the Deltapine cotton, nearly 22 percent was light spotted, in contrast to only about 6 percent of the Acala 1517. This is perhaps associated with green picking. The principal grade of Deltapine was Strict Low Middling, but Acala 1517 fell chiefly in the Middling grade.

Most of the Deltapine was 1-1/32-inch and 1-1/16-inch staple length. Acala 1517, on the other hand, was mostly 1-1/8-inch and 1-5/32-inch staple, averaging 3/32-inch longer staple than Deltapine.

The average price for Deltapine cotton was calculated by weighting the prices paid for the various grades and staple lengths of cotton that were ginned in Maricopa County. The average price for Acala 1517 cotton was similarly calculated from the prices quoted at El Paso, Texas, for the grades and staple lengths of cotton produced in Cochise, Graham, and Greenlee Counties.

According to these figures, the 1963 crop of Acala 1517 cotton that was grown in southeastern Arizona sold for an average of 5.3 cents per pound more than the Deltapine cotton that was grown in central Arizona (Table 1). A small part of this price differential may be accounted for by the fact that the freight rate on cotton from the southeastern Arizona counties to the Eastern mills is about 0.3-cent per pound less than from central Arizona. Thus, Acala 1517 cotton brought a 5.0-cent premium over Deltapine.

Table 1. Differences in quality and price of Deltapine and Acala 1517 cotton grown in Arizona in 1963

Item	Unit	Deltapine Smooth Leaf (Maricopa County)	Acala 1517C and 1517D (Cochise, Graham & Greenlee Counties)
Percent distribution of grades			
White			
Good Middling and Strict Middling.	Pct.	2.0	7.3
Middling <u>1/</u>	Pct.	22.4	43.7
Strict Low Middling <u>1/</u>	Pct.	34.7	36.8
Low Middling <u>1/</u>	Pct.	5.2	3.8
Strict Good Ordinary and Good Ordinary <u>1/</u>	Pct.	4.4	1.9
Total - White.	Pct.	68.7	93.5
Light Spotted			
Strict Middling.	Pct.	0.5	1.0
Middling	Pct.	9.7	2.6
Strict Low Middling.	Pct.	6.4	1.0
Low Middling	Pct.	5.1	1.2
Total - Light Spotted.	Pct.	21.7	5.8
Spotted.	Pct.	1.2	0.2
Light Gray	Pct.	2.1	0.1
Gray	Pct.	0.2	---
"Below Grade".	Pct.	6.1	0.4
Grand Total.	Pct.	100.0	100.0
Percent distribution of staple lengths			
Less than 15/16"	Pct.	0.7	---
15/16"	Pct.	3.4	0.1
31/32"	Pct.	6.6	---
1"	Pct.	8.1	0.6
1-1/32"	Pct.	45.1	0.1
1-1/16"	Pct.	35.3	6.0
Total, 1-1/16" or shorter.	Pct.	99.2	6.8
1-3/32"	Pct.	0.7	8.7
1-1/8"	Pct.	2/	36.3
1-5/32"	Pct.	2/	42.7
1-3/16"	Pct.	2/	5.5
Total, 1-3/32" or longer	Pct.	0.8	93.2
Grand Total.	Pct.	100.0	100.0
Average staple length.32nd-in.	33.0	36.3
Average market price for pound	Cent	30.9	36.2
Price differential over Deltapine Smooth Leaf.	Cent	---	+5.3

1/ Includes "plus" grades

2/ Less than 0.05 percent

Source: Cotton quality statistics are for all upland cotton ginned in Cotton Classing Districts 2 and 4 in Arizona, as reported in Cotton Quality: Crop of 1963, vol. 37, no. 10, U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Market. Serv., Cotton Div. Cotton price statistics for the Phoenix and El Paso markets are from Cotton Price Statistics, 1963-64, vol. 45, no. 13, U.S. Dept. Agr., Agr. Market Serv., Cotton Div.