

# Pure Cotton Seed Group Organized

Cooperation Effected Through Arizona Cotton Planting Seed Distributors

By Scott Hathorn, Jr.

Cooperation is the key to the production and distribution of pure cotton planting seed.

A newly formed organization to carry on pure-seed production in Arizona is Arizona Cotton Planting Seed Distributors. Cooperating with the Distributors are the ginning companies, University of Arizona Agricultural Experiment Station and Extension Service, United States Field Station at Sacaton, and Arizona Crop Improvement Association.

## Has Three Aims

The aims of this new organization are: (1) grow and distribute enough improved cotton seed for planting purposes at as low a cost as practical for the benefit of all Arizona cotton growers; (2) eliminate all poor varieties of cotton by making available

pure seed from high-yielding, uniform cottons bred for and adapted to Arizona conditions that possess high lint turn-out and desirable spinning characteristics, and (3) insure growers participating in the program against losses from unsold seed stocks and seed-price fluctuations.

Arizona Cotton Planting Seed Distributors is a non-profit corporation. Its membership consists of bona fide growers of pure cotton planting seed. Its place of business is Phoenix, Arizona. Management of the organization rests with a board of seven directors, all cotton growers, who are from various cotton-producing areas of the state.

Each year the University of Arizona Agricultural Station or the United States Field Station at Sacaton will supply the Distributors with foundation seed of the approved varieties. The Distributors will place this seed with selected growers through various

gin points for the production of registered seed. The registered seed is in turn placed with selected growers for the production of certified seed that will be required to plant Arizona's commercial cotton acreage.

Only enough foundation and registered seed will be produced to meet the commercial requirements for certified seed. At all times the Distributors maintain complete control over the price and distribution of planting seed.

Since grower members are paid oil mill prices for seed saved under the program at the time of ginning, they are insured against loss as they will at least receive the oil mill price for their seed as soon as the cotton is ginned.

In determining the selling price for planting seed, the cost of processing and handling the seed and a grower spread which provides a premium for the pure seed producers is added to the oil mill price of the seed. One price is set for all classes of planting seed immediately after the close of the seed-saving season. Certified seed is sold to anyone desiring good planting seed, but foundation and registered seed is sold only to those growers who qualify to increase this seed.

## Uses Contracts

The Distributors group uses two contracts in carrying on its business. One is between the Distributors and cooperating ginners. The other is between the Distributors and their pure seed growers. These contracts, which are now in the process of development, will be ready for distribution soon. In the meantime, any grower desiring to plant foundation or registered seed for increase purposes may make application for this seed at his county extension agent's office. Certified seed for commercial planting will be available at various gin points.

—Scott Hathorn, Jr., is Associate Agricultural Economist.

## Use Fertilizers On Cotton

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heavy. At least try it in a small way first.

Too much nitrogen late in the season can throw the crop pretty late, and without the benefits of extra yield. Earliness is essential.

—William I. Thomas is Assistant Agronomist.

Acala 44 seed-increase field, Pima Indian Agency, Sacaton, Arizona. Photo by Robert Peebles, Sacaton.

