

Maximizing the Value of Cotton Classification

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Maximizing the Value of Cotton Classification

- Not achievable with manual hand classing
- Instrument testing must be adopted



Motivating Factors for Adopting Cotton Classification by Instrument

- Enables cotton to be sold on its true value
- Eliminates need to “over buy” or “over sell”
- Adds marketing value to cotton



Motivating Factors for Adopting Cotton Classification by Instrument

- Adds utility value to cotton
- More competitive
- Cotton trading based on trusted instrument tests is objective



Achieving Success

- Role recognition
 - Establish trust, integrity and impartiality



Gin & Warehouse



Farmer



Merchant



Textile Manufacturer

Achieving Success

- Sampling
 - Integrity
 - Bale/Sample Identification



Achieving Success

- Adopt industry accepted standards
 - Procedures, practices, and calibration standards
 - CSITC Guidelines
 - Universal Cotton Calibration Standards



Achieving Success

- Quality Assurance
 - Routine calibration verification
 - CSITC Round Trial
 - Internal round testing
 - Instrument qualification (ASTM 7410)



Achieving Success

- Technical
 - Skilled workforce
 - Service industries
 - Stable power
 - Reliable and accurate Air Management System

Achieving Success

- Provide easy customer access to classification data through the Internet
 - For current and previous crop years



Achieving Success

- Test every bale

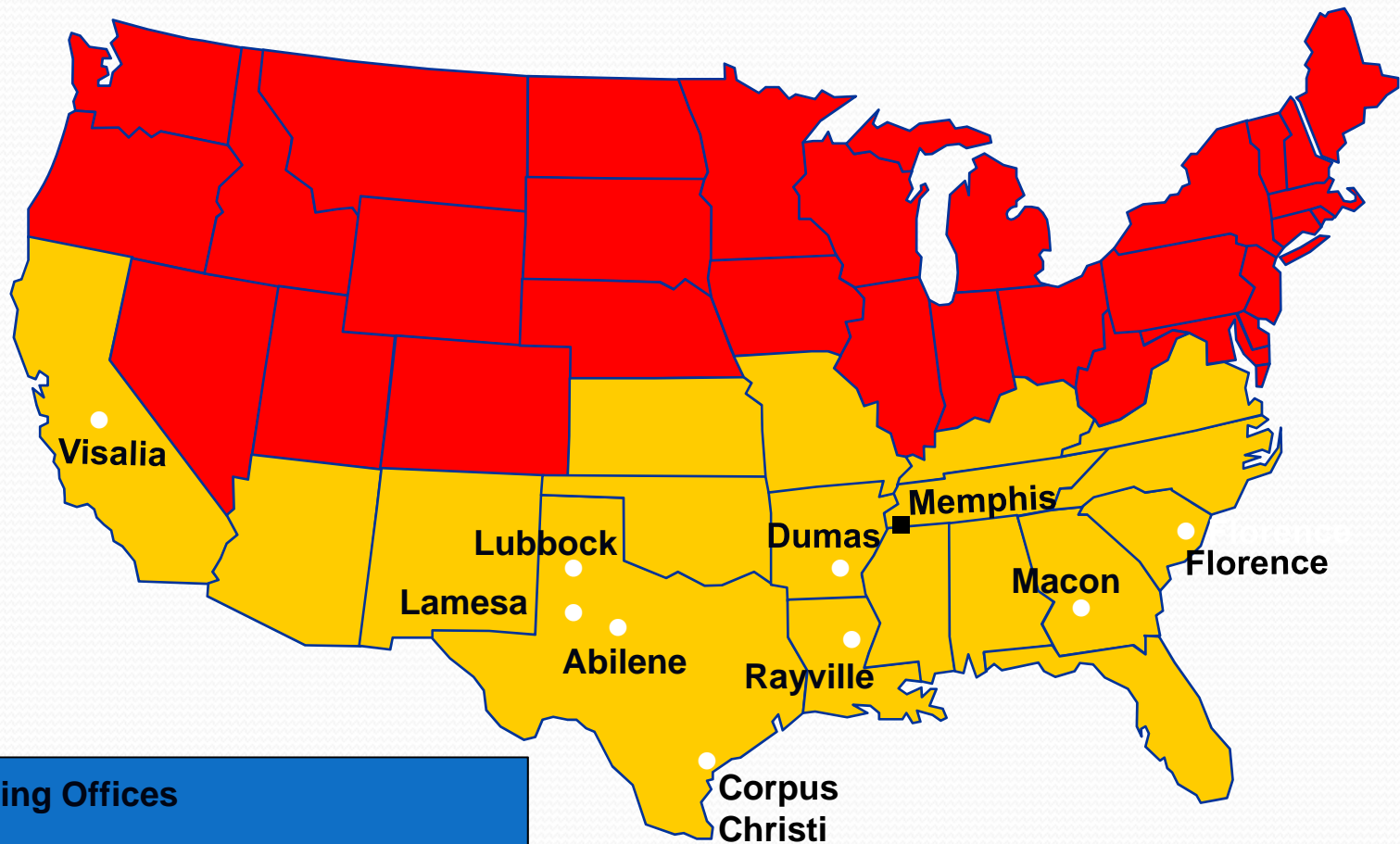




USDA's Cotton Classification & Cotton Standardization Programs



USDA Cotton Classification



- Classing Offices
- Memphis Cotton HQ / Classing Office



USDA Cotton Classification

- Implemented full instrument classification in 1991
- Practically each and every bale produced in the U.S. has been instrument classified since 1991
- Individualized data is available on every bale

USDA Cotton Classification

- Instrument
 - Micronaire
 - Strength
 - Length
 - Uniformity
 - Color Rd
 - Color +b
 - Color Grade
 - Trash Area
 - Particle Count
 - Leaf Grade

268 Uster HVI 1000 Instruments



USDA Cotton Classification

- Manual
 - Extraneous Matter



USDA's Cotton Standard's Program

- Produce reference materials for cotton classification
- Provide & distribute cotton samples for the CSITC Round Trial and USDA HVI Check Test Program
- Provide cotton classification workshops



Cotton Standards



Round Testing



Workshops

Maximizing the Value of Cotton Classification

- Moving forward with new technologies
 - Seek new technologies developed in other industries for cotton testing applications
 - USDA working with new imaging technology for improved color and trash measurement and to enable detection of extraneous matter in cotton



Maximizing the Value of Cotton Classification

- Moving forward with Automation
 - Faster, more efficient testing systems
 - More automation, less human involvement



Maximizing the Value of Cotton Classification

- Moving Forward



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