# ARIZONA COTTON RESEARCH & PROTECTION COUNCIL

## Q1 NEWSLETTER

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NEXT COVER



SEND PHOTOS TO 602-291-2983 OR MKLENKE@AZCOTTON.ORG

#### **FEATURES:**

- Industry Events
- National AG Day
- 2023 Cotton Seed
   Bug Survey
- AF36 Program
   Update
- Quality Control
   Update

#### WELCOME TO THE COTTON COUNCIL'S CORNER!

The Arizona Cotton Research and Protection Council (ACRPC) launches a quarterly newsletter to increase communication opportunities between the multiple industries ACRPC has become involved in since its development in 1984.

We are excited for this opportunity to share updates about the council, pest management program, aflatoxin program, and cotton plower program! ACRPC has a new and improved website for relevant content. Come check us out at <a href="https://cotton.az.gov">https://cotton.az.gov</a>

#### MEET THE COUNCIL

ACRPC was developed in 1984 with the primary function to research, develop and implement solutions for the protection of the cotton industry.

The ACRPC Board is composed of nine active cotton producers who serve on behalf of all cotton producers of the state of Arizona.

Under the direction of the ACRPC Board, the Council staff is a collaboration of 23 employees of leadership, lab staff, production staff, field supervisors, marketing and sales manager, and program consultant.





## **IMPORTANT MEETING DATES**







### **HAPPY NATIONAL AG DAY!**



National Ag Day is recognized on March 19 to celebrate the abundance provided by agriculture. We thank all the farmers, producers, processors, and all agricultural involved parties for the continued dedication to the world!

ACRPC is proud to be serving the cotton growers and agricultural industry.

For Growers, By Growers.

## **2023 COTTON SEED BUG SURVEY**

In 2023, ACRPC participated in our first Cotton Seed Bug (CSB) survey.

ACRPC considers the Cotton Seed Bug a significant threat to the Arizona cotton industry as it damages both the seed and lint quality. Currently, the cotton seed bug is known to be present in California, our neighbor to the west.

Beginning in August and continuing throughout the growing season, 228 fields, totaling 11,603.67 acres of cotton and 76.56 acres of okra, a known host of the CSB, were inspected. All surveys were done by the field supervisors using the visual inspection method, which involved walking the four field quadrants and visually inspecting the mature bolls for the presence of the cotton seed bug. Nine (9) suspect samples were collected at seven (7) sites in La Paz (6) and Pinal (1) counties. All suspect specimens were screened by ACRPC preliminary Identifier Bob Ellingson, Entomologist, and were determined not to be cotton seed bugs.

The ACRPC goal was to inspect 10% of the cotton acreage in Arizona. We exceeded our goal and inspected over 12% of the Arizona cotton acreage. The final survey results confirmed that the cotton seed bugs are not present in Arizona.





### **AF36 PROGRAM UPDATE**

PRODUCTION FOR 2024 IS IN FULL SWING! ACRPC is prepared to combat all aflatoxin this year with two fully stocked warehouses for AZ, NM, CA, and TX!

Pre-Orders can be placed for Prevail, Prime (OMRI Organic), or FourSure (Texas Corn Producers Exclusive) through Morgan Klenke or contacting your local distributor which can be found **HERE** 



#### **APPLICATION REFERENCE:**

- TOP SOIL APPLICATION WITH MOISTURE
- CORN: V7-SILKING
- COTTON: PRIOR TO BLOOM
- TREE NUTS: MAY-JUNE (NIGHT TEMP > 70°F)

## **QUALITY CONTROL UPDATE**



AF36 Prevail growth after 7 day incubation

ACRPC is dedicated to delivering growers a dependable and high-quality product that they can confidently incorporate into their crop management practices.

ACRPC's production lab evaluates the products at all levels of production. Spore suspension is evaluated to ensure healthy, live spores of AF36 before production. Once produced, the product is then evaluated for bacteria contamination and double checking active spore counts. Completed AF36 Prevail products have always exceeded the minimum presence of *A. flavus* spores.