CALIFORNIA PLANTING COTTON SEED DISTRIBUTORS

Pertinent Facts
In Relation
To
Waldo Weeth's Committee Recommendations
This report is being sent to you for your information in view of Weeth's Committee recommendations presented to the Board on July 26, 1961, and the letter he read dated July 25, 1961.

You will find the status of each member of the Committee, what the Distributors have been, and are, doing, and some observations.

1. Committee Members:
   
   A. Waldo Weeth-
      Former planting seed grower. Has now formed a cooperative gin with a single unit. Cotton in the area is sprinkled. He produces certified seed other than cotton under the regulations of the California Crop Improvement Assn., who do not want to handle cotton. Has a plant of his own and produces certified seeds for his own profit.

   B. Dick Markarian-
      Has never produced planting seed nor has his gin ever asked to have any allotted to them.

   C. Guido Lombardi-
      His co-op. gin is one of our best cooperators. Gin has delinting plant with shakers for fuzzy seed.

   D. Paul Kahl-
      Has never been a seed grower.

   E. Albert Davis-
      A seed grower of long standing, but not always in consecutive years. His co-op. gin is one of our best cooperators. Has an acid and mechanical delinting plant with cleaning equipment.
2. Cooperative gin members of Committee:

A. John Adair- Kaweah Delta Co-op.

One of oldest cooperators. Last year his fields were accepted 100% in an extremely weedy district. Has delinting plant with no cleaning equipment. Bulks seed. Excellent cooperator.

B. Otis Page- Farmers Co-op.

Bulks seed. Last year was approved to move seed in bulk to delinting plant in alfalfa boxes. Excellent cooperator.

C. Dick Huth- Visalia Co-op.

Has always sacked seed; will bulk this year and probably move seed to delinting plant in boxes. Excellent cooperator.

D. Bob Helm- Laton Co-op.

First year he has asked to produce seed.

E. George Von Flue- Madera Co-op.

One of oldest cooperators. Bulks seed. Has delinting plant with cleaning equipment.

F. Lee Stanley- Stratford Co-op.

Has produced seed for several years. Bulks seed and was approved to move bulk seed in bulk to delinting plant. Excellent Cooperator.

G. LeRoy Klase- Arvin Co-op.

Has produced Purple and Green tag seed since gin was formed. Has had to sack Purple tag as it is not logical to bulk reproduction seed, especially as this is the only way individual lots can be kept separate. Produces little Green tag in comparison to Purple so sacks that also. Excellent cooperator.

3. The reason for our rule that no seed could be moved to a delinting plant in bulk was that only one plant had facilities to keep cooperator's lots or individual lots separate unless it was received in some kind of container. This plant is now closed, so none are equipped properly. Last year we relaxed this rule, each case to stand on its own merits providing cooperator could keep lots separate.
HISTORY OF DISTRIBUTORS

Seed Standards and Seed Certification

* * * * * * * * *
CALIFORNIA PLANTING COTTON SEED DISTRIBUTORS
2201 F-Street
Bakersfield, California

1. Organized as an association in 1925.

2. Incorporated as a non-profit corporation under California laws in 1935.

3. Standards and Definitions of types of seed established in 1926 in cooperation with U.S.D.A.
   A. Increase seed, product of breeding blocks raised on Station or on ground approved by U.S.D.A. and Distributors and ginned at Station gin.
   B. Foundation product of Increase grown and ginned as above.
   C. Parent product of foundation to be grown and ginned as above.
      Note: Increase, foundation and parent now grown outside of Station and ginned at one gin. Parent and yellow tags now Purple.
   D. Superior seed, general planting seed now called green tag. Originally had blue tags.
   E. Isolation to be one mile. Changed to one-half mile unless another strain is found, then it is changed back to one mile.
   F. All planting seed cotton to be put in clean bins, all seed sacked and all ginning machinery to be cleaned before running pure seed.
   G. All fields must be free of noxious and other weeds and properly grown, or fields would be rejected and seed had to be milled.
   H. Two Seed Pools-
      1. Grower's pool- Producer paid all costs, received no oil mill price at ginning time and was not guaranteed against loss. Received no money until seed was sold.
      2. Finance pool- Cooperators advance all costs and grower received mill price at ginning time. Guaranteed against loss.
      Note: Later both pools combined so all settlements are on same basis.
   I. Price of seed based on average oil mill price during seed saving season plus extra cost of producing planting seed.
J. All cooperators to save seed above own needs as directed by Distributors.

K. As industry expanded some cooperators have had to save 100% above own needs so that Distributors can meet their obligation of producing sufficient seed for all growers.

L. Our agreement with the U.S.D.A. is that we are obligated to save sufficient seed in the least possible time and at the lowest possible cost.

REGISTERED AND CERTIFIED SEED

1. When the Federal Seed Act was enforced about 1940, we were shipping large quantities of seed to Texas, Oklahoma, Mexico and Arizona. The breeders in the crop improvement association of Texas objected to Washington, as we then called our Yellow tag seed Registered.

2. The State Department of Agriculture approved the Distributors as qualified to produce Registered and Certified seed under their supervision and due to our high standards instead of saddling us with the extra cost of inspectors to do what we were already doing, they appointed our Agricultural Commissioner as their certifying agent.

3. After twelve years, the Director influenced by a self-appointed committee thought he should write up some regulations for a skeleton law on the books. We couldn't live with them, so asked the Legislature to delete the law.

4. If we needed Certification, there is a section in the agricultural code that permits the Director in consultation with the Directors of the Experiment Stations of the University to approve an organization to produce certified seed. The Director was willing, but the University objected on the grounds that we controlled the seed from planting through sales, so we stopped producing certified seed.

5. Under this arrangement, our Standards were set with a minimum of 80% germination, 99% purity and varietal 99.9% purity determined by the Director of the Shafter Station. It is claimed we have no standards.

6. We work very closely with the State Department, and they with us.
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to certify that the California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors is, for the purposes of the requirements of the Federal Seed Act and regulations thereunder, an officially recognized agency for the increasing and distribution of registered cotton seed in California. This official recognition will remain in effect until suspended or cancelled by this Department.

This action is taken by this Department with complete understanding of the agreement between the said Organization and the U. S. Cotton Experiment Station at Shafter, California.

This Department has been acquainted with the development of the one variety cotton program since its inauguration and believes that the program as to parent seed, increase plots and distribution of seed is not only properly established and protected, but is also of tremendous benefit to the cotton industry.

Very sincerely,

W. B. Parker,
Director
WEETH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

* * * * * * * * * * * *
RECOMMENDATION NO. 1

1. That the Grower's Return be increased.

A. That the split of the first $7.50 to the Grower and the balance 50-50 be increased to at least the first $12.50. This is not the place to get the Grower more money. On this basis the Grower would not have received $12.50 for eight out of the past twelve years and the Cooperator would not have received anything four out of the past twelve years.

B. The pool settlement has always been on a tonnage and acreage percentage basis on the theory that if a Grower kept his fields clean and did his part, that he was entitled to some return if for no reason of his own he could save no seed.

C. Many splits have been discussed and some tried. First $5.00 and balance 50-50. This made the Cooperators share out of proportion to the Grower. $7.50 was settled on and the balance was discussed of 80-20, 60-40 and 75% tonnage and 25% acreage seemed to be most equitable. It has remained at this rate as there have been no complaints until now.

D. This matter is in the hands of the Pool Settlement Committee.

2. The Price and Extra Charge Committee has discussed this matter each year.

A. Their decision has been that a grower is entitled to a return for his extra weeding that it takes to qualify a field, but not for his normal weeding costs.

B. They have increased the Grower's Incentive and Pool Risk several times to assist the Grower.

C. There are two ways that the Grower may receive more money.

1. Take part from the Pool Risk and add it to the extra charges and deduct from the Pool Risk to keep price the same. The danger here is if the Pool Risk gets too low the settlement can turn out in red ink. Who would pay this?

2. Add to the price of seed.
## COMPARATIVE PRICE FIGURES

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Average price of cotton seed to grower: 53.93 60.00 45.96 62.15 52.09 42.65 45.23 52.39

Grower's Incentive & Pool Risk: 26.82 26.75 27.79 27.85 28.01 35.65 35.67 39.01

SEED PRICE: 128.00 132.00 119.00 135.00 125.00 125.00 128.00 150.00

**Seed Price - 1960-61:**

1. Extra Ginning has been increased 25¢, Sacks and Twine 65¢, Interest 10¢, Handling Charge 50¢, Grower's Incentive and Pool Risk $3.34.

2. Research item in the amount of $10,00 has been added.

3. Average price paid grower increased $7.16 over last year. This plus increases in extra costs in handling planting seed and adding the Research item makes a total increase of $22.00 or $.011 per pound.
### Pooling Comparison on 2 Seed Prices and 3 Tonnages

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#### 17,000 Tons

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1. Decimal places have been left off the tonnages.
2. In some instances, where more than one price has been paid for crushing seed, an average has been used above.
3. The above will make slight differences in totals if anyone tries to balance a particular year, but this gives a key to the breakdown of the pooling arrangements.
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<th>Average Seed Price Paid Grower at Gin</th>
<th>Extra Cost of Handling Planting Seed</th>
<th>Growers Incentive &amp; Pool Risk</th>
<th>Peaked Spread</th>
<th>Amount Paid to Grower</th>
<th>Amount Paid to Cooperator</th>
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**Average charges per ton of seed 1959-1960**

- Extra ginning: $7.90
- Sacks and Twine: $10.00

**Note:** This included $2.95 for labor and twine.

**Actual cost of sacks for 1960-61 including freight based on 31 sacks per ton to $7.41.**

- Hauling: $10.00
- Storage: $3.75
- Interest: $3.60
- Taxes: $2.90
- Insurance: $3.75
- Organization expense: 6.00

**TOTAL:** $47.10

**Growers' Incentive & Pool Risk - $35.67**

First $7.50 to grower, balance, if any, 50% to grower and 50% to company.

**How many tons of Green Tag seed will you need for your own use this coming season?** -0-

**Company name:**

---

The document appears to be a cost analysis for cotton seed distributors, detailing various expenses over different years and including a calculation for growers' incentive and pool risk.
ANGULAR LEAF SPOT

SPRINKLERED COTTON

RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 2 and 3

* * * * * * * * * * * *
RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 2 and 3

SPRINKLERED COTTON RESTRICTIONS SHOULD BE LIFTED:

1. Our voluntary ruling that planting seed not be saved at a gin which is ginning sprinklered cotton was approved and recommended by the scientists of the U.S.D.A. and California Department of Agriculture cooperating with the University of California following the outbreak at Carruthers in the early 50's.

2. This was an attempt to eradicate the disease voluntarily rather than have the State, through their commissioners, continue the strict regulations imposed at Carruthers.

3. The Angular Leaf Spot increased until 1958 and spread to Kings, Tulare and Kern.

4. It decreased by these measures until so far this year we have found only one small field infected, at Wheeler Ridge.

5. I have recently talked with the State and Federal and University Scientists and they say it would be a sad mistake to relax our rules when success is apparently in sight. This has been done in other areas and the disease has spread again.

They say that acid treatment helps but is not a sure cure. The danger being that the disease gets into the seed and then there is no cure. It will help surface contamination. Clean cultivation and deep plowing seems best cure.

They recommend we test seed at the gin this year where the diseased field is and that a suggestion I made of a pilot test at one gin could be made.

That we should not give up controls until we had at least one free year, preferably three.

6. All cooperators saving seed have multiple units and we know of no company who has built or been asked to build a $300,000 gin just to take care of sprinklered cotton.
Mr. C. Seldon Morley  
Agricultural Commissioner  
2610 "M" Street  
(P. O. Box 1351)  
Bakersfield, California  

Dear Seldon:  

This is in confirmation of and a follow up on our recent telephone conversation when you and Larry Nourse discussed with me the angular leaf spot disease of cotton; preventive measures related to seed transmission of the disease, and related matters.

One of the questions asked by you or Larry was whether acid treatment of the cotton seed (for delinting) would free infected seed of the bacteria which cause the angular leaf spot disease. Some research done by Gertrude Tennyson of the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College of Stillwater, Oklahoma, published in PHYTOPATHOLOGY, Volume 26, No. 11, pages 1083 to 1085, November 1936, shows that the causal bacteria do gain entrance to the seed through the basal end at the chalaza, and the bacteria enter the seed where they become inactive and remain so until the germination process sets in. On germination, the young seedlings become infected and soil water can carry the bacteria to the seed leaves and hypocotyl. Rain or dew or overhead sprinkling may wash the bacteria onto the leaves or stems, thus inducing primary seedling infection. Normally, with row irrigation and under the hot arid conditions of the cotton growing season in California, the infection on the seedlings eventually disappears, and we lose sight of the disease in the growing crop. However, with the overhead sprinkling method of irrigation, infections can persist through the summer and build up to the point of damage to the stems, leaves, and bolls.

The percent of cotton seed contamination due to invasion of the bacteria usually is low in dry weather, but under favorable conditions of moisture, the seedling infection resulting from internal contamination may reach 20 percent or more, according to Tennyson's report.

The bacteria also may surface contaminate the seed.

The acid delinting process should kill the surface bacteria, but it would not necessarily kill all the bacteria that are inside the seed or under the seed coat, although seed treatment is practiced as a control measure in areas where the disease is a problem. Research by Douglas C. Baine on the effect of sulfuric acid treatment on fungi and bacteria present on cotton seed from diseased bolls pub-
lished in PHYTOPATHOLOGY, Volume 29, No. 10, pages 879-884, showed that after treatment of 400 seeds in concentrated commercial sulfuric acid for sixty minutes, a small percentage of the seed still retained the infection in the seed coat and embryo. We could not say then that the sulfuric acid treatment would completely eliminate the infection from the seed.

It was brought out in our telephone conversation that the practice followed by growers during the past several years of not using seed from overhead sprinkled fields, and of not ginning overhead sprinkled cotton in the same gins where cotton to be used for seed was ginned, has brought about a reduction in the amount of angular leaf spot disease in the cotton fields. This is very encouraging and perhaps emphasizes that the practice should continue to be followed. However it also was mentioned that considerable pressure is being brought to bear to vary this practice now that the disease has diminished. This is what often happens when a problem of this type has been overcome to the point of near success and some of the people concerned think that the problem has been eliminated to the point that they can go back to the former unsanitary practice. I have some fears that, if they do, the problem will soon build up again.

As you requested, I am enclosing what material we have issued in the past on angular leaf spot disease, which consists of the following:

1) A memorandum dated October 15, 1956 from me to all county agricultural commissioners relating to a request for certain information on the occurrence of angular leaf spot of cotton.

2) A reprint of our Bureau of Plant Pathology Annual Report for the calendar year 1953, in which the disease is discussed and illustrated on pages 254-256.

A copy of this letter and these enclosures are being sent also to Larry Nourse.

Sincerely yours,

s/Gilbert L. Stout, Chief
Bureau of Plant Pathology
PREVENTATIVE MEASURES RATHER THAN POSSIBLE STATE REGULATIONS FOR CONTROL OF BACTERIAL BLIGHT OR ANGULAR LEAF SPOT

1. ORIGIN OF DISEASE AND VOLUNTARY PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:
   A. Severe damage was discovered in 1950 in one field.
   B. From 1950 through 1958 the spread was rapid. Due to your voluntary controls there was a marked decrease in 1959. It can be eliminated if we keep up our controls.
   C. It spreads by wind blown rain or other assimilated conditions such as sprinkling, causing overly damp conditions.
   D. It is not found in row irrigated fields in California.
   E. It is a bacterial disease and contaminates implements and machinery.
   F. It reduces your yield by ruining the bolls.
   G. To help eliminate the disease one must plow early and cover debris at least 6 inches and irrigate immediately to rot all material or rotate your fields.
   H. It is essential that sprinklered cotton be kept from going through same gin where planting seed is being saved. If it gets into the seed there is no cure.
   I. Composite samples of planting seed from row irrigated fields have been tested and no trace of the disease has been found in Re-production or Green Tag Seed. WE MUST KEEP IT THAT WAY.

2. WHAT IS BEING DONE BY THE DISTRIBUTORS:
   A. No parent or Purple Tag Seed has been permitted to be planted in sprinklered fields; or if it was planted by mistake, no seed is saved.
   B. Where a company has a single unit gin, no planting seed will be saved after sprinklered cotton has been received for ginning.
   C. Where there are two units on the same property, sprinklered cotton must be run through one unit and planting seed through the other. THIS IS IMPORTANT.

3. WHAT A GROWER CAN DO FOR HIS OWN PROTECTION IN THE FUTURE:
   A. On sprinklered fields a combination of delinting seed with sulfuric acid and treatment with a recommended disinfectant is used in some areas.
   B. Destroy infected crop residues in early fall by deep clean plowing.
   C. Destroy any volunteer seedlings in the spring before planting.
   D. Disinfect machinery when changing from one field to another.
   E. If your gin manager asks that you delay picking for a day or two if you have sprinklered cotton, BE TOLERANT AND COOPERATE WITH HIM. IT IS FOR YOUR PROTECTION.
   F. If he asks you to wait a little to gin your trailer of cotton so he may run it through one unit, CO-OPERATE WITH HIM. HE IS ONLY TRYING TO PROTECT THE PLANTING SEED FROM BECOMING INFECTED AND TO GUARD AGAINST RIGID STATE CONTROLS.
   G. REMEMBER THERE WAS A BIG DECREASE IN THE DISEASE IN 1959 BECAUSE YOU HAVE COOPERATED. IF YOU CONTINUE THESE PRACTICES THE DISEASE MAY BE ELIMINATED.
   H. THE STATE DOES NOT WANT TO HAVE TO PUT CONTROLS INTO EFFECT. THEY WILL NOT HAVE TO IF WE CONTINUE THESE VOLUNTARY METHODS.

4. GUARD YOUR FUTURE BY COOPERATING WITH YOUR GIN MANAGER. HE IS MERELY TRYING TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE COTTON GROWER.

CALIFORNIA PLANTING COTTON SEED DISTRIBUTORS
2201 F STREET BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA
RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 4 and 6

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RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 4 and 6

SACKING OF SEED: The comparison seems to be between certified seed producers and our operation.

1. The certified seed producer operates under regulations of the California Crop Improvement Association. He produces seed for his own profit and is responsible for purity from harvest through sales. If anything goes wrong, it is his responsibility.

   We operate and are responsible for seed production of 300 Growers and 26 Cooperators on a non-profit basis.

2. We have allowed the bulking of Green Tag seed for several years under proper handling. Last year we permitted movement of bulk Green Tag from bulk storage to delinting plants, each case to be approved.

   No delinting plant is equipped to handle bulk seed unless it is in some kind of containers; last year alfalfa tote boxes were used. All lots must be kept separate.

3. With no adequate facilities to keep Cooperator's lots separate or the individual Grower's lots separate, it is not logical to permit the bulking of Increase, Foundation, Parent or Purple Tag seed. Only one delinting plant in the Valley could have done this and they have now ceased operating. These types of seed are in limited supply and are the base for our success and no chances of mixture can be taken.

4. We experimented this year with one gin that is equipped to keep grower's lots separate in concrete bins. They installed special air equipment and Purple Tag was saved in bulk until they stopped ginning and then their regular crews immediately sacked. This bulking was only temporary so trusted crews could handle sacking. I know of no other Cooperator that could or would go to this expense.

5. We are trustees for this seed from the Station and have to protect its quality and purity.
RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 5 and 7

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RECOMMENDATIONS NO'S. 5 and 7

CLEANING OF SEED AND LOADING:

1. About 50% of the delinting plants have cleaning equipment. There is no argument here; all should have at least the minimum amount of equipment.

2. Loaders can be used if properly cleaned after loading mill run seed.
RECOMMENDATION NO. 8

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RECOMMENDATION NO. 8

SURPLUS SEED:

1. It has been a requirement to carry surplus seed from the start as our obligation is to furnish sufficient seed for all growers and protect them against a bad season.

2. The amount to be saved is your manager's responsibility, but the Seed-Saving Committee assists. They have been contacted each year, supplied figures, and have agreed on the amount to be saved. This year we went overboard due to faulty figures and allowing three days' additional to save seed when we about reached our total.

3. Our contracts have always carried this clause: "That the undersigned will save for replanting purposes in addition to their anticipated needs an additional amount of seed as directed by the Distributors."

4. For many years we have been faced with an uncertainty as to the acreage we would be allowed. This has added to the difficulty of guessing the requirements of 26 Cooperators, 200 gins, and 13,000 Growers.

5. If we were to agree to use mill piles for a surplus, we might just as well admit there is no use for the Shafter Station or a seed program.

6. In the past, when a shortage appeared to be confronting us, we asked all mills to set aside their first run prime seed. When it came the time to use it, invariably the seed was of poor quality. This was not intentional.

7. As late as '46-'47 through '51-'52 we had to use from 1-ton to 4,000 tons of gin run seed. Previous to this period we had many years of shortages. The use of gin run seed affected yields and the amount of seed cotton to make a 500# bale. You cannot justify a shortage if it could have been avoided.

8. No one likes to pay for insurance, but we all have to carry it for protection. Surplus seed falls in this category.
NOTE: THIS DEMONSTRATES THE DIFFICULTY IN DETERMINING AMOUNT OF SEED TO SAVE

SEED SAVING:

1. The Special Committee appointed to assist the Manager in determining the amount of seed to save, made up of Karl Schneider, John Adair, Lindsay Gunn, Dick Adams, and Ray Provost, were confronted with several unanswerable problems:
   A. Growers have the choice of two acreage plans.
   B. What will California's 1959 acreage be?
   C. Less planting seed was sold in 1958 than in any year since 1950-51.
   D. What will the replanting situation be?
   E. Correct tonnage to secure an ample supply for all growers and to take care of unforeseen emergencies.

2. The "crystal ball" came up with this formula:
   1958 total acreage, less 10%, plus 40%, plus 20% for replant, multiplied by the average pounds planted for several years, less the acreage in the southern valleys. All Cooperators were urged to save all seed possible as early as possible.

3. This would have been okay, but the early season with ideal weather for picking caused seed to be saved so rapidly that total figures were hard to determine during the seed saving period. We ended up with some 25,000 tons by October 26th, some two weeks ahead of any season in history.

4. One thing is certain - we have an ample supply of prime first picking planting seed of high germination for everyone.

5. A surplus can always be justified, but a shortage can never be explained.
July 25, 1961

California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors
Board of Directors and Advisory Committee

Gentlemen:

We have submitted to you by mail, what we believe to be a number of constructive recommendations that the Board should adopt in order to remove present iniquities and discrimination.

We have mentioned in the report that we mailed to the Directors and advisors, that the co-operating growers have not been compensated for increased costs in the same manner that co-operators have.

That is only part of the iniquities. According to the 58,354 acres planted last year of purple tag, 15,462 acres were rejected or an average of 26.5%. Some co-operators lost as high as 64% of their acreage. Normally there is only one variety to contend with, so isolation is no problem, it is strictly a case of weeds, field appearance or sprinkler irrigation.

As a comparison, California Crop Improvement Association, under California State Laws of Seed Certification, inspected in excess of 185,000 acres, (three times the acreage of cotton planting seed) of all varieties of seed with a multiple of problems varying from mixtures, isolation, volunteers, weeds, field appearance, disease, etc. and the highest rejection does not exceed 10 or 12%, which would be Sorghums or Sudan that are extremely bad about cross pollinating to less than 2 or 3% for various cereal grains. In other words, rejections on field inspection of cotton acreage for planting seed will run about 3 times as high as for seed certification.

Even though this field inspection seems unduly severe, the cotton grower would not be entitled to complain if these same strict regulations held true for all co-operators, but they do not. For example there is no requirement saying how high the purity must be.

As a comparison, under C.C.I.A. Seed Certification, Alfalfa seed must be 85% germination or better, and 99.5% purity and better after all processing is completed. Under C.C.I.A. regulations, the end result is a much higher, more uniform quality of seed.

It is our understanding that samples are drawn of cotton planting seed as it is saved. These samples are stored until the seed saving period is over. In due course of time an analysis is run on these samples, and that test is to represent the tonnage of planting seed that may be stored in bulk in sizeable tonnages; and later is delinted, and in most cases graded, but not mandatory, also treated but not mandatory, maybe two or three treatments but no further testing as to germination or purity. In mechanical harvesting, often times some picking machines are bad about cracking seed. If the seed is not
graded, then cracked, thin, or immature seed all goes in the planting seed bag together.

Inspection crews have been extremely tough on growers, but when the planting seed reaches the co-operator, then regulations become extremely lax.

EXTRA GINNING COSTS

These are based on the honor system and generally represent the maximum cost of doing a job. Since this program was not set up to operate on a competitive basis, it is gradually working in the direction of some war time government contracts of "Cost plus", with the costs representing the most inefficient co-operator with the independent grower on each end of the chain being clipped unnecessarily.

NOT TO MAKE MONEY

It has been preached many times that the co-operating planting seed grower is not supposed to make money on growing planting seed. He is supposed to get all of his advantages in the additional attributes of the newer strain of cotton. Sometimes it may be two or three years before those attributes are recognized by the mill trade in monetary advantages, and by that time all growers have the same advantage and the planting seed grower is growing still a newer strain that will have its day. What is good for the Goose is good for the Gander.

We are not presenting these facts just for the sake of argument, but in the interest of justice and in the preservation of this valuable public variety of cotton. There will always be enough natural unavoidable iniquities without injecting some that we now have, and they are becoming more and more apparent.

To try and defend some of these publicly takes time, money, and effort, that could best be spent more constructively.

RESEARCH

For example, for a period of years now, sizeable contributions have been made annually to the Shafter Station for much needed equipment. Only those closest to this organization have been entirely aware of this expenditure. In most cases, these grants have been made by the Board of Directors from funds obtained on the sale of surplus seed. We are sure the great majority of the growers would be whole-heartedly in favor of what was done, but they would like to feel they were part of the act. Even though the grants were made from surplus seed sales, indirectly the grower paid the bill and should have been given credit for the donation.
A one page bulletin could be printed for every Gin bulletin board, stating the nature, need, and amount of the grant which would immediately tie a grower's interest to the Shafter Station, and his investment in the Acala 4-42.

This year because of interest in Delta Pine "Slicker Leaf" out of state sales of surplus 442 planting seed has dwindled to a small fraction of the former demand.

Now without any fore warning, a direct charge of $10.00 per ton is assessed against planting seed for Research. It becomes public information, now, what indirectly growers have been paying for all along.

A LOCAL PLANTING SEED CASE

In our community, a small group of us growers were growing planting seed, and according to the District Manager of the Line Company, we were ginning with, figured at one time, we produced about 1/6 of all the green tag-planting seed. Today we do not produce any, and unless we are needed, we have no intentions of renewing the planting seed venture.

We used to average from $5.50 to $6.50 per acre gross for the approved cotton planting seed acreage. We always had the best of friendship and public relations with that Company. They paid off according to the rules of California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors, so we had no reason to be unhappy with the Company.

As grower restrictions became tougher, and then when our sprinkler acreage was thrown out, that complicated the problem some more. The Company even built another gin to take care of that acreage. We were finally forced down on planting seed acreage to the point where it became a nuisance to most of us and a hindrance to our normal operation. Furthermore, the additional revenue had dwindled to a point where it made one mad instead of obtaining a small amount of satisfaction or pleasure from the effort.

Due to economic pressures, our next effort naturally started moving in the direction of getting more from the gin seed, which ultimately ended in seven of our group building a $300,000 Co-operative Gin.

I have personally been on both sides of the fence. During the past seven months, our committee has swapped figures, and stories. It has been very enlightening to say the least. During the last two months, I have personally visited each of the Co-operative Gins that save planting seed. I personally have been growing and processing certified seeds of various kinds for 31 years, and have a sizeable plant of my own. In ten or fifteen minutes of observation of these various gins that save planting seed, I knew most of their
problems and a great deal about the efficiency of these individual units.

While I did not visit Company plants, I do know from experience that where all the seed goes to central locations for delinting, grading, and treating, they will be more efficient than the small units that were built for local needs.

Without giving away trade secrets, net returns on handling planting seed varied widely depending on the efficiency of the local units. Those variations averaged from a little over $20.00 per ton net above the best patronage oil mill returns to a net of $60.00 per ton. These net returns are paid to grower members in terms of dividends. For an efficient co-operator there is definitely a great deal more money in planting seed than in mill seed, yes, even if you owned the most efficient oil mill.

When anyone says a planting seed grower is not supposed to make any money on growing planting seed, we wonder if a raspberry might not be in order.

Getting back to our original point where we recommended that the co-operating growers incentive payment should be adjusted upward commensurate with that of the co-operator which would give the grower approximately $12.50 per ton above Gin Seed price instead of the present $7.50, we are being very conservative.

Furthermore, if greater caution is used in preventing padding of extra ginning costs, then the cost of higher more uniform quality planting seed can be made available to all growers at more reasonable prices.

Thank you,

s/Waldo Weeth
The following regulations herewith govern the handling of CALIFORNIA A 4-42 ACALA PLANTING SEED and must be strictly complied with. It is the duty of each cooperating Gin Manager to personally see that these instructions are carefully complied with.

1. Picking; Seed cotton from accepted parts of the seed field must be handled in picking sacks that have been turned inside out and thoroughly cleaned, or if picked by machine, the picking machine must be thoroughly cleaned, removing all weed seeds and any other foreign matter.

2. Transporting to the Gin; All equipment in transporting the seed cotton to the Gin must be thoroughly cleaned of all cotton and cotton seed before being used for Pure Seed.

3. Receiving at the Gin; When received at the gin and stored in a bin before ginning, all bins used for storage must be absolutely clean. Make sure that there is no chance of other seed cotton being blown into or on top of any seed cotton binned for Pure Seed. Be sure bins are properly marked.

4. Ginning Machinery; All ginning machinery must be thoroughly cleaned of all seed cotton or cotton seed of other ginnings. This is very essential, as all of the field work completed over a two year period to provide seed of this quality is lost if this operation is not carefully performed. In cleaning the Gin and to save time it is advisable to start at the top and work down, checking over all cleaners, conveyors, pulleys, gin-stands, roll boxes, seed elevators, augers, etc. Make sure that there is no loose cotton hanging overhead and that the floors, both in front and behind the stands are clean, this being necessary in case of a choke up where seed cotton is pulled out and thrown to the floor. Run (2) bales thru before saving any seed.

5. Inspection; Before a Pure Seed run is commenced an inspection of equipment must be made to see that the clean up has been thorough. This inspection is to be made by the Gin Manager and Ginner, as they are the individuals personally responsible for this Pure Seed Program. All inspections are subject to rules and regulations of the Distributors.

6. Keeping out all trash; During the entire run it is necessary to see that all parts of machinery used to extract foreign matter are properly functioning. Keep out all burrs, sticks and other trash, as it gives the users of Pure Seed a better chance to get a full stand by not having a planter clog, due to someone's negligence during the ginning operation.

7. Samples for Testing; Seed samples for testing are to be taken at regular intervals during the ginning of each lot. A small handful should be taken from each fifth sack during the run, put in the sacks provided and marked with the name of the field and date of ginning. These samples will be collected and sent for testing (required by California law.)

8. Sacking; As the seed is run into the sacks it should be tamped into the corners to properly fill the sacks. A pick handle is very useful in this operation. The sacks should be well filled and neatly sewed. In stacking the seed for hauling to storage see that the ground around the sacking chute is absolutely clean. If not, place bagging on the ground or a small wooden platform to keep the sacks clean. Sacked seed should not be left on the gin yard, but hauled to storage immediately where it is protected from weather, dirt, etc. All seed must be sacked in uniform size and grade of new burlap sacks as designated by Distributors and used by all Cooperators.

9. Saving Seed in Bulk; Where seed is saved in bulk to be treated, delinted and sacked later, a few samples of fuzzy seed must be taken from each grower's lot at time of ginning at the chute and labeled with the name of the field and date of ginning.

10. Tagging; Since the seed tag with lot number must stay with the original sack, seed tags must be attached as follows:
   1. Where seed is sacked at the gin, hog rings must be used.
   2. Where seed is sacked at a delinting plant and the sack does not have to be opened until seed is planted, tags may be sewed on as sack is closed or if attached otherwise, hog rings must be used.
   Tags should be strung numerically on a hooked wire before being given to a sacking crew. This eliminates chances for error.

11. Reports; A Pure Seed Ginning Report must be filled out after each ginning and copies forwarded immediately as designated. These reports are to be signed by the Gin Manager and Ginner as evidence that the ginning has been completed in accordance with these regulations. forward these reports promptly.

Under this cooperative Pure Seed Program definite responsibilities are given to the Gin Managers and Giners whose duty it is to see that they are properly carried out.

All cooperating Gin Managers should feel at liberty to call the organization, or the Shafter Experiment Station at any time either agency can be of assistance to them.
GERMINATION TESTS

1. All germination tests are done by the State Seed Laboratory at Sacramento.

2. Fuzzy samples are taken at the gin from each grower's lot. Then two composite samples are sent to the State. These run from 80% to 97% with purity of 99% on all samples. Varietal purity is 99.9% and this is determined by the U.S.D.A. at Shafter.

3. Mr. Weeth's report states there is no further testing for germination or purity. All delinted seed is tested in the same manner as the Fuzzy with the exception that in bulk seed a composite of lots is taken. These run from above 80% to as high as 99% germination and purity is 99% or better.

4. We label all seed 80% due to the fact that in dealing with so many Cooperators, if the average of one should show 85% and one 95%, it would tend to have people demand the higher germination and still the other seed would be excellent seed.

We deliver no seed under 80%. If any test is below 80% a portion of the same sample is re-run or a new sample is taken. Purity is 99%.

5. We have the full approval of the State Department in our seed work.

There is a dormant period in cotton seed when low or no germination is possible. For this reason we do not germinate seed when first ginned as no one knows when this period begins or ends. We do, however, run a few spot tests to see what is happening.

Treating and Delinting

Delinted samples are tested by the State Laboratory for germination.

We are aware of the seed cracking in pickers. This was remedied at one time and we have requested the University and U.S.D.A. engineers to make a further study this year.

Field Inspections and Rejections

Our inspections are impartial. They are strict but we feel they are just. Our regulations are approved by the U.S.D.A. and were approved too by the State Department of Agriculture when we produced certified seed for twelve years. Our rejections run high in instances, for we have many growers who farm clean and therefore those that have weeds must clean up or be rejected to be fair to the others.
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COOPERATING WITH
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

California Planting Cotton
Seed Distributors
2201 F Street
Bakersfield, California

SEED LABORATORY REPORT
Mar. 7, 1961

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABORATORY No.</th>
<th>APPLICANT'S IDENTIFICATION MARK</th>
<th>KIND OF SEED</th>
<th>PER CENT PURE</th>
<th>PER CENT OTHER SEED</th>
<th>PER CENT IMPURE</th>
<th>PER CENT WEEDS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L1955</td>
<td>DTIO-13</td>
<td>Gossypium app. Cotton</td>
<td>NOT REQUESTED</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1. This report includes blemished, dirt, excess, leaf and similar material. The seed Laboratory does not make a purity determination.

2. Delimitated tests do not request purity. The test as we have it on the fuzz samples and it saves $3.25 or more.

3. California breakdown seed specifications:

- Noxious weed seed according to California State weed law based on examination of: 

  5 

  $5.00

  0.00

It is unlawful to sell agricultural or vegetable seed containing primary noxious weed seeds (Sec. 914 (d) California Seed Law). 1 Indicates these secondary noxious weed seeds, noted in the statement as provided in Section 191(4) of the California Seed Law and must be added in accordance with this section.

2 Many kinds of leguminous seeds, such as white clover and alfalfa, have seeds which remain hard as the seed of the time usually allowed for a germination test. These "hard seeds" have unusually hard seed coats, preventing them from taking up moisture readily. Unless the seed coat is scratched or broken or until such time that the seed coat becomes sufficiently softened up the seed can seldom produce the viability of the "hard seeds" remains unknown. The presence of a large percentage of hard seeds is of considerable practical importance, as a seed stand may not be secured on account of the delayed germination of the viable portion.

Walter A. Ball
Chief

Note: The name of U. S. Department of Agriculture or the California State Department of Agriculture or any employee thereof must not be used for advertising purposes in connection with this report.

In replying to this report, please refer to laboratory records.
California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors  
2291 F Street  
Bakersfield, California

SEED LABORATORY REPORT  
December 21, 1960

The following is the result of the test of the sample of seed received.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABORATORY NO.</th>
<th>APPLICANT'S IDENTIFICATION MARK</th>
<th>KIND OF SEED</th>
<th>PER CTRG. PURITY</th>
<th>PER CTRG. OTHER CROP</th>
<th>PER CTRG. INERT</th>
<th>PER CTRG. WEEDS</th>
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<tr>
<td>40257</td>
<td>23-1 cm bag</td>
<td>Gossypium app. - Cotton</td>
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</table>

Inert matter includes broken seeds, dirt, stones, chaff and similar material.  
The Seed Laboratory does not make varietal determinations.

Weed Seeds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approximate number per lb. of sample</th>
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</table>

Purity approximately 99%  
Weed seed less than 0.01%

NOTE: THESE ARE FUZZY SEED TESTS

California Noxious-Weed Seed Examination

Noxious weed seed according to California State seed law based on examination of 500 gms.

No noxious

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LENGTH OF TEST TRAY</th>
<th>GERMINATION</th>
<th>HARD SEEDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PER CTRG.</td>
<td>PER CTRG.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>87.00</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is unlawful to sell agricultural or vegetable seed containing primary noxious weed seeds (Sec. 914 (4) California Seed Law).

* Indicates these secondary noxious weed seeds exceed the minimum as provided in Section 914(4) of the California Seed Law and must be labeled in accordance with that section.

** Many kinds of leguminous seeds, such as white clover and alfalfa, have seeds which remain hard at the end of the time usually allowed for a germination test.  These "hard seeds" have unusually hard seed coats, preventing them from taking up moisture readily.  Unless the seed coat is scratched or broken or until such time that the seed coat becomes sufficiently softened so the seed can take up moisture the viability of the "hard seeds" remains unknown.  The presence of a large percentage of hard seeds is of considerable practicable importance, as a good stand may not be secured on account of the delayed germination of the viable portion.

Walter S. Hall  
Chief

NOTE—The name of U. S. Department of Agriculture or the California State Department of Agriculture or any employee thereof must not be used for advertising purposes in connection with this report.

In replying to this report, please refer to laboratory number.
No one can argue the point that we can be more lenient with our inspections if we want to drop the standards that we have maintained for years. I am sure no one wants to do this.

There is a great difference between crops as far as weeds are concerned. It is just easier to clean low row crops than it is cotton.

**Extra Ginning Costs**

Waldo is on this committee. We send out each year to all Cooperators questionnaire giving last year's charges and asking the managers to give their actual costs for the past season. This table is presented to the committee, with Kenneth Frick as Chairman, together with an analysis of each item and where we know actual cost of an item, this is given. As anyone should know, it is hard to break down labor costs for each item of operation and the human element enters into this as none of us think alike. We have to assume that the managers are responsible people and we take their word for their operation. We cannot go in and audit each gin's books.

When it is said that the profit runs from $20 to $60 per ton on planting seed, this gives a false impression. It is the manager's way of keeping books and his breakdown. $60 is out of the question as our extra charges are only about $47 if they have no expense at all. As Mr. Markarian said, these figures did include some other services. Delinting must be a part of that.

In our contact with managers, some tell us they lose money on the seed program and cannot come up to some of the oil mill seed returns. This is another matter of bookkeeping.

As I said at the meeting, in such a large program there are bound to be inequities and it has been felt that a gin should be permitted to make up a portion of the amount he would get for oil mill seed if he were to have the planting seed in his mill run.

If we could cut $10 out of the extra charges, we would only be talking about 1/2¢ per lb.

I have found no Cooperator who thinks the price should be lowered.

**Research**

When the Directors said in July, 1960, we should recommend to the Committee that they should include an amount for research in this year's price, we started to get this information out by word of mouth, by articles, and on our seed price cards hanging at each gin since January or March this item has been for the growers to see. The problem of how to get people to absorb information confronts every organization. Human nature being what it is, we cannot force people to remember or to read things. We can try to do better.
CALIFORNIA'S 1961
ACALA 4-42
COTTON PLANTING SEED
$.075 PER POUND
(fuzzy basis)

BRED FOR YOUR SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY CONDITIONS
BY THE U. S. COTTON FIELD STATION, SHAFTER, CALIF.

COOPERATING WITH

CALIFORNIA PLANTING COTTON SEED DISTRIBUTORS
2201 F STREET
BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

This high quality ACALA 4-42 cotton planting seed is produced in
the San Joaquin Valley, The World's Largest One Variety District,
through cooperative agreements with the United States Department
of Agriculture, Shafter Experiment Station, the University of Calif­
one, the California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors and cooper­
ating cotton companies.

For the first time, an item for Research has been added to the price
of ACALA 4-42 cotton planting seed. All San Joaquin Valley grow­
ers will help support Research this year in the amount of one-half
cent per pound on each pound purchased.

Commercial planting seed in other cotton areas of the U. S. range
from $285 to $400 per ton.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Charge</th>
<th>Insurance</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>Storage</th>
<th>Handling</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>O.K.</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47.1.10</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: For O.K. the charges are 0.60 for each category.
Not To Make Money

This paragraph seems to me to be ambiguous and merely an observation.

Reasons For Using Best Burlap

Mr. Markarian, on July 26th, asked why we could not use 7 1/2 oz. as in the early years; that he had never had any trouble with 7 1/2 oz.

We used 7 1/2 oz. until it came to a point that there was too much breakage in storage and handling. When a sack was dropped or stacked too high in storage it split open, which meant resacking and when spilled seed was scooped up, it was with dirt and trash. Naturally when a man received a sack, it was in good shape, but no one realized the cost in storage.

A sack of delinted seed runs about 12¢ per pound, or $9.60 for 80 lbs. The difference between our good burlap and 7 1/2 oz. is only 8¢ for a sack to hold 80 lbs. of seed.

The package is something we can take pride in and the loss in storage is practically nil.

It is simple for any of us to ask questions or to criticize if we do not know the background. This does not mean that we should not have criticism for it is good and brings out the reasons.
JOHN TURNER

Letter Regarding Weeth's Recommendations

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
July 25, 1961

Seed Distributor Directors
California Planting Cotton Seed Distributors
2201 "F" Street
Bakersfield, California

Regarding: Recommendations presented from Waldo Weeth's committee.

Gentlemen:

After studying Mr. Weeth's proposals, here is my thinking on the various recommendations:

1) This first recommendation is concerning possible inequities with growers payments versus cooperators payments. I am sure this is not the intent of the organizations and if differences are found I am sure the growers payment can be adjusted. What must be kept in mind in this regard is the fact that the purpose of the Seed Organization is to multiply pure seed as efficiently as possible with no intent that either the cooperators or pure seed growers make a profit, since cotton seed is only a by-product in the cotton program and not to be looked upon in the same light as pure seed production for such as corn, grain crops or alfalfa.

2 and 3) These deal with the question of saving seed from sprinkler irrigated fields. This is a temporary restriction where the Distributors have followed very closely the recommendations of the Pathology Department at Davis and the Experiment Station at Shafter. Our thought was that some extra restrictions and hardships for a very few years among the growers and ginners could eradicate this disease and therefore would be much less costly than engaging on a time consuming and perhaps an unrewarding breeding effort for obtaining blight resistance. These measures have really paid off. At the end of this season, it may be that these restrictions can be either eliminated or minimized considerably.

4 to 7) These deal with the manner of sacking, processing and handling of pure seed. The items presented may need to be restudied and perhaps greater efficiency may result from some modifications. However, the organization must do everything possible to maintain the identity of white and purple tag seed since we expect to continue giving improvements in the seed releases from the station.
8) This deals with the question of how much reserve seed is justified. This has been a very difficult question to answer. If our organization is willing to forget the potential sale of any seed any year outside of the San Joaquin Valley, it may be possible to reduce the total seed saved. On the other hand, the seed saving committee must be somewhat of a "crystal ball gazer" as to the constantly changing government programs affecting acreage and make sure sufficient seed of known quality are saved.

These are my only thoughts on the proposed recommendations at the present time. If any findings are brought to light with these or other recommendations, I will be glad to study the feasibility of such suggestions in light of the major purposes of the breeding and seed increase program. This joint endeavor between the government and cotton industry has for many years been a most beneficial arrangement for the good of the growers and all phases of the cotton industry through the textiles. Certainly none of us would care to jeopardize the success of such a program. Yet anytime improvements can be made we should all give full consideration and study how to instigate such improvements.

Yours to serve,

s/John H. Turner
Agronomist-In-Charge

JHT/bb

cc: Dr. Barker
    Dr. Love
    Dr. Aldrich