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W. R. Perkins

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Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station.

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VARIETIES OF COTTON.

1905 and 1906.

By W. R. PERKINS.

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AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, MISS.

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# VARIETIES OF COTTON.

1905 and 1906.

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W. R. PERKINS.

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No report was published of the variety test of cotton for 1905. Owing to the date at which the ginning was done, it was deemed useless to make such a report too late to be of any service for the following year.

The results of the experiment for 1905 and those for 1906 are included in the following brief report.

The test of varieties has been conducted for the past four years on the same piece of land. The soil is of medium quality and varies from a light to a rather heavy loam in places.

No fertilizers of any kind have been used on the land during the four years except about ten loads of barnyard manure in the spring of 1905. This was spread over the poorer spots as a means of bringing all parts of the soil to a nearly uniform state of productiveness. Every precaution was taken to avoid any division of the land into plats that would give any variety of cotton an advantage over another in the way of being on better land. The varieties are always planted in one-row plats, and repeated a number of times, usually about ten times. Instead of one variety being grouped in one part of the field it is scattered regularly all over the area. In the test for 1906 every sixteenth row was in the same variety, there having been sixteen varieties planted. The tables following give full data as to yield, value of crops, etc.:

TABLE I.—VARIETIES OF COTTON, 1905.

| Rank. | VARIETY.                  | Yield of Seed Cotton, Lbs. per A. | Per Cent. Lint. | Yield of Lint, Lbs. per A. | Yield of Seed, Lbs. per A. | Length Staple, INCHES. | Value per Acre. |
|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 1     | Cook's Improved .....     | 1978                              | 38.0            | 751.6                      | 1226                       | $\frac{3}{8}$          | \$82.51         |
| 2     | Toole's Early .....       | 1871                              | 37.8            | 707.2                      | 1164                       | $1\frac{1}{8}$         | 77.70           |
| 3     | Layton's Improved .....   | 1683                              | 37.6            | 632.8                      | 1050                       | $\frac{3}{4}$          | 69.53           |
| 4     | Truit's .....             | 1811                              | 33.4            | 604.8                      | 1206                       | 1 1-16                 | 67.71           |
| 5     | Lewis' Prize .....        | 1662                              | 36.0            | 598.3                      | 1064                       | 1                      | 66.21           |
| 6     | Tatum's Improved .....    | 1806                              | 32.5            | 586.9                      | 1219                       | 1 1-16                 | 66.00           |
| 7     | Excelsior .....           | 1800                              | 32.5            | 585.0                      | 1215                       | 1 1-16                 | 65.79           |
| 8     | Russell's Big Boll .....  | 1903                              | 30.3            | 576.6                      | 1327                       | 1 1-16                 | 65.62           |
| 9     | Moss' Improved .....      | 1408                              | 42.6            | 599.6                      | 808                        | $\frac{3}{8}$          | 61.80           |
| 10    | Schley .....              | 1723                              | 32.8            | 573.0                      | 1150                       | 1 1-16                 | 61.20           |
| 11    | King No. 1 .....          | 1634                              | 35.3            | 576.8                      | 1057                       | $\frac{3}{8}$          | 64.02           |
| 12    | Culpepper .....           | 1715                              | 33.1            | 567.6                      | 1147                       | 1                      | 63.84           |
| 13    | Texas Burr .....          | 1613                              | 33.3            | 537.6                      | 1075                       | $\frac{3}{8}$          | 60.21           |
| 14    | Hawkins .....             | 1585                              | 33.5            | 530.9                      | 1054                       | $\frac{3}{8}$          | 59.41           |
| 15    | Hertong .....             | 1602                              | 32.6            | 523.2                      | 1079                       | 1                      | 58.79           |
| 16    | Jones' Improved .....     | 1518                              | 31.9            | 493.8                      | 1054                       | 1 1-16                 | 55.70           |
| 17    | Griffin—long staple ..... | 1542                              | 32.4            | *499.6                     | 1042                       | $1\frac{3}{8}$         | 80.19           |
| 18    | Cook—long staple .....    | 1343                              | 33.0            | *443.2                     | 900                        | $1\frac{1}{2}$         | 71.98           |
| 19    | Allen—long staple .....   | 1259                              | 30.0            | *377.7                     | 881                        | $1\frac{1}{2}$         | 61.93           |
| 20    | So. Hope .....            | 1715                              | 30.3            | †519.6                     | 1195                       | $1\frac{1}{4}$         | 72.12           |

\* 15 cents per lb.

† 12½ cents per lb.

TABLE II.—VARIETIES OF COTTON, 1906.

| Rank. | VARIETY.            | Yield of Seed Cotton Lbs. per A. | Per Cent. Lint, , | Yield Lint, Lbs. per A. Lbs. per A. | Yield Seed Lbs. per A. | Length Staple INCHES. | Value.  | No. Seed in 1 lb. | No. Bolls Cotton to make one lb. |
|-------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1     | Cook's Improved     | 1560                             | 38.4              | 599.0                               | 961                    | $\frac{7}{8}$         | \$65.66 | 3991              | 65                               |
| 2     | Cleveland Big Boll  | 1560                             | 35.6              | 555.4                               | 1004                   | 1 1-16                | 61.56   | 3709              | 60                               |
| 3     | Eureka              | 1425                             | 37.7              | 537.2                               | 888                    | 1                     | 59.04   | 3846              | 73                               |
| 4     | Triumph             | 1480                             | 35.9              | 531.3                               | 949                    | 1 $\frac{1}{8}$       | 58.82   | 3718              | 59                               |
| 5     | Peterkin            | 1390                             | 38.4              | 533.7                               | 856                    | 1 1-16                | 58.50   | 4199              | 77                               |
| 6     | Toole's Early       | 1325                             | 40.7              | 539.2                               | 786                    | 1                     | 58.41   | 5324              | 100                              |
| 7     | Prize               | 1405                             | 36.5              | 512.8                               | 892                    | 1                     | 56.63   | 4118              | 80                               |
| 8     | Moss' Improved      | 1220                             | 42.1              | 513.6                               | 706                    | 1                     | 55.59   | 4779              | 89                               |
| 9     | Tatum's Improved    | 1420                             | 32.7              | 464.3                               | 956                    | 1 1-16                | 52.16   | 3449              | 61                               |
| 10    | Russell Big Boll    | 1456                             | 31.8              | 463.0                               | 993                    | 1                     | 51.25   | 3518              |                                  |
| 11    | Schley              | 1360                             | 32.5              | 442.0                               | 918                    | 1                     | 49.70   | 4217              |                                  |
| 12    | Excelsior           | 1235                             | 33.6              | 414.9                               | 820                    | 1 1-16                | 46.41   | 4997              | 87                               |
| 13    | Griffin—long staple | 1440                             | 30.7              | *443.3                              | 1000                   | 1 $\frac{3}{8}$       | 72.40   | 4117              | 73                               |
| 14    | Cook—long staple    | 1255                             | 30.2              | *379.0                              | 876                    | 1 7-16                | 62.10   | 4117              | 80                               |
| 15    | Allen—long staple   | 1261                             | 29.7              | *374.5                              | 886                    | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$       | 61.48   | 4100              | 80                               |
| 16    | Southern Hope       | 1344                             | 32.0              | †430.0                              | 914                    | 1 5-16                | 59.23   | 4353              | 94                               |

\* 15 cents per lb. † 12 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents per lb.

In calculating the value of crop, short staple cotton is reckoned at 10 cents per pound, long staple at 15 cents, and one and one-fourth inch staple at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents per pound. Seed are calculated at 60 cents per hundred, or \$12.00 per ton.

The price given to short-staple cotton represents fairly what it would have brought during either season, though a discriminating market might have made some small differences, due to varying length of staple. The long staple if anything would have brought more than 15 cents per pound, so that for the two past years, at least, the figures show about the differences existing in value.

The data in tables need little comment, further than to emphasize the care taken to prevent any conditions other than the difference in seed, entering as a modifier of the results, and to call attention to the fact that some varieties of cotton are much better than others.

In 1905 the difference in value of crop between the poorest yield and the best was \$26.81 per acre, and in 1906 a difference of \$19.25 existed, or more than the average total yield of an acre over the entire state, or over the entire cotton belt.

The better yields were made at exactly the same cost as the poorer save that of gathering and ginning the excess of production. In the crop of 1906, if the poorest crop had been made and marketed at a total cost of \$30.00 there would have remained as profit \$16.41. The cost of the better yield would have been \$30.00 plus the cost of picking and ginning 325 pounds of cotton, or about \$2.00, making the total cost of this crop \$32.00 per acre, and leaving a profit of \$33.66, or more than double the profit from the poorer variety.

It is not to advertise one or more varieties of cotton or to disparage another that this comparison is made, but to emphasize the fact that such differences do exist and that as one of the factors of better farming the subject should not be disregarded.

The following list gives the names and addresses of persons from whom our seed were obtained:

VARIETY.

NAME.

ADDRESS.

|                         |                           |                      |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Russell Big Boll        | J. L. Thornton            | Alexander City, Ala. |
| Truitt                  | Alexander Seed Co.        | Augusta, Ga.         |
| Excelsior               | Alexander Seed Co.        | Augusta, Ga.         |
| Tatum's Improved        | R. D. Tatum,              | Palmetto, Ga.        |
| King No. 1              | T. J. King Company        | Richmond, Va.        |
| Layton's Improved       | R. D. Layton              | St. Matthews, S. C.  |
| Toole's Early           | Alexander Seed Company    | Augusta, Ga.         |
| Toole's Early           | W. W. Toole               | Augusta, Ga.         |
| Hawkin's Extra Prolific | B. W. Hawkins             | Nona, Ga.            |
| Edgeworth               | J. C. Little              | Louisville, Ga.      |
| Lewis' Prize            | W. B. F. Lewis            | Lewiston, La.        |
| Cook's Improved         | J. R. Cook                | Ellaville, Ga.       |
| Moss' Improved.         | B. D. Moss                | Norway, S. C.        |
| Peterkin                | J. A. Peterkin            | Fort Mott, S. C.     |
| Herlong                 | Edward Bancroft           | Athens, Ga.          |
| Southern Hope           | Department of Agriculture | Washington, D. C.    |
| Cook's Long Staple      | Mrs. W. H. Cook           | Utica, Miss.         |
| Allen's Long Staple     | J. B. Allen               | Port Gibson, Miss.   |
| Griffin's Long Staple   | F. L. Hogan               | Starkville, Miss.    |
| Griffin's Long Staple   | J. B. Griffin             | Greenville, Miss.    |
| Schley                  | J. C. Turnipseed          | Griffin, Ga.         |
| Cleveland Big Boll      | J. R. Cleveland           | Decatur, Miss.       |