Grower Perspective: Selecting a Variety

- John Lindamood
- Lindamood Planting Co.
- Northwest TN
- 5200 Acres
- 3200 Acres of cotton 2010
- 90% No till
Discussion of Variety Selection

- Importance of Variety Selection
- Type of information needed
- Source of information
- The consultants role
Importance of Variety Selection

- Maximum yield potential is established at time of planting
- Not all varieties are created equal
- Yields and grades within varieties respond differently to various soil types and environments
- There is a need to coordinate weed control programs with the selection of appropriate genetic traits
Information needed in order to select the right varieties

- Relative maturities
- Seedling vigor
- Yield response across varying soil types and environments
- Grade qualities
- Storm resistance
- GMO's- herbicide traits
  - What products can we use
  - How effective are they
  - What damage can we expect to see to the crop
Sources of Information for Variety Selection

- Personal experience
  - Advantages
    - Your fields and soil types
    - Aware of any limiting factors affecting yield
    - Opportunity to look at varieties over multiple years and a variety of environments
  - Weaknesses
    - Producers tend to have short term memory
Sources Continued

- Local Feedback
  - Advantages
    - Again, the conditions and soil types similar to your own
  - Disadvantages
    - Tendency to exaggerate strengths and weaknesses
Sources Continued

- University Data
  - Advantages
    - Organized and reliable, collected over time
    - Analyzed for both yields and grades
    - Data is collected over multiple sites
  - Weaknesses
    - Possibilities of different soil types and environments than your own
ST 4554 B2RF

4 year OVT (2005-2008) and 3 year CST (2006-2008) data

\[ y = 1.0029x + 42.9 \]

\[ R^2 = 0.9395 \]
PHY 375 WRF


$y = 1.0915x - 17.503$

$R^2 = 0.8648$
DP 117 B2RF

3 year OVT (2005-2007) and 2 year CST (2006-2007) data

\[ y = 1.1017x - 136.55 \]

\[ R^2 = 0.9353 \]
Table OVT1. Lint yield, gin turnout, and fiber quality of 42 entries in the 2008 Tennessee Official Variety Trial averaged across five test locations, listed by yield rank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield Rank</th>
<th>Variety</th>
<th>Gin Turnout</th>
<th>Lint Yield</th>
<th>Micronaire</th>
<th>Fiber Length</th>
<th>Fiber Strength</th>
<th>Uniformity</th>
<th>Color Grade</th>
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</table>
Sources Continued

- Seed Representatives
  - Advantages
    - They have a thorough knowledge of their varieties
    - Can aid in placement and management
  - Disadvantages
    - Self interest
Consultants Role

- Provide a depth of experience both on your farm and from other producers
- To collect and help analyze data across the various sources
- To help with the final selection of variety mix representing tried and true varieties on the majority of acres, while selecting new varieties for evaluation