New Cotton Virus Detected in the SE US

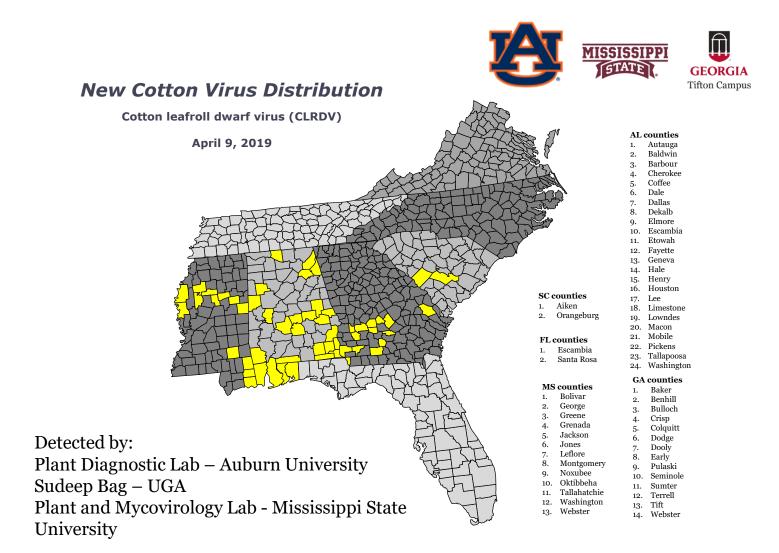
J. Koebernick



Cotton Virus in Alabama

- 2016 Crop advisors reported seeing symptoms
- 2017 Virus tentatively identified as *Cotton leaf roll dwarf virus* which causes Cotton blue disease (CBD)
- 2018 Limited distribution determined, <u>all</u> <u>tested varieties susceptible</u>
- 2019 Whole genome sequences produced and compared for confirmation





Cotton Blue Disease (CBD) in Brazil

- Virus with greatest threat to yield, 80% loss
- Transmitted by the cotton aphid
- Solution: All varieties grown were resistant to CBD
- However, the virus mutated in 2006 and broke resistance
 - Two strains- Typical and Atypical
- Currently, 90% of varieties are susceptible to Atypical form of virus.

Cotton Aphid

Aphis gossypii





- Transmitted in a persistent manner
- CBD can be transmitted by viruliferous aphids in as little as <u>40</u>
 <u>seconds</u>
- Can be transmitted for up to 12 days
- Broad host range >300 plant species

Managing Aphids is not an option



Symptomatology – Red petioles & leaves









Symptomatology – Downward curling





October 2018



Symptomatology – Upward curling



8/16/2018





Symptomatology – Leaf Crinkling







Symptomatology – Dwarfed plants







8/21/2018



Symptomatology – Shortened Internodes, abnormal top growth





October 2018



Symptomatology & Yield Loss – Boll drop



Pic: Mark Freeman





September 2018

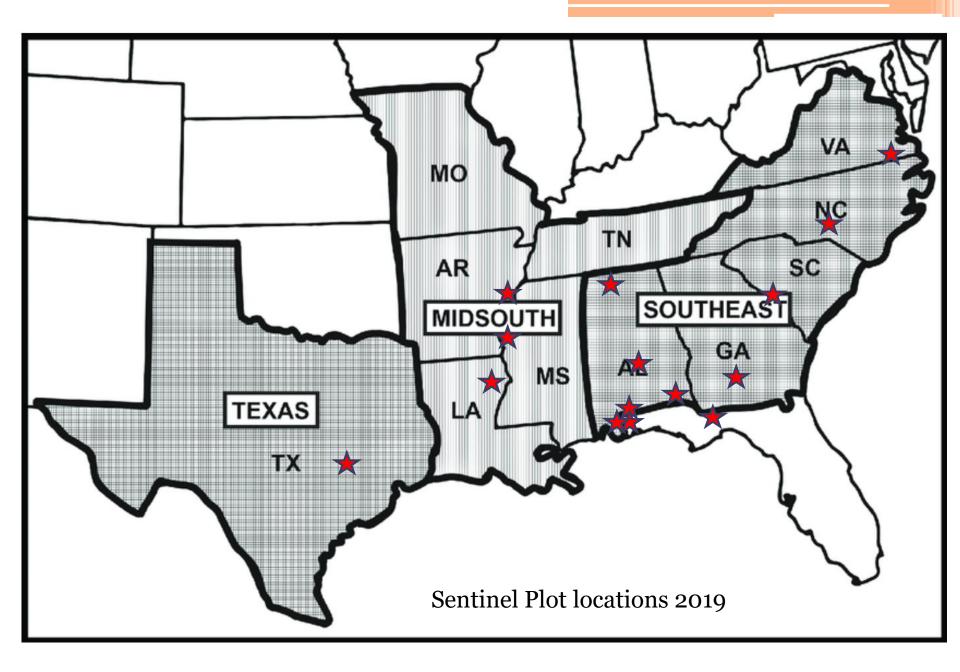


Sentinel Plots

- Symptom x Variety x Environment
- Yield loss estimates
- Planting date
- Disease survey







Current Projects in Al and Ga

Entomology

- *Aphid management studies* Insecticide efficacy and Different regimes to reduce incidence
- *Monitoring aphid studies* Which week is aphid transferring the virus and what species are present
- *Cage Studies* interaction between cotton growth stage and time of infection and disease severity and yield loss.
- Overwintering hosts

Diagnostics/Virology

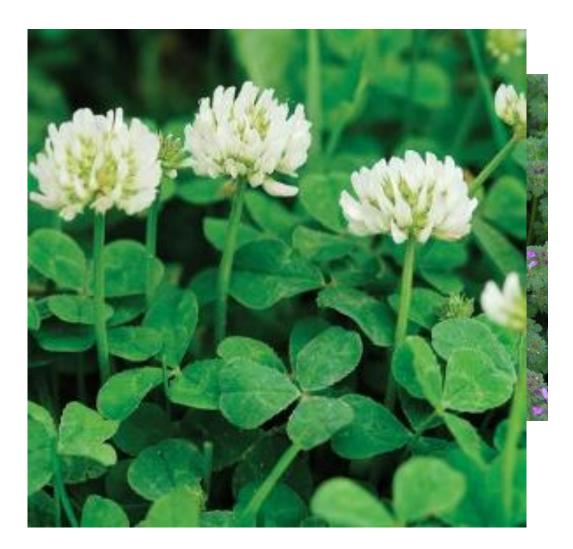
- *Confirmation* of disease presence in all CLRDV related experiments
- *Survey* throughout the southeast
- Improved *diagnostics*

Virus Survival in Field



Identified Weed Hosts

- Henbit
- White Clover



Current Projects in Al and Ga

Breeding

- Large scale *field screening trial* (~1500 lines)
- *Laboratory Transmission studies* protocol for timing of acquisition and transmission, leaf disk assay to screen for resistance to virus, grafting

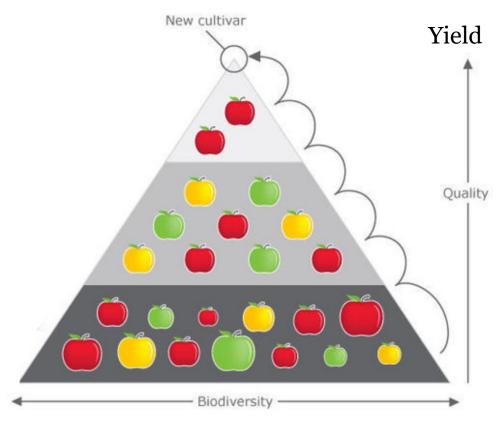


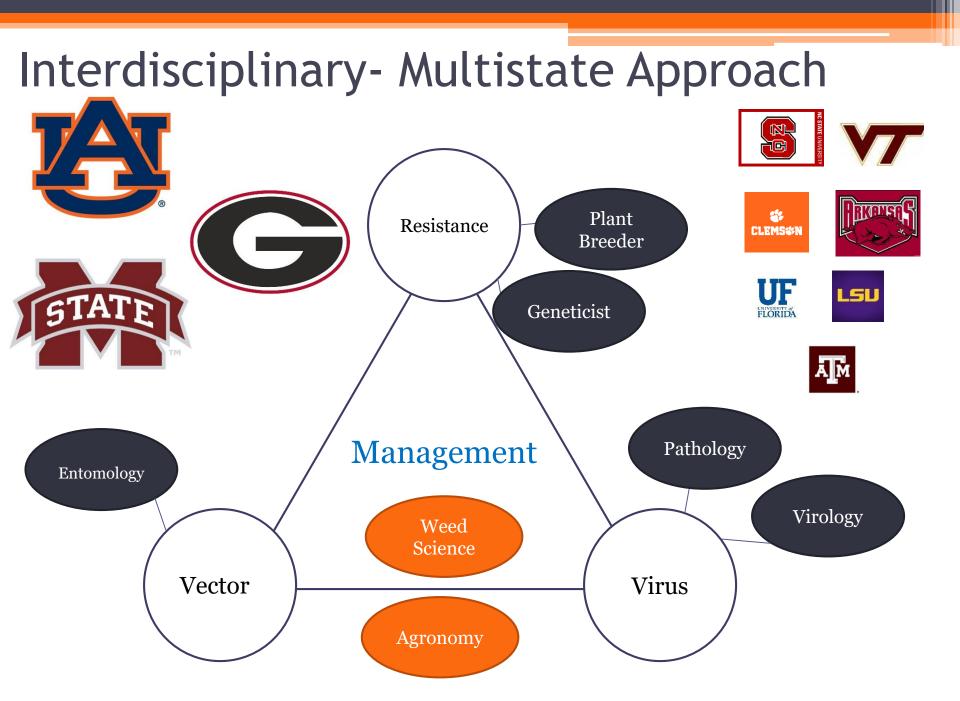
Genetic Diversity

<u>Cultivar Breeding Material</u>: High Quality Timeline: 3-5 Years

<u>Elite Populations:</u> Medium Quality Timeline: ~10 Years

<u>Germplasm Collection</u>: Low Quality High degree of genetic diversity Timeline: 10-20 Years





Critical Questions

- What is the distribution of the virus in cotton?
 Potential to be spread across entire cotton belt
- Do other row or cover crops serve as hosts?
 - Vector feeds on 300 plant species
 - Legumes are reported as host in India
- Can we identify resistance?
 - Resistant varieties will be the backbone of management strategies
- Resistance to insecticides or herbicides?
 - Aphids notorious for developing resistance
 - Mid-South
 - Weed resistance is already a problem for US farmers

Acknowledgements

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