



Crop Management Seminar 2008

November 11 - 13, 2008

# Session I: Insect Management

## Overview: Changes in Landscape

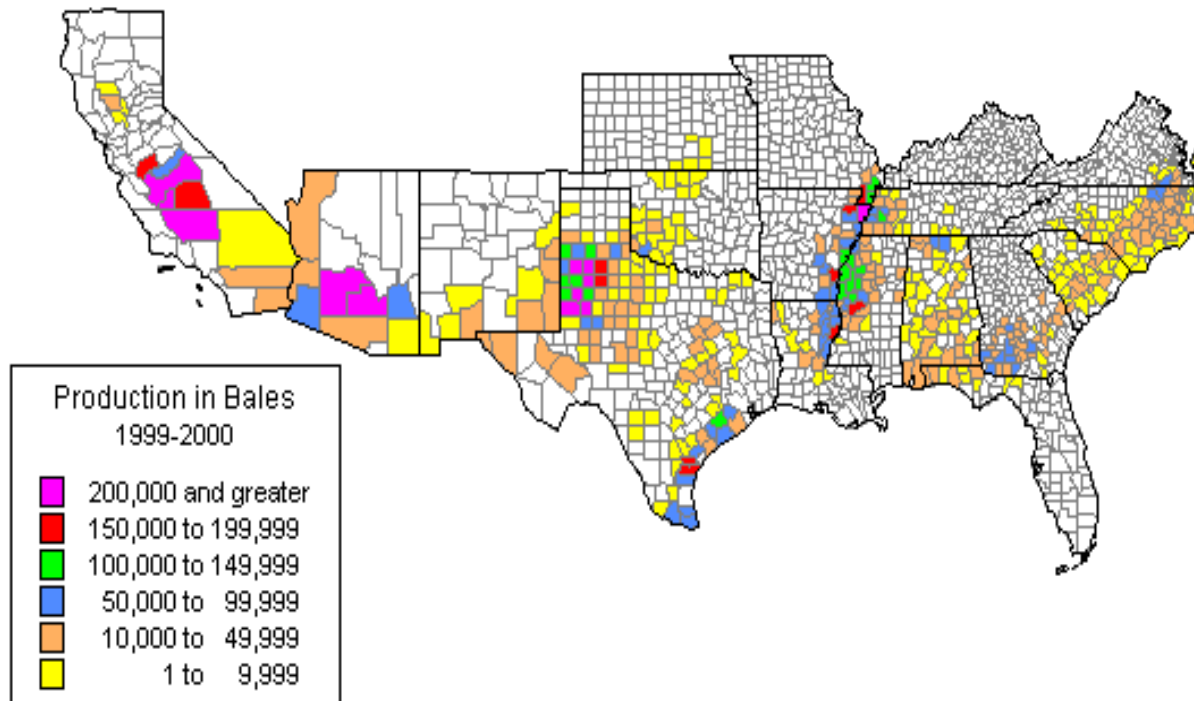
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# United States Production



## Records

**Plantings**

**1926**

**45,968,000 acres**

**Production**

**2005**

**23,890,200 bales**

**Yield**

**2007**

**879 pounds lint/A**

# U.S. Cotton Plantings

(million acres)

Region	2006	2008	Percent Change
Southeast	3.353	1.867	-44.32
Midsouth	4.235	1.960	-53.72
Southwest	6.835	4.935	-27.80
West	.525	.282	-46.29
Total Upland	14.948	9.044	-39.50
All Cotton	15.274	9.246	-39.47

# Other Changes

- **Crop Consultants**
- **Extension**
- **Dealers and Distributors**
- **Seed and Chemical Companies**
- **Equipment Manufactures**



# Increasing Average Age of Producers

- Less than 5% of producers in farming and livestock production are under the age of 34, compared to 23% in other U.S. self-employed positions.
- In addition, 27% of producers are over the age of 65, compared to just 8% for other U.S. self-employed

# Increased Market Volatility

- Increased market volatility
- Price changes due to demand instead of supply harder to track and predict

# Decreased Profitability

- Rising input costs
- Less profitable even with increased efficiencies and new technology

# Economy Issues

- Lowered interest in investments
- Credit Crunch
- Loss of Infrastructure (fertilizer plants, cotton mills, equipment manufacturing)



# Issues to Address

- Environmental issues
- World fiber demand
- Increasing yields
- Decreasing inputs
- Loss of infrastructure

# Your Challenge

- Aware of current issues
- Understand recommendations
- Use BMPs
  - Maintain yield potential
  - Conserve resources
  - Manage production costs
  - Preserve profitability



