

## Large Scale Variety Comparison in Drip Irrigated Cotton (Field 6H)

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**Objective:** Compare stripper and picker stacked gene varieties for yield and gross returns per acre in a multi-year experiment.

**Methodology:** Paymaster 2280BR and FiberMax 989BR were planted May 3. Weed control included Prowl PPI (2 pt/A), Roundup Weather Max + Staple POST (22 oz. + 0.6 oz/A) and Roundup WeatherMax PDIR (22 oz/A) twice. A plant growth regulator, Pentia, was applied at early-bloom (8 oz/A) and 10 days later. Due to weather delays, cotton was not harvested until December 7. Total irrigation applied was 13.8". Insecticide treatments included Temik at-planting and Orthene for additional thrips control. Fertilizer (160-100-0) was applied prior to planting.



Fig. 1. Cotton harvest in large-scale variety test irrigated by SDI, Helms Research Farm, 2004.

**Results:** Excellent yields were produced with each variety. Three year average yields were 11% higher with the picker variety (FM989BR) (Table 1).

Table 1. Yearly average lint yields and gross returns/A for two cotton varieties in subsurface drip irrigation.

	Yield lb/A				\$/A		
	2002	2003	2004	3 yr Avg.	2003	2004	2 yr Avg.
Paymaster 2326 RR	1746	1689	2084	1839	882	1029	955
Fiber Max 989 BR	1962	1992	2189	2047	1090	1065	1078