

Weekly Cotton Market Review

Vol. 108 No. 8 • September 25, 2026

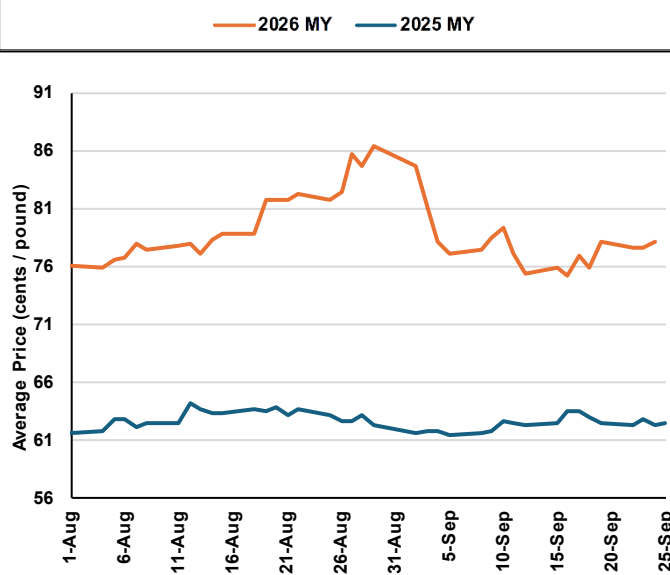
USDA • AMS Cotton and Warehouse Program • Market News Division

Market Performance Highlights

Upland Cotton Price Trends

- 7-Market Weekly Avg. Spot Price (41-4-34):
77.55 cents/pound
- Change vs. Last Week: **up 138 points**
- Change vs. Last Year: **up from 62.50¢/lb**
- Weekly Range: **75.97¢ – 78.24¢**
- ICE DEC Futures Week Ending Settlement
Price: **83.31¢ (up from 82.17¢ last week)**

U.S. Seven Market Average Spot Price (41-4-34)



ICE Futures Settlement Prices

	Oct-26	Dec-26	Mar-27	May-27	Jul-27	Oct-27	7-Market Avg Spot Price	Far Eastern A Index 1/
Sep 18	77.38	81.15	83.79	85.36	85.46	78.48	75.97	92.30
Sep 21	79.85	83.42	86.08	87.63	87.66	79.83	78.24	91.35
Sep 22	79.69	82.87	85.57	87.20	87.34	79.56	77.69	93.65
Sep 23	78.91	82.89	85.65	87.32	87.53	79.92	77.71	93.25
Sep 24	79.51	83.31	86.06	87.73	87.97	80.13	78.13	93.25

1/ Far Eastern A Index furnished by Cotton Outlook of Liverpool.

USDA, Farm Service Agency Cotton Reports

Prices are in effect from Sep 25- Oct 1

Adjusted World price 1/	66.09
Fine Count Adjustment '25	0.00
Fine Count Adjustment '26	0.00
Course Count Adjustment	0.00
Loan Deficiency Payment	0.00
ELS Competitiveness Payment, effective Sep. 18-Oct. 15	0.00

Source: USDA, Farm Service Agency
[Upland Cotton Reports](#), [ELS Cotton Announcement](#)

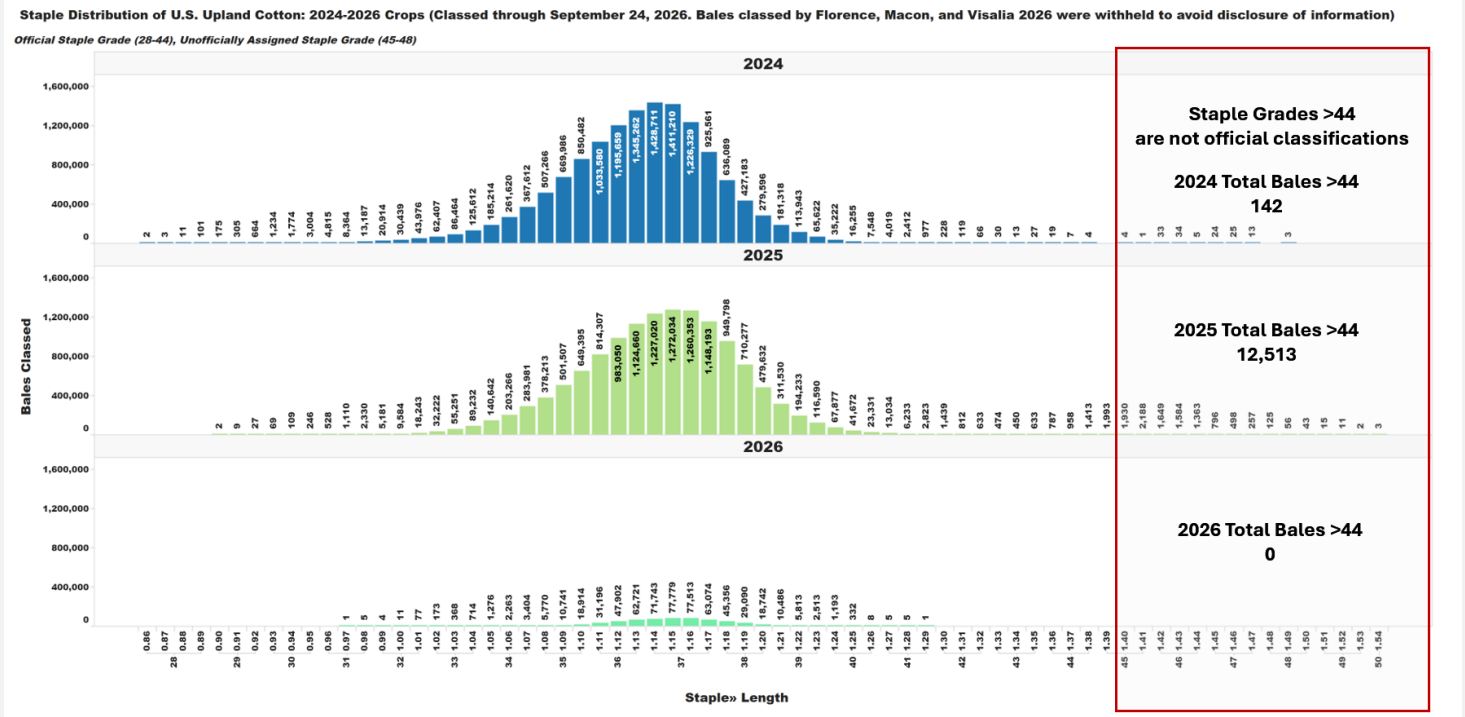
USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service Export Sales Reporting Division Warehouse Cotton Maturity

Description	Through Sep. 17, 2026	
	Week	Mkt. Year
Outstanding sales	-	3,517,000
Exports	164,700	1,217,600
Total export commitments	-	4,734,600
New sales	237,600	-
Net sales	230,500	-
Sales next marketing year	123,000	471,600

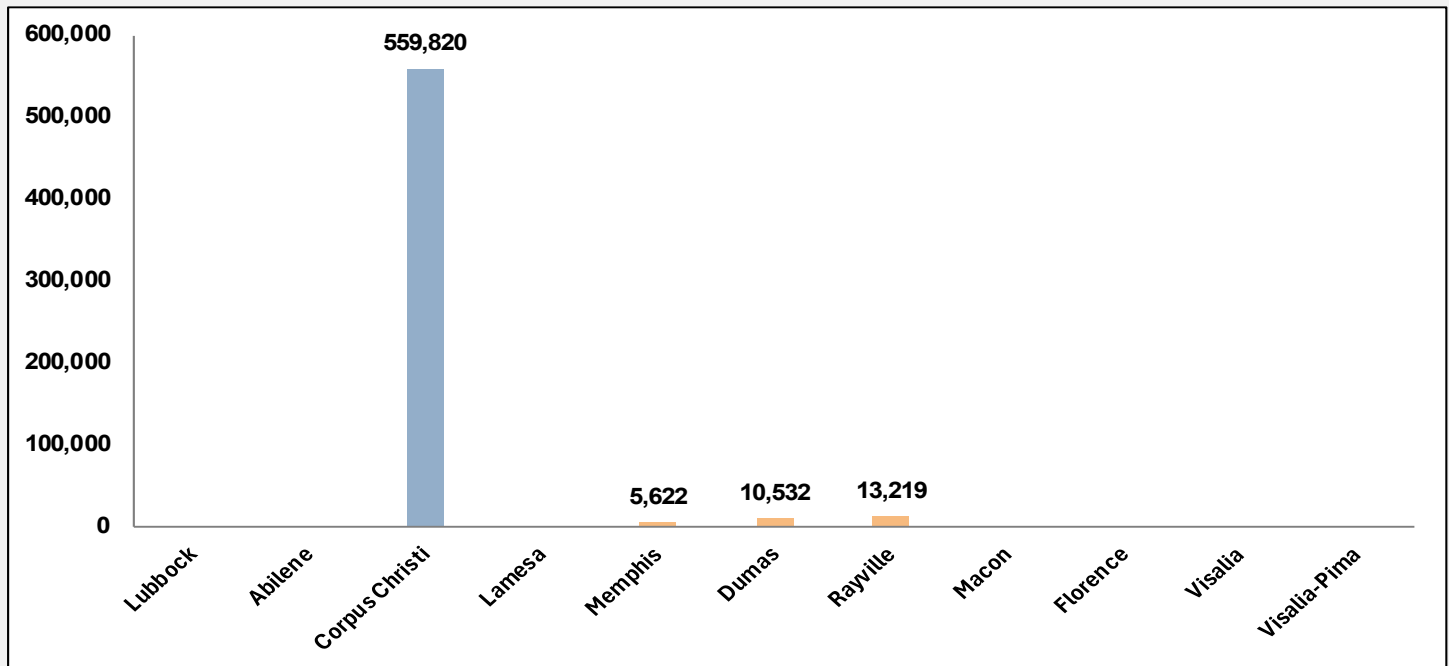
Source: USDA, Foreign Ag. Service,
[U.S. Export Sales Report](#)

USDA, AMS, U.S. Upland Cotton Crop Staple Distribution

The chart below displays the number of bales for each length measurement, shown in increments of 1/100th inch, along with the corresponding staple lengths. Length measurements are grouped by official U.S. Upland Cotton staple lengths, listed in 32nds of an inch, from 24 to 44. For measurements above 1.35 inches (staples longer than 44), implied staple lengths are provided. These implied values are for informational use only and are not official designations. Bales classed for the 2026 crop by the Florence, Macon, and Visalia Offices were withheld to avoid disclosure of information.



USDA, AMS, Bales Classed by Office, Season to Date – September 24, 2026



Weekly Cotton Quality Report by Office: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/cnwwqo.pdf>

Southeastern Market Regional Summary

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Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was moderate. Average local spot prices were higher. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive.

Cloudy conditions dominated the lower Southeast throughout the period. Daytime temperatures ranged from the 70s to the mid-90s, while nighttime lows settled in the 60s and 70s. Scattered showers brought moisture across much of the region, with rainfall totals generally between three-quarters of an inch and one inch. Insect pressure remained manageable. In south Georgia, producers treated cotton for whiteflies migrating from neighboring vegetable fields. Growers continued scouting for boll-feeding pests and applied insecticides where populations exceeded thresholds. Harvest-aid applications were underway, and picking progressed steadily. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) Crop Progress report released September 21, bolls opening reached 70 percent in Alabama and 68 percent in Georgia.

In the upper Southeast, cloudy skies and early-week thunderstorms gave way to markedly cooler temperatures. Daytime highs dropped from the 90s into the 60s by mid-week, with nighttime lows falling into the 50s. Isolated storms delivered moisture to cotton-growing areas in the eastern Carolinas and Virginia, with totals ranging from trace amounts to just over an inch and heavier rainfall along the South Carolina coast. According to NASS, cotton bolls opening progressed to 72 percent in Virginia, 69 percent in South Carolina, and 62 percent in North Carolina.

Textile Mill

Domestic mill buyers inquired for a light volume of color 41, leaf 4, and staple 34 and longer for first quarter 2027 delivery. No sales were reported and no additional inquiries were reported. Yarn demand remained slow to moderate. Mill buyers maintained a cautious undertone as they balanced raw cotton needs with finished product orders.

Demand through export channels was slow to moderate. Agents throughout the Far East inquired for any discounted styles of cotton. No sales were reported.

Trading

No trading activity to report.

South Central Market Regional Summary

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North Delta

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light, and demand was very light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Average local spot prices were higher. No forward contracting was reported.

Generally sunny skies during the beginning of the period rose daytime high temperatures into the lower 100s. Nighttime lows were in the 70s. Seasonable fall conditions pushed through the region on September 22 and dropped high temperatures into the mid-to-upper 70s and 80s. Overnight lows fell into the 60s and later reached the 50s after scattered showers mid-week. Accumulated precipitation totals measured around one-quarter of an inch of rain. Although the area could use more rain to help deviate drought and restore moisture, producers hoped for the rain to subside until after harvest. Most acreage varied from earlier-to later-planted crops, but has matured well. Gins in Arkansas and portions of the Mid-south had begun operations. Other gins who have yet to start continued to accumulate modules on gin yards hoping to collect a significant amount before ginning season resumes. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Crop Progress report released on September 21, cotton bolls opening was well ahead of the five-year average, reaching 91 percent in Arkansas, 70 percent in Missouri, and 81 percent in Tennessee. Both virtual and in-person meetings were scheduled and attended at state and national levels.

South Delta

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Average local spot prices were higher. No forward contracting was reported.

Mostly sunny skies during the beginning of the weather pattern were dominated by partly cloudy skies mid-week. Seasonable fall conditions entered the region on September 22 and pushed variable winds through the territory. Daytime high temperatures in the lower 100s dipped into the 80s and 90s, overnight lows in the 70s reached down into the 60s. Precipitation totals were adequately low to minimum and measured from trace amounts to around one-quarter of an inch of rainfall. More rain was needed to restore moisture to drought-restricted locales following harvest. Harvesting was underway in Louisiana and Mississippi. Growers continued to monitor the maturity of later-planted fields, while earlier-planted fields had begun defoliation and harvest across the region. As October 1 approached, modules continued to accumulate on gin yards in Louisiana and Mississippi. Due to overly heat-stressed cotton stands, experts anticipated yields to vary. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Crop Progress report released on September 21, cotton bolls opening was at 85 percent in Louisiana and at 82 percent in Mississippi. Mississippi was well ahead of the five-year average. Cotton harvested advanced and was well ahead of the five-year average in Louisiana at 19 percent and in Mississippi at 9 percent. Both virtual and in-person meetings were planned and attended at state and national levels.

Trading

North Delta

No trading activity to report.

South Delta

No trading activity to report.

Southwestern Markets Regional Summary

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East Texas-South Texas

Spot cotton trading was active. Supplies and producer offerings were moderate. Demand was light. Average local spot prices were higher. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Forward contracting activity was inactive. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

Partly cloudy skies with thunderstorms early in the period were observed in East Texas this week. Daytime high temperatures were in the 90s to 100s, and nighttime lows were in the 70s. Harvest was underway in the Blackland Prairies. Modules were transported from fields to gin yards for processing. In South Texas, scattered showers early in the period gave way to clearer conditions with variable cloud coverage early in the period. Daytime high temperatures were in the 90s to 100s, with nightly low temperatures in the 70s and 80s. Accumulated rainfall totals ranged from trace amounts up to three-quarters of an inch. Harvest was wrapping up for some producers in the Upper Coast region. Post-harvest activities were underway. Producers shredded stalks and prepared for the winter season. Gins continued working through modules on gin yards. Some gins in the lower Rio Grande had finished their season, while others were hitting their peak operations for the season.

West Texas-Kansas-Oklahoma

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was very light. Average local spot prices were higher. Producer interest in forward contracting was light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

Cooler temperatures across West Texas gave stands a reprieve late-period, with daytime highs in the mid-70s to mid-100s and nighttime temperatures in the 60s to 70s. Intermittent, welcome rainfall deposited trace amounts up to nearly two and three-quarters inches of moisture. Bolls were popping open. Fruit shedding and concerns regarding small boll size were reported. Producers planned to harvest based on field appraisals and favorable market opportunities. Harvest aids were applied to some of the earlier-planted fields in the Panhandle and expected harvest to commence in seven to ten days. Ginning was projected to commence the first week in October after the power meters were read.

In Kansas, daytime temperatures ranged from the upper 60s to upper 90s as autumn began, while nighttime lows varied in the 50s and 70s. Rainfall brought more than one inch of precipitation at some locations. Bolls continued opening and producers will advance harvest preparations by applying boll openers and defoliants in approximately two weeks. Local sources indicated that the boll size was smaller than normal.

Across Oklahoma, partly cloudy and cooler conditions persisted, with daytime highs ranging from in the upper 80s to lower 100s, and overnight lows in the 60s to 70s. Light rainfall was received at some locations, but the moisture arrived too late to revive dryland stands. Bolls were cracking open. Producers prepared for harvest.

Southwestern Markets Regional Summary

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Trading

East Texas/South Texas

- A moderate volume of new-crop cotton containing color 21 and 31, leaf 3, staple 36 and 37, mike averaging 44.7, strength averaging 30.8, and uniformity averaging 82.1 sold for around 80.00 cents per pound, FOB warehouse, (compression charges not paid).
- Lots containing a heavy volume of mostly color 32 and better, leaf 2-4, staple 35-37, mike 27-52, strength 26-36, and uniformity 78-85 traded for around 77.25 to 79.75 cents, same terms as above.
- A moderate volume lot containing color 31 and 41, leaf 4 and 5, staple 37, mike averaging 44.9, strength averaging 33.2, and uniformity averaging 82.9 sold for around 77.50 cents, same terms as above.

West Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma

No trading activity was reported.

Western Market Regional Summary

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Desert Southwest (DSW)

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was light. No forward contracting was reported. Average local spot prices were higher. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

In the DSW, mostly sunny skies and dry conditions were interrupted by scattered showers across the region early in the week. Daytime highs were slightly cooler, with temperatures ranging from the 70s into the 100s. Nightly lows ranged from the 60s into the 70s. Intermittent thundershower activity produced moisture totals ranging from trace amounts up to three and three-quarters inches of rainfall across the region. Though the rain is beneficial and needed overall, at this point in the season, any rain in cotton-growing areas poses risk for lint discoloration and producers hope to see the regular fall season rains hold off until harvest is completed. The crop was maturing well, and blooming was widespread in Safford, AZ. Harvest continued in areas of southwest Arizona. Some producers have finalized harvest and have moved on to post-harvest activities, including shredding stalks and prepping fields. Ginning continued in Yuma, AZ. Gin employees were working long shifts to work through large volumes of modules staged on the gin yards. Seed cotton modules were actively being transported to gin yards from fields to await processing.

San Joaquin Valley (SJV)

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and demand were light. No forward contracting or domestic mill activity was reported. Average local spot prices were higher. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

Abundant sunshine and open skies prevailed in the SJV this week. Daytime temperatures were in the 90s to 100s. Nighttime lows were in the 50s and 60s. No precipitation was reported. Defoliants were applied as the earlier-planted fields entered the final stages of maturation ahead of harvest. Cotton bolls opening was increasing rapidly. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Crop Progress report released on September 21, cotton bolls opening was at 50 percent, 15 percent higher than last week at 35 percent. Producers prepared equipment to begin harvest. Ginning is set to begin in mid-to-late October in the SJV.

American Pima (AP)

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies were moderate. Demand was light. No forward contracting or domestic mill activity was reported. Average local spot prices were steady. Light foreign mill inquiries were reported.

Across the Far Western region, warm temperatures pushed the crop to completion. In the DSW, variable rainstorms produced from trace amounts up to three and three-quarters inches of precipitation, with no rainfall reported in the SJV. The crop was maturing well, and blooming was widespread in the Safford Valley. Harvest advanced in Yuma, AZ, and was nearing completion for many farmers. Modules in fields were taken to gin yards, awaiting gin startups and then processing. Bolls were cracking open. Defoliation activities were increasing. Equipment was prepared for harvest.

Trading

Desert Southwest

No trading activity was reported.

San Joaquin Valley

No trading activity was reported.

American Pima

No trading activity was reported.

South Central Market

Batesville Mississippi Cotton Field



Photo Courtesy of: Aerielle McDaniel, South Central Market Reporter

Staying Up to Date on Published Cotton Reports

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

Daily Quality Reports by [Office](#) and [State](#) – Updates daily by 10:00 am central, during classing season

[Monthly Quality of Cotton Classed](#) – Released Sep. 25, 2026, Updates the last Friday of the month

[Daily Spot Cotton Quotations](#) – Updates daily by 2:30 pm central

[Monthly Cotton Price Statistics](#) – Released Sep. 2, 2026, Updates by the third day of the month

For more reports, please visit the Market News [website](#)

USDA Farm Service Agency

[Upland Cotton Report](#) – Updates every Thursday

[ELS Cotton Report](#) – Updates every Thursday

[Warehouse Cotton Maturity](#) (PSL-43R) – Updates monthly

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

[Exports Sales Report](#) – Updates every Thursday

USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

[Farm Prices Received](#) – Released Aug. 31, 2026, at 2:00 pm central, Updates monthly

[Cotton Ginnings Report](#) – Released Sep. 22, 2026, at 11:00 am central, Updates 2x per month during ginning season

[Crop Production](#) – Released Sep. 11, 2026, at 11:00 am central, Updates Monthly

[Crop Progress Report](#) – Released Sep. 21 at 3:00 pm central, Updates Weekly

USDA Economic Research Service

[Cotton and Wool Outlook](#) – Released Sep. 15, 2026, Updates Monthly

USDA World Agricultural Outlook Board

[WASDE Report](#) – Released Sep. 11, 2026

U.S. Agricultural Commodities Drought Monitor

[Cotton Areas in Drought Map](#) – Updates Weekly

[Drought Outlooks](#) – Updates Monthly

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[Precipitation Maps](#) – Updates Monthly

U.S. Energy Information Administration

[Gasoline and Diesel Fuel Update](#), Updates every Tuesday

USDA, AMS, Agricultural Transportation

[Fertilizer Prices in New Orleans, LA](#), Released July 2026 – Updates Quarterly