

Weekly Cotton Market Review

Vol. 108 No. 9 • October 2, 2026

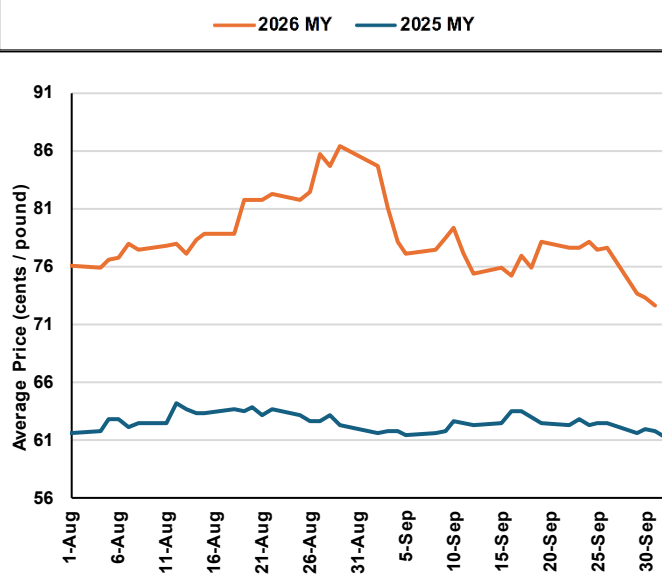
USDA • AMS Cotton and Warehouse Program • Market News Division

Market Performance Highlights

Upland Cotton Price Trends

- 7-Market Weekly Avg. Spot Price (41-4-34):
75.00 cents/pound
- Change vs. Last Week: **down 255 points**
- Change vs. Last Year: **up from 61.87¢/lb**
- Weekly Range: **77.68¢ – 72.65¢**
- ICE DEC Futures Week Ending Settlement
Price: **77.76¢ (down from 83.31¢ 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 25	78.91	82.71	85.49	87.17	87.43	79.62	77.53	93.75
Sep 28	79.06	82.86	85.75	87.43	87.82	80.33	77.68	93.25
Sep 29	75.13	78.86	81.75	83.43	83.82	77.58	73.75	93.35
Sep 30	74.79	78.52	81.38	83.08	83.53	77.34	73.41	89.45
Oct 1	74.03	77.76	80.61	82.29	82.76	76.88	72.65	89.15

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

USDA, Farm Service Agency Cotton Reports

Prices are in effect from Oct. 2-8

Adjusted World price 1/	65.16
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

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

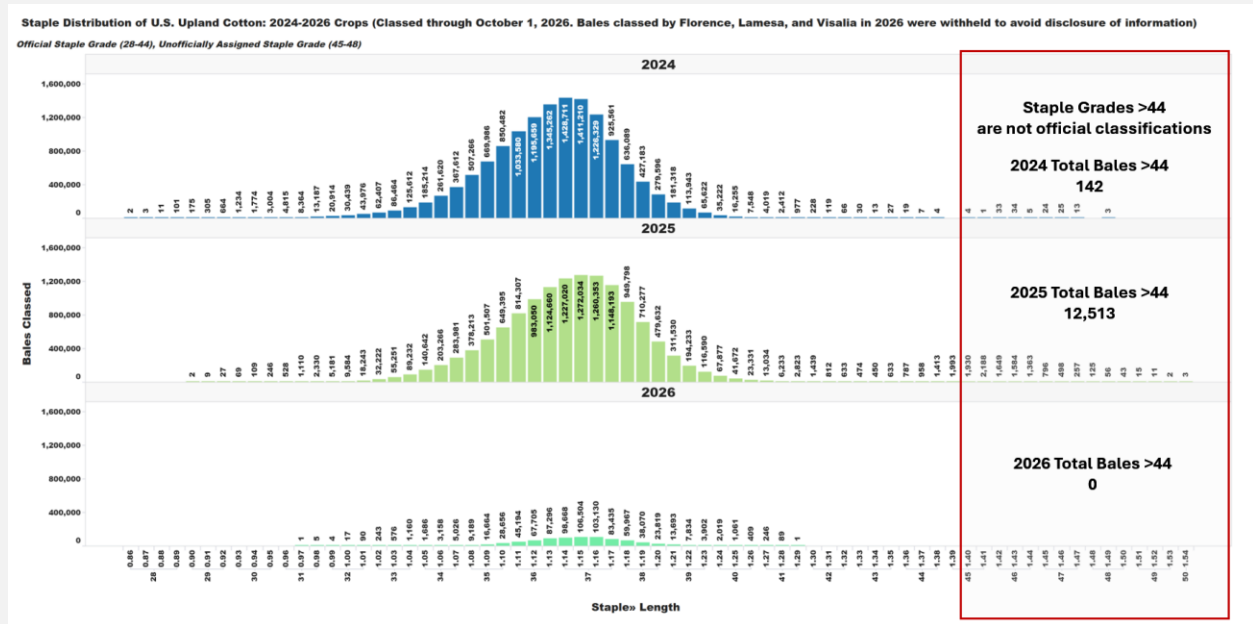
Description	Through September 24, 2026	
	Week	Mkt. Year
Outstandingsales	-	3,570,100
Exports	149,500	1,367,100
Total export commitments	-	4,937,200
New sales	211,200	-
Net sales	202,600	-
Sales next marketing year	39,200	510,700

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

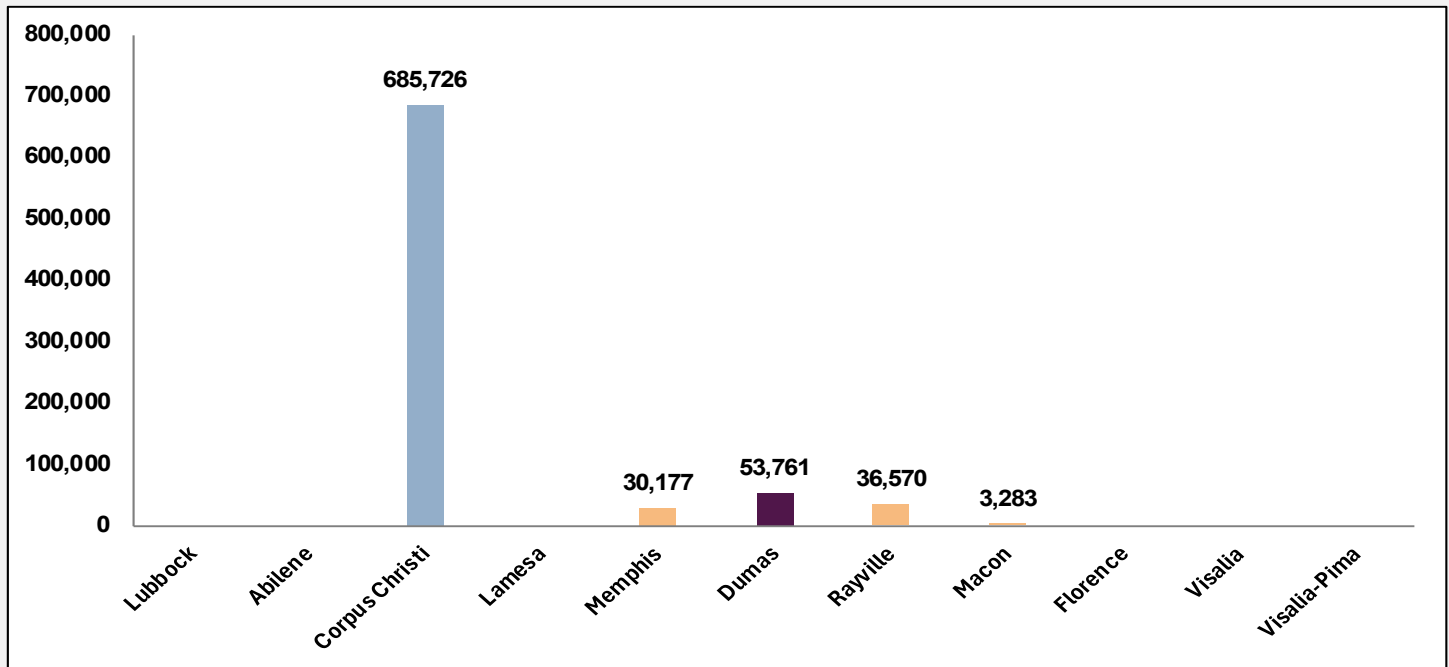
Source: USDA, Foreign Ag. Service,
[U.S. Export Sales Report](#)

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, Lamesa, and Visalia Offices were withheld to avoid disclosure of information.



USDA, AMS, Bales Classed by Office, Season to Date – October 1, 2026



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

Cotton Forward Contracting Report

Upland cotton growers in the United States had booked 25 percent of their expected acreage by the end of September this season. This was above the 17 percentage that was booked through the same period last year. Contracting has been most active in the Southwestern states, where 33 percent of the crop had been booked compared to 27 percent the previous year. In South Central states, 18 percent of the crop had been contracted, compared to 7 percent a year earlier. In the Southeastern states, 15 percent of the crop was under contract, far above the 5 percent during the same period last year. Western states' growers had booked 2 percent of the crop, which was equal to the same time period a year ago. These estimates were based on the National Agricultural Statistics Board's August Harvested Acres report and information collected by the Cotton and Warehouse Program's Market News Division.



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Email us with accessibility issues with this report.

Cotton Forward Contracting Report
Forward contracting of Upland cotton by growers
As of September 30, crops of 2017-2026 1/

States	Cotton Crops										Acreage for Harvest 2/
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	
	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	1,000 acres
Alabama	6	9	2	*	7	10	6	4	13	18	370
Florida	4	7	-	-	7	13	3	-	3	9	74
Georgia	20	28	6	*	23	14	10	-	*	15	1,030
North Carolina	10	20	8	7	23	16	13	5	9	16	340
South Carolina	8	28	6	19	30	4	12	3	9	8	197
Virginia	19	38	6	7	33	27	11	1	1	21	74
Southeastern States	14	23	5	3	20	13	10	4	5	15	2,085
Arkansas	30	42	19	1	20	37	14	6	12	20	555
Louisiana	34	16	20	-	19	55	2	15	2	15	110
Mississippi	9	12	2	2	12	11	2	1	6	7	355
Missouri	4	5	*	-	*	27	16	9	2	32	305
Tennessee	7	9	1	3	5	25	48	168	4	14	190
South Central States	15	18	8	1	11	28	16	27	7	18	1,515
Kansas	-	3	*	-	-	-	*	1	2	3	77
Oklahoma /3	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	*	3	3	320
Texas	8	5	-	8	6	37	21	6	29	36	3,900
Southwestern States	7	4	*	7	6	31	19	5	27	33	4,297
Arizona	8	8	-	-	36	24	10	*	1	2	79
California	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
New Mexico	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	-	4	4	35
Western States	4	4	-	-	25	15	7	*	2	2	131
United States	10	12	3	5	10	24	16	11	17	25	8,028

1/ Contracting estimates do not include cotton consigned to marketing organizations but do include cotton contracted with marketing organizations.

2/ Agricultural Statistics Board, NASS, USDA. 3/ Includes Kansas, 2017-2017 crops. * Less than 0.5 percent.

Southeastern Market Regional Summary

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

Sunny to partly cloudy weather prevailed across the lower Southeast during the period with breezy conditions observed. Seasonably cool daytime temperatures in the 80s occasionally peaked into the 90s. Nighttime lows were in the mid-to-upper 50s. Mostly dry conditions prevailed across Alabama and Georgia and expanding drought with the addition of severe and extreme categories were recorded this week, largely contributed by the extraordinary September heat wave, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Light, spotty shower activity was received in localized areas of the Florida Panhandle. Producers applied defoliant and the dry conditions allowed harvesting to advance at a rapid pace. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) Crop Progress report released September 28, bolls opening advanced to 79 percent in Georgia and 77 percent in Alabama. Harvesting advanced to 7 percent completed in Alabama and 6 percent in Georgia.

Abundant sunshine dominated the weather pattern across the upper Southeast during the period. Daytime high temperatures were mostly in the 80s with nighttime lows in the 50s. No significant rainfall was reported during the week. Some abnormal dryness and moderate drought set in over far southeastern Virginia and the northeast coast of North Carolina, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. Defoliation was expanding and harvesting advanced at a rapid pace. According to NASS, cotton bolls opening reached 83 percent in South Carolina, 79 in Virginia, and 74 percent in North Carolina. Harvesting was just getting underway.

Textile Mill

Demand from mill buyers was light. No domestic sales were reported, and no domestic inquiries were reported. Yarn demand remained slow to moderate. The undertone from mill buyers remained cautious.

Demand through export channels was slow to moderate. Agents for mills in Vietnam inquired for a moderate volume of color 31, leaf 3, and staple 36 and 37 for prompt shipment. Representatives for mills in Mexico inquired for a moderate volume of color 41, leaf 4, and staple 34 for prompt shipment. 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 active. Supplies and producer offerings were light, and demand was very light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Average local spot prices were lower. There was an interest in forward contracting across the region.

A mix of sunny to cloudy skies prevailed throughout most of the reporting period. Daytime highs in the 70s reached into the 80s and 90s. Nighttime lows into the 50s rebounded back into the 60s and 70s. Scattered thunderstorms late period covered nightly skies. Precipitation totals measured less than one-quarter of an inch. More rain was in the nearby forecast. Fieldwork continued in Arkansas, Missouri, and Tennessee. Some growers had begun the second application of defoliants on later-planted cotton by ground rigs and crop dusters. Modules were transported to gin yards. Gins continued to gain momentum. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Crop Progress report released on September 28, cotton harvested reached 13 percent in Arkansas and 9 percent in Tennessee. Cotton harvested in Arkansas and Tennessee were both well ahead of the five-year average.

South Delta

Spot cotton trading was moderate. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Average local spot prices were lower. There was an interest in forward contracting across the region.

Mainly sunny skies persisted over much of the territory. Daytime highs were in the 80s and 90s. Periods of cloud cover had lowered nighttime temperatures into the 50s, with readings later rising into the 60s and 70s. No rain was reported during the period but is expected in the nearby forecast with isolated thunderstorms. Harvest continued in Louisiana and Mississippi. Later-planted crops had advanced closer to harvest across areas of Mississippi. On Thursday, October 1, electric companies were reading meters at gins in the Delta as several gins prepared to begin operations. Cotton modules continued to accumulate on gin yards. According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service's Crop Progress report released on September 28, cotton harvested was at 31 percent in Louisiana and 23 percent in Mississippi. Both Louisiana and Mississippi were well ahead of the five-year average. Cotton bolls opening neared completion at 90 percent in Louisiana and 89 percent in Mississippi.

Trading

North Delta

- A mixed lot containing a heavy volume of old-crop cotton color mostly 41, leaf 2-4, staple 38-40, mike 37-49, strength 27-33, and uniformity 80-85 sold for around 75.00 cents per pound, FOB car/truck (Rule 5, compression charges paid).
- A lot containing old-crop cotton mostly color 21-41, leaf 1-5, staple 36-40, mike 37-49, strength 29-33, uniformity 80-83, and 75 percent extraneous matter (seed coat fragments) sold for around 50.00 cents, FOB car/truck (compression charges not paid).

South Delta

- A moderate volume of old-crop cotton color 31 and 41, leaf 2-4, staple 38-40, mike 37-49, strength 29-33, and uniformity 80-84 sold for around 75.00 cents per pound, FOB car/truck (Rule 5, compression charges paid).
- A mixed lot containing a light volume of old-crop cotton color 52 and better, leaf 3-5, staple 34-39, mike 43-52, strength 27-29, uniformity 80-83, and 100 percent extraneous matter (plastic) sold for around 50.00 cents, FOB car/truck (compression charges not paid).

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 lower. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Forward contracting activity was inactive. Foreign mill inquiries were light. Inquiries were best from Pakistan, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

In East Texas, sunny and partly cloudy skies transitioned into thunderstorms and stormy weather conditions late in the period. Hot daytime high temperatures cooled from the upper 90s into the 70s and 80s as the week progressed and rainfall with overcast conditions eased high temperatures. Nighttime lows were in the 70s. Accumulated moisture totals ranged from around one-quarter of an inch to one-half of an inch of rainfall. Harvest continued as weather conditions allowed in the Blackland Prairies and Brazos River Bottoms. Ginning continued. Modules were transported to gin yards for processing. In South Texas, cloudy, overcast skies with occasional scattered showers were reported during the period. Daytime high temperatures were in the 90s, with nighttime low temperatures in the 70s to 80s. Accumulated rainfall totals ranged from one-quarter of an inch up to three-quarters of an inch. Harvest activities were nearing completion for much of the South Texas region. Post-harvest tasks were underway, producers cut and shredded stalks to prepare fields for the winter season. Gins continued working through modules stored on yards, and some gins were finishing up for the season in the lower Rio Grande Valley. Bale storage facilities were filling with inventory, and warehouses were shipping cotton to fulfill orders. The Corpus Christi Classing Office reported a season total of 30.0 percent for color 21, 47.6 percent for leaf 3, staple averaging 36.87, mike averaging 4.36, strength averaging 31.58, and uniformity averaging 82.11 for the week ending October 1. According to the same report, 38 gins were in operation and sending samples for classing services.

West Texas-Kansas-Oklahoma

Spot cotton trading was inactive. Supplies and producer offerings were light. Demand was very light. Average local spot prices were lower. Producer interest in forward contracting was light. Trading of CCC-loan equities was inactive. Foreign mill inquiries were light. Inquiries were best from Pakistan, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

Shifting fall weather brought cooler temperatures and significant rainfall across the three-state market, including Curry, Lea, Quay, Roosevelt, and Union counties in eastern New Mexico. An upper-level western trough pushed over the region joining forces with the southwestern Hurricane Polo remnants that brought welcomed widespread precipitation to the cotton growing areas of Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. Cooler temperatures prevailed across west Texas and eastern New Mexico, with daytime highs in the lower 70s to upper 90s and dropped nightly temperatures into the 50s to the 70s. Welcomed but untimely rainfall brought trace amounts to over six and one-half inches of heavy rainfall, along with gusty wind, hail, and tornadoes. Fields were soggy and proved difficult to assess damage. Harvest aids had been applied to some of the earlier-planted fields and concern was expressed for the lint quality following severe weather that caused plant regrowth. Ginning was projected to commence in early October after the power meters were read, but the rain events were expected to slow spraying and harvesting progress. A small number of round bales had begun to accumulate on gin yards.

In Kansas, daytime temperatures settled in the lower 70s to mid-80s, while nighttime lows dipped into the 50s and 60s. Recent rainfall brought one-half to two inches of widespread moisture across Kansas cotton fields, benefiting both dryland and irrigated acres. A few fields were sprayed ahead of the rainfall, but most defoliation was expected to occur next week, with harvest anticipated to begin at the end of the month. The moisture arrived at an opportune time and was expected to help recharge soil reserves for the next growing season.

Across Oklahoma, welcomed rainfall and cooler conditions arrived, with daytime highs in the mid-80s to upper 90s and overnight lows in the 60s to 70s. Severe thunderstorms produced between one-half inch and more than two inches of heavy rainfall. While the moisture came too late to revive most dryland stands, it helped irrigated fields fill and finish bolls. Field activities were delayed by a few days due to the weather.

Southwestern Markets Regional Summary

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Trading

East Texas/South Texas

- Mixed lots containing a light volume of color 31 and 41, leaf 3 and 4, staple 36, mike 45 and 46, strength 29-31, and uniformity 81 and 82 sold for 77.50 to 78.00 cents per pound, FOB warehouse, (compression charges not paid).
- A lot containing a light volume of color 21 and better, leaf 2 and 3, staple 36-38, mike averaging 46.0, strength averaging 33.3, and uniformity averaging 82.9 sold for around 74.75 cents, same terms as above.
- A lot containing a moderate volume of color 42 and better, leaf 3 and 4, staple 35-37, mike averaging 40.2, strength averaging 31.4, and uniformity averaging 80.4 sold for around 72.00 cents, same terms as above.

West Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma

- A lot containing a light volume of old-crop cotton color 43 and better, leaf 2-5, staple 31-38, mike 29-44, strength 22-32, and uniformity 77-82 sold for around 65.00 cents per pound, FOB car/truck (compression charges not paid).
- A mixed lot containing a light volume of old-crop cotton color 12-54, leaf 6 and better, staple 34-40, mike 33-52, strength 27-34, uniformity 77-83, and 100 percent extraneous matter (level 1 plastic), traded for around 50.00 cents, same terms as above.

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 lower. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

In the DSW, rainy conditions were observed early in the period. Daytime highs ranged from the 70s into the 100s. Nightly lows ranged from the 50s to 70s. Rainfall totals varied by location with areas of southwestern Arizona receiving one-quarter of an inch of spotty rainfall up to two inches in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Harvest was nearing completion for some producers in Yuma, AZ. Ginning continued with multiple shifts operating to process bales backlogged on the gin yard. The crop progressed in Safford, AZ. Bolls were opening on the lower half of stands, and blooming at the top of stands. Lint discoloration was a concern as intermittent rains persisted. In El Paso, producers monitored pest activity, including whitefly populations, and took steps to reduce the presence of the pest.

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 prices were lower. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

Open and sunny skies continued this week in the SJV. Daytime temperatures were slightly cooler with highs in the 80s to 90s. Nighttime lows were in the 50s and 60s. No rainfall was reported during the period. Harvest activities began for some producers in Tulare County, and more are expected to begin in the next week, according to local sources. Ginning was expected to begin as early as next week for a small number of gins.

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. Foreign mill inquiries were light.

Daytime highs in the Far West ranged from the 70s to the 100s across the multi-state region. In the DSW, showers produced from one-quarter of an inch up to two inches, and no rainfall was reported in the SJV. Harvest continued in Yuma, AZ. Ginning continued and operations implemented multiple shifts and extended hours to work through modules of seed cotton lining the yards. In Safford, AZ the crop was progressing well. The lower half of stands had open bolls and blooms up to the top of the canopy. In the SJV, harvest began for some producers, with more expected to follow in the coming days. Gins expected to start their seasons as early as next week as well following meter readings.

Trading

Desert Southwest

No trading activity was reported.

San Joaquin Valley

No trading activity was reported.

American Pima

No trading activity was reported.

Western Market

Safford, AZ Fields



Photos courtesy of: Bethany Lindgren, Far Western 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. 28 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