The Cotton Foundation was created in 1955 as a 501(c)3 organization to give U.S. cotton’s agribusiness allies opportunities to support the U.S. cotton industry over and above the products and services these firms provide. Membership includes banks, seed companies, chemical and equipment manufacturers, publishers and others whose success depends at least in part on U.S. cotton and who share a common concern for a healthy U.S. cotton industry.

Agribusiness members’ dues support general research and education projects while some members’ grants over and above their dues fund special projects. The combination of these general and special projects enables the Foundation to more effectively carry out its overall mission of strengthening U.S. cotton’s position in the highly competitive fiber market. In fact, these general and special projects are chosen specifically to help the Foundation achieve its mission through the following major goals:

- support present Foundation leadership and member education programs;
- provide educational programs that improve safety, productivity and environmental stewardship of the industry work force;
- identify short and longer term issues facing the cotton industry and then develop and implement projects to address issues or needs;
- develop and provide funding for programs to help influence industry and government research;
- identify long-term, industrywide strategic issues that will affect the cotton industry; and
- identify and assess in a timely manner the impact of proposed regulations.
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Project Support

The U.S. cotton industry is enjoying a healthy return on investment from Foundation member support of general projects and special projects. National Cotton Council staff estimates that taking into account cash and in-kind services, the Foundation’s general projects, for example, enjoy a return of about $3 for every dollar devoted to these projects. By supporting these projects, the Foundation is truly fostering innovative: 1) research to find solutions to cotton problems; 2) technology to implement those solutions; 3) education to speed new research application and 4) communication to spread information throughout cotton’s production and marketing chain.

General Projects 2013-2014

- Journal of Cotton Science
- Cotton Losses
- Enhancing Cotton Industry Education and Information through the National Cotton Council Web Site
- China Cotton Leadership Exchange
- EPA Residual Risk and Technology Reviews (RTR) for the “Vegetable Oil Production” Source Category (MACT Standards Review)
- Evaluation of Low Volume TSP Sampler for Use in Measuring Agricultural PM10 and PM2.5
- Breeding for the improvement of fiber length uniformity as a method of improving fiber maturity
- Strategies to Implement Zone Management for Sustainable Cotton Production Systems
- Evaluation of Cotton Variety Response to Irrigation
- Developing an Industry-wide Standard for Cotton Variety Leaf Hairiness
- Alleviating Cotton Injury Due to Soil-Applied Herbicides Used to Control Glyphosate-Resistant Palmer Amaranth: an Assessment Based on the Influence of Genetic, Agronomic, and Environmental Factors
- Pollinator Protection
- Bi-Lingual Support for the Pink Bollworm & Boll Weevil Eradication Program Annual Meeting
- Sustainability of US Cotton: Field to Fieldprint Calculator Pilot
- Relationship of irrigation factors, fungal microsclerotia density, soil moisture and soil temperature to severity of Verticillium wilt and yield
- Information and Research on Potential Consumer, Environmental and Workplace Risks
- Cotton Potassium Utilization and Fungicide in Recently Released Varieties
- On-farm water and nitrogen use efficiency in cotton under center-pivot irrigation
- Minimizing the Impact of Herbicide Resistant Palmer Amaranth and Common Waterhemp on Cotton Production in Texas
- Improvement of biological control of aflatoxin contamination with atoxigenic strains of Aspergillus flavus on Cotton, Corn, and Pistachios

Scientists are evaluating the response of cotton varieties to irrigation, a cultural practice that is growing in importance.
- Impact of Weed and Insect Management on Population Dynamics and Insecticide Resistance of Tarnished Plant Bug (Lygus lineolaris)
- On Farm Validation of the Fieldprint Calculator for Cotton
Special Projects 2013-2014

Emerging Leaders Program
Monsanto

Cotton Ginning Symposium (Textile Manufacturing Symposium)
Bayer CropScience, Monsanto

Producer Information Exchange (P.I.E.)
Bayer CropScience

Multi-Commodity Education Program
Deere & Company, Monsanto

Policy Education Program
Syngenta Crop Protection

Cotton Nematode Research and Education Program
Bayer CropScience

Cotton Seedling Disease Research and Education Program
Bayer CropScience

Weed Resistance Learning Module
Dow AgroSciences, Monsanto, Syngenta

Advancing Cotton Education (ACE)
Bayer CropScience

The first class of the NCC’s Emerging Leaders Program got an in-depth look at the U.S. cotton industry infrastructure as well as intensive professional development training.

Producer participants in the Policy Education Program, which celebrated its 15th year in 2013, attended the NCC’s annual meeting, received communications training and met with key lawmakers and government officials in Washington, DC.
Ongoing Special Project Contributions

Several Foundation members support the NCC-coordinated Beltwide Cotton Conferences -- helping the NCC produce a high quality conference with modest attendee registration fees. Among support given is for the forum's registration, wireless Internet connectivity, Internet Quickstop kiosks; the Confex Podium system, and the newsroom.

Some special projects are still assisting the U.S. cotton industry even though the projects' annual grants have ceased. The Foundation continues to distribute volumes in its Cotton Reference Book Series, which can be ordered online. The series includes Weeds of Cotton, Cotton Harvest Management, Cotton Insects and Mites, Vegetable Oil and Agrichemicals, and Boll Weevil Eradication in the United States Through 1999. The Cotton Foundation series reference books can be purchased from the Foundation by visiting http://www.cotton.org/cf/reference-books.cfm.

Some other efforts helpful to cotton's overall research and education effort include the ginning lab fiber analysis and the periodic development and distribution of various NCC-produced educational videotapes. The Gin Lab Symposium, sponsored by Delta and Pine Land, Syngenta, and Bayer CropScience, aids in familiarizing extension specialists with post harvest processes of ginning and textiles to improve appreciation of end user needs.

Awards and Endowments 2013-2014

High Cotton Awards
Farm Press Publications

Robert and Lois Coker Trustees Chair in Molecular Genetics
Endowment: $1,000,000

The C. Everette Salyer Fellowship in Cotton Research is administered by Texas A&M University's Entomology Department which provides more details and a list of previous winners on its website. Endowment: $300,000

Cottonseed Oil Clinic
Endowment: $60,000
The Cotton Foundation’s contributions to cotton research and education are possible because of its faithful members. As of June 30, 2013, the end of the 2012-2013 Foundation fiscal year, there were 57 Foundation members. Their voluntary membership dues are enabling the Foundation to direct $327,589 in support of 23 general research and education projects for 2013-2014.

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<th>Members 2013-2014</th>
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<td>Ag-Chem</td>
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Contact the Foundation

For more information about the Cotton Foundation, please contact:

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FAX (901) 725-0510

www.cotton.org/foundation/index.cfm