

COTTON PRODUCTION IN RSA

- 2011/12 crop is 26% smaller than 2010/11
- Due to lower cotton prices and favourable prices of other competing summer crops
- About 62 339 lint bales are estimated to be produced from RSA grown seed cotton



COTTON PRODUCTION IN RSA

- · Eight production regions
- · Irrigated and dry-land systems
- Commercial and small-scale farmers
- · Recommended cultivars by Monsanto
 - All GM cultivars
 - BT and Roundup Ready Flex
 - Stacked



RECOMMENDED CULTIVAR

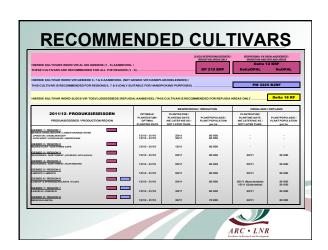
- Recommendations are made by Cotton SA in conjunction with experts in the cotton industry
- Cultivars are legally registered for planting in the RSA
- · The following aspects were taken into account:
 - Yield
 - Fibre length
 - Fibre strength
 - Micronaire
 - Fibre percentage
 - Good adaptability
 - Tolerance to disease

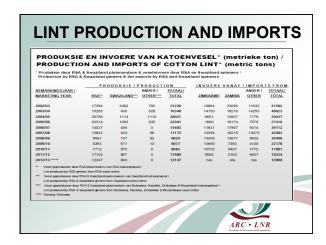


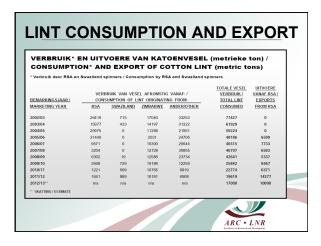
RECOMMENDED CULTIVAR

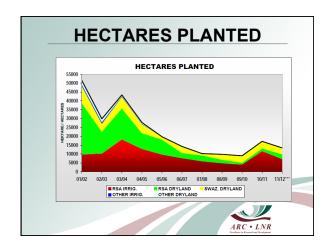
- Recommendations were made considering the factors per area
- The regions are classified according to temperature and altitude
- The recommendations per area include:
 - Cultivars with acceptable potential
 - Planting dates for each cultivar
 - Optimal plant population per cultivar

















RESEARCH AT ARC-IIC

- Plant breeding
 - Cultivar development
- Crop production
 - Agronomy
 - Soil, plant and water analysis laboratories
- · Plant protection
 - Entomology
 - Nematology
 - Pathology
- · Development project
 - Training and technology transfer



PLANT BREEDING

· Cultivar development

- Developing cotton with resistance to diseases
 - · Released 2 cultivars tolerant to Verticillium wilt
- South African Cotton germplasm collection
 - >1500 accessions
- Cotton breeding for small farmers
 - 2 advanced hairy leafed lines for resistance to jassids

 ARC LNR

CROP PRODUCTION

- Agronomy
 - National cotton cultivar evaluation
 - · See later presentation
 - Low input production systems on cotton (MIP)
 - · Rip-on-row
 - · Skip row planting





PLANT PROTECTION

- Nematology
 - Management of nematodes in an organic farming system
 - · Withdrawal of alidicarb (Temik)
- Entomology
 - Efficacy of commercially available remedies for pests in organically produced cotton
 - See later presentation



PLANT PROTECTION

- Pathology
 - Integrated cotton pest and disease management for improved yield and fibre quality in the SADC region
 - Training trainers in scientific approach
 - Tested success by testing farmers trained in turn
 - · Collaboration with Cargill (Malawi, Zambia, SA)



DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- Training and technology transfer to small-scale cotton farmers
 - Demonstration plots linked to farmer training courses
- Promoting cotton as an alternative or rotation crop for small scale farmers
 - Empowerment plantings on farm
 - Mentoring on all aspects of production throughout season









