Rankings of Priority Areas for Projects Considered for Financing by the Common Fund for Commodities

Project Area	Average Rank
Reducing cotton stickiness: Pest management for non-sticky cotton	7.63
Reducing cotton stickiness: Elimination of stickiness in cotton when ginning	8.50
Reducing fiber damage: How to improve cotton harvesting and ginning to reduce damage to cotton fiber	8.50
Fiber technology: Determination of spinning characteristics of promising lines	8.50
Pest management: Control of boll/budworm complex and other cotton insects by means of an Integrated Pest Management strategy including chemical, biological and cultural methods of control	8.88
Fiber technology: Obtain information from commercial spinners on the performance of present varieties in terms of fiber quality	9.25
Reducing cotton stickiness: Development of field remedies for the processing problems encountered with sticky cotton	9.25
Cotton utilization: Application research to develop new products and uses for cotton	9.75
Improved cultural practices: Growing irrigated cotton with reduced amount of water	10.13
Breeding and genetics: Develop and evaluate new lines with higher yields and better fiber quality	10.13
Fiber technology: Regional fiber quality tests	10.13
Reducing cotton stickiness: How to remove cotton honeydew from lint in economically feasible ways	11.38
Protection of natural resources: Establishment of a data base to determine the incidence of residues of pesticides and other chemicals in raw fiber, as well as in yarns and fabrics after finishing; to make comparisons with manmade fibers; and to devise methods for mitigating any undesirable residues identified	11.63
Improved cultural practices: Comparative studies of irrigation management systems to rationalize water use at the farm level	11.63
Control of diseases and nematodes: Develop and evaluate disease resistant varieties (special emphasis on bacterial blight and fusarium wilt)	12.00
Cotton utilization: Preparation of an analysis of fiber utilization in a spectrum of cotton producing countries and specific recommendations for increasing cotton utilization within these countries as well as internationally	12.13
Protection of natural resources: Establishment of a data base to assess the environmental impact, in terms of liquid and solid waste, of both cotton and synthetic fiber production, as they relate to the product, the atmosphere, the land and general health. This data base would profile the chemical, water and energy inputs to fibers production.	12.13
Reducing fiber damage: Adding trash content, short fiber content and neps to basic cotton classification measures for market evaluation	12.25
Breeding and genetics: Conduct regional variety tests.	12.50
Cotton utilization: Increasing the use of cotton in non-woven products	13.63
Reducing fiber damage: Comprehensive studies of mechanical harvesting systems, including pickers and strippers, with special emphasis on fiber quality	13.75
Breeding and genetics: Collect and maintain an active germplasm bank to anticipate future needs in genetic improvement	13.88

Project Area	Average Rank
Reducing fiber damage: Development of genetic and crop management remedies to the dye-defect problems encountered from neps caused by immature fibers	14.00
Cotton utilization: Development of a comprehensive technical guide (which could be used as a textbook) to cotton utilization from harvesting through the various stages of textile manufacturing which could be used universally to enhance cotton fiber utilization	14.25
Transfer of technology to producers	15.00
Control of diseases and nematodes: Study and monitoring of diseases (mainly bacterial blight and fusarium wilt), and testing of available germplasm to identify suitable genetic tolerance or resistance	15.25
Improved cultural practices: Comprehensive evaluation of minimum tillage and conventional tillage soil preparation strategies and determination of criteria for recommendation of each system	15.50
Studies of yield constraints in cotton	15.75
Improved cultural practices: Producing quality cotton under rainfed conditions	16.50
Improved cultural practices: Development of a methodology to predict yield responses to nitrogen fertilization	16.63
Cotton production economics: Gather information on the costs of production and gross margins obtained by cotton producers to aid in farm policy decisions	18.13
Reducing fiber damage: Studies of the impact of harvesting systems on the type of ginning machinery to be used, determine maximum grades to be achieved with minimal fiber quality deterioration	18.13
Control of diseases and nematodes: Evaluation of fungicides to control damping-off	18.38
Cotton utilization: Valorization of mote fibers produced with lint cleaners	18.88
Control of weeds: Determination of an optimal weed control strategy combining chemical, mechanical and cultural control methods	18.88
Cotton utilization: Valorization of cotton stems for paper paste or charcoal	19.88
Mechanization of production: Comparative evaluation of different systems for delinting to obtain high quality seeds	21.50
Improved cultural practices: Study of post-sowing tillage techniques and determination of soil quality criteria to recommend various practices	22.25
Mechanization of production: Development of cotton pickers specially suitable for medium size farms	23.50
Improved cultural practices: Introduction and development of irrigated long staple cotton in the Senegal River valley	24.75