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TEXAS A&M  
AGRI LIFE  
EXTENSION

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Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

# High Plains Cotton Agronomy Newsletter



## *Spotlight : Extension Assistant*

Growing up in Merkel, Texas, cotton was a way of life for some. For others like Kristie, ranching was a way of life. It wasn't until she came to Texas Tech that she became interested in cotton production after accepting a position at USDA-ARS with Dr. Bobbie McMichael assisting in research of cotton roots in the greenhouse, growth chambers, and field. After completing her Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Agriculture, Kristie taught high school agriculture for 2 year in Colmesneil, Texas with hopes of eventually returning to the research side of agriculture particularly with cotton. After moving back to the Lubbock area, Kristie accepted the Extension Assistant-Cotton position with Dr. Mark Kelley for the Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service. Kristie attended the Texas International Cotton School last fall and will begin her Masters in Crop Production this upcoming fall. With technology on the rise, Kristie has started a Facebook page for the High Plains Cotton Agronomy program and is looking into other social media to connect with producers, agents, and industry in hopes of getting useful information out. Kristie has been married to her husband for 4 years and has a 2 year old daughter, Kleigh and an adopted nephew, Blake, who is 13.

**Have ideas for our  
future newsletters?**

Submit your suggestions/  
stories to Kristie at  
[kristie.keys@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kristie.keys@ag.tamu.edu)

## *To replant or not to replant....*

The recent welcomed rainfall events brought unwelcomed high winds and damaging hail across the High Plains where 85% of the 2014 cotton crop is planted. Rain couldn't have come at a better time for dryland



producers, according to West Texas Mesonet, most area saw .5" – 1.5" of rainfall on Saturday and a few areas reporting 2.5" of rainfall on Sunday. Over the weekend, (7-June & 8-June), the Lubbock Experiment Station reported 1.45" with no hail or wind damage to any crops, but not all crops

are as fortunate. Area's northwest of Lubbock are reporting wind and hail damage to their cotton crops where a strong thunderstorm moved over the region Saturday night. Many decisions on replant will be made within the next few days as fields dry out and producers can assess the damage especially

to those irrigated fields where cotton was already to a stand. The decision to replant needs to be based on population, uniformity, health of current stand as well as calendar date. Cotton has the ability to recover from such weather events, giving the crop 2-3 days of optimal growing conditions

before making the final replant decision could save you time and money. In the meantime, tilling crusted fields could reduce more damage and improve aeration. If you've decided to replant, you must adjust your production system to meet the requirements of later planted cotton.

