

<u>Plant Dates*</u>				
	Early Plant Date	Final Plant Date (Full Coverage)	Late Planting Period (Coverage decreases 1% daily)	Last Insurable Day to Plant (Reduced Coverage)
Corn		April 15	April 16 - 30	April 30
Milo	March 15	April 30	May 1 - 10	May 10
Cotton		May 31	June 1 - 7	June 07
Sunflowers		June 25	June 26 - July 15	July 15
Soybeans		June 25	June 26 - July 20	July 20
Wheat		December 15	December 16 - 30	December 30

* Dates are for most of Central Texas. Check the Special Provisions for dates in your area.

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A Few Notes on Prevented Planting

The cotton final plant date (FPD) will be here next Friday. That date represents the last opportunity to plant cotton with full coverage. There is a 7 day late planting period (LPP) where growers can either (1) replant cotton with full coverage that was initially planted on or before the FPD or (2) plant cotton for the first time with a 1% per day reduction in guarantee.

The extended wet weather has put much of the cotton planting in jeopardy. However, parts of Central TX missed much of the rain on Saturday and Tuesday, allowing cotton planting that started the previous week to continue. As drying continues throughout the week, a favorable 10 day forecast will let some growers be able to get their 2019 cotton crop planted. As of last Friday, little cotton had been planted north of Hillsboro, while south of Hillsboro saw both initial and replant activity. Planting has increased substantially as the week has progressed. Acres of planted cotton increase as you go further south, even though areas like the Brazos Bottom from Calvert to Brenham remain wet and unplanted. Growers with unplanted acres have a few remaining scenarios.

1. Take advantage of the drier weather and forecast and plant the cotton.

- Although not ideal, many growers feel that late cotton is better than no cotton when factoring in landlords, potential Market Facilitation Payments (MFP was \$0.06/lb. for 2018), and covering costs already put into field prep and fertilizer.
- Cotton planted timely on land that was originally filed as PP for another crop is insurable but reduces the PP payment of the first crop to 35% of the full PP payment.
- Cotton planted after the LPP (June 8 or later) because of sustained wet conditions will be insured at the PP coverage or uninsured at the growers' discretion.

2. File cotton PP on ground that is not planted and has not already been filed as PP for another crop.

- i) Cotton PP acres remain fallow (100% PP payment)
 - Cotton full PP values will range from approximately \$100-200 per acre before premium.
 - There is no APH penalty on acres filed as PP that remain fallow.

- ii) Cotton PP acres are planted to a second crop after cotton LPP (35% PP payment)
 - Second crop PP values will range from approximately \$35-\$70 per acre before premium.
 - "Second crop" is defined as (1) planted to a crop covered by NAP, (2) harvested for grain at any time, or (3) hayed or grazed prior to Nov. 1.
 - A yield plug of 60% of your APH will be applied to the acres paid at 35%.

- iii) Cotton PP acres are planted to cotton
 - If planted to cotton before June 8, the cotton PP payment on those acres is removed and the acres are insured at the appropriate rate.
 - If planted to cotton on or after June 8, the cotton PP payment on those acres is removed and the acres will be either (1) uninsured or (2) insured with the PP coverage as the guarantee at the grower's discretion.

3. Move on to another crop.

- Soybeans and sunflowers are the only insurable crops remaining after cotton. They are not insurable in all counties and also may not be a fit for some growers. Nevertheless it is an option.

An Important Note on EU policies and PP:

Filing PP on multiple farms does not qualify you for EU. The act of planting is the only thing that can qualify you for EU. Why is that important? On a 75% EU cotton 100% PP claim the difference is about \$20/acre less for non-qualified acres vs qualified because of the difference in premium.

Growers need to evaluate the cost of qualifying for EU vs the difference in their potential claim. In many cases, the cost of planting to qualify will be more than offset by the larger PP claim. Growers filing large acres of PP (over 500) will benefit the most.

Am I stuck with the high OU premium if it stayed wet through the entire planting period for the PP crop, and I didn't have the opportunity to qualify for EU? NO. You may plant the same crop you filed as PP, even after the LPP, as long as you were delayed due to an insurable cause (usually wet conditions). The planted acres are converted from PP to insured at the PP guarantee. This makes them eligible to qualify for EU given they meet the EU requirements. The point is: **You can still qualify for EU for a prevented crop even though you planted it after the LPP.** Knowing this can be worth over \$20/acre.

As always call with questions. Years like this are why we're here.