



# Field

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Sacramento Valley

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Cooperative Extension

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## 2004 Cotton Variety Selection

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A summary of the yield results from the testing of 101 different cotton varieties in the Sacramento Valley is shown in Table 1. All of these yields are from large scale strip trials of six rows by a quarter mile and were replicated three or four times. In the upper part of the table average cotton lint yields over years are compared to DeltaPine(DP) 388 and in the lower table to Stoneville(ST) 474.

DP 388 is a high yielding moderate quality cotton variety. It has been planted on the majority of the acreage for the past few years. DP 388 has been such a consistent performer in the Sacramento Valley that several years of trial results should be used to find better varieties to replace it. A variety with Roundup® resistance, higher yields than DP 388 and acceptable quality is the ideal variety.

Table 2 gives the quality results for the better varieties from 2000 through 2003. The varieties in this table are sorted by yield from highest to lowest. Fiber length, fiber strength, and micronaire are typically the three fiber quality characteristics of most importance when comparing varieties being grown in the Sacramento Valley.

We will continue our cotton variety testing in two locations during 2004. One trial will be in Colusa County and one at the CSU, Chico, School Farm.

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**Table 2: 2000 to 2003 Sacramento Valley UCCE Cotton Variety Trial Quality Results**

(Cotton varieties in bold are being sold for 2004 production)

Length	2000 Colusa	2000 Butte	2001 Butte	2002 Colusa	2003 Colusa	2003 Butte	2000-03
							Average
							%DP 388
SG 521 R				34.7	35.7		97
<b>SG 215 BG/RR</b>				<b>34.3</b>	<b>35.0</b>		<b>95</b>
<b>DP 444 BG/RR</b>					<b>36.7</b>		<b>99</b>
<b>DP 388</b>	36.2	37.4	35.5	35.7	37.0	36.7	100
<b>ST 457</b>				<b>37.0</b>	<b>35.3</b>		<b>99</b>
<b>ST 4793 R</b>				<b>35.0</b>			<b>98</b>
Sierra RR						37.0	101
S 102			35.2			37.8	101
<b>ST BXN 47</b>	37.1			<b>36.0</b>			<b>102</b>
<b>Strength</b>							
SG 521 R				29.1	26.4		95
<b>SG 215 BG/RR</b>				<b>28.3</b>	<b>27.4</b>		<b>95</b>
<b>DP 444 BG/RR</b>					<b>28.4</b>		<b>102</b>
<b>DP 388</b>	29.7	29.9	28.1	30.5	27.9	29.3	100
<b>ST 457</b>				<b>31.9</b>	<b>28.1</b>		<b>103</b>
<b>ST 4793 R</b>				<b>30.5</b>			<b>100</b>
Sierra RR						32.4	110
S 102			34.0			35.1	120
<b>ST BXN 47</b>	30.7			<b>29.5</b>			<b>100</b>
<b>Micronaire</b>							
SG 521 R				4.4	3.2		104
<b>SG 215 BG/RR</b>				<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>		<b>100</b>
<b>DP 444 BG/RR</b>					<b>3.0</b>		<b>97</b>
<b>DP 388</b>	4.4	2.6	4.7	4.2	3.1	3.3	100
<b>ST 457</b>				<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>		<b>97</b>
<b>ST 4793 R</b>				<b>4.4</b>			<b>105</b>
Sierra RR						3.2	97
S 102			4.8			3.5	104
<b>ST BXN 47</b>	4.1			<b>4.3</b>			<b>98</b>