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Quality Comparison																
	Samples Classed		Average Staple		Micronaire		Fiber Strength		SLM		Light Spotted		Middling & Higher		Tenderable in New York	
	2018 Season	2017 Season	32nds Inch				(grams/tex)				SLM & Higher					
	1/10/2019	Total	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Southeast	3,590,277	4,438,158	36.7	36.7	4.5	4.5	29.1	29.8	42.7%	39.7%	8.9%	1.5%	20.1%	37.4%	74.2%	86.8%
Memphis Terr.	4,428,495	4,220,427	37.2	37.6	4.7	4.4	29.9	30.9	47.5%	27.3%	12.5%	0.6%	10.8%	27.9%	66.6%	86.3%
Southwest	5,942,071	10,326,665	36.2	36.0	4.2	3.8	30.1	29.4	19.6%	4.0%	7.9%	7.9%	38.0%	53.4%	67.4%	53.2%
Far West	396,541	724,777	37.8	37.2	4.4	4.2	32.0	31.9	23.1%	0.9%	4.6%	2.0%	54.4%	78.4%	81.3%	86.7%

Meanwhile, partly cloudy skies and warm temperatures have ruled across Arizona, with some scattered showers. Warm, dry conditions remain in the near-term forecast, which will allow outside activities to advance with little interruption.

A wide variation in temperatures has been reported across **West Texas** during the period under review, with daytime highs ranging from the 20°s to the 70°s (F). As the series of Pacific storms have marched across the country, freezing fog and light precipitation have developed, briefly hindering outside activities. Harvesting, though, has virtually drawn to a close. Gins have been working long hours, processing seed cotton supplies on their yards, and consequently, backlogs are dwindling. Some pressing plants, therefore, are now only ginning during days or are closing on weekends.

Many producers have been attending meetings and focusing on the upcoming crop year. Spring-like weather has returned of late, and growers have been preparing fields for winter. Although soil moisture remains relatively good throughout the region and water levels in many ponds and lakes have been recharged, slow-soaking rains would be welcomed in the upcoming months to improve groundwater table supplies. A large portion of the area is considered dryland, and as a result, crops

rely heavily on deep soil moisture and timely rains during the growing season.

Overcast skies have prevailed in **South Texas**, and scattered light rain has fallen, briefly interrupting fieldwork. Most seedbeds in the Rio Grande Valley are already ready for sowing, and since soil moisture levels continue short, slow-soaking rains would be welcomed prior to planting, which usually commences the second half of February.

Wintry weather entered the **Memphis Territory** during the week under review, but most cotton-producing areas only received rain. Although many fields have been prepared for winter, some stalks have yet to be cut or shredded in northern areas.

Mostly open skies and highs in the upper 50°s to low 60°s (F) have returned to the **Southeast** late in the period, following an earlier period of cold, rainy conditions. The quality of remaining lint in open bolls has deteriorated with each passing storm, and producers are meeting with insurance adjusters to determine if it is feasible to harvest those remaining fields or preferable to abandon them. Another rain system is expected to enter the region in the upcoming days, and consequently, growers are rushing to complete winter field preparations before the inclement weather arrives.

SPAIN

Ginning of the 2018/19 crop has yet to be concluded. Rains received in November and December made for a protracted harvest, as well as affecting the quality composition of the crop. Although colour grades have suffered, yields have tended to exceed expectations, with

the result that a final lint outturn close to 70,000 tonnes is anticipated. Of that volume, about 90 percent has been sold by ginners, though merchants retain some unsold cotton. The uncommitted supply at origin comprises mainly low grades, currently offered at around 'even' March futures.

GREECE

Market developments

Trading at origin has been fairly quiet of late. The further decline of international prices in December has left ginners with stocks of lint produced at high cost during a period when the prices paid for seed cotton reflected a much stronger market. Some are

offering cotton 'on call', in the hope that futures will rally and mitigate the losses that they currently face.

So far, local observers place the volume of cotton sold at around 180,000 tonnes, from a crop of 320,000. Shipments are said to have slowed since the turn of the year but are currently estimated at up to 150,000 tonnes. International

traders have accounted for the bulk of business.

Enquiry from Turkey has picked up somewhat compared with the past few months, but generally prices have been a few cents apart. Demand from Egypt, usually an active market at this point in the season, has been negligible.