

Cotton Producers Referendum April 1

Media Contact: Tyler Adams, Extension agent, Agriculture, Row Crops
910-321-6875 or tyler_adams@ncsu.edu

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North Carolina cotton growers will vote **April 1** on whether to continue the assessment, or "check-off" program on cotton for another six years. The referendum would reauthorize an assessment of up to \$1 per bale of cotton sold, but the N.C. Cotton Producers Association's Board of Directors plans to continue the assessment at the current level of 80 cents per bale.

Eligible growers may vote at the Cumberland County Cooperative Extension office from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The office is located at 301 East Mountain Drive, Fayetteville.

The "check-off" program supports improvements in cotton production, marketing and research, and also promotes the general interests of North Carolina's cotton industry.

All North Carolina cotton producers who planted the crop in 2015 and intend to plant cotton this year are eligible to vote in the referendum at their county Cooperative Extension office on **April 1**.

If the referendum is approved, the assessment would continue to be collected by the gin and submitted to the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The department then would send the assessment funds to the N.C. Cotton Producers Association, a nonprofit organization based in Nashville.

For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact Lisa Childers at 910.321.6880, no later than five business days before the event.

