



# 2026 Cotton Focus

**February 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

West TN AgResearch  
& Education Center  
605 Airways Blvd., Jackson, TN

Lunch provided  
Private Applicator, Commercial Applicator,  
CCA & Master Row Crop Points available

**UTIA** INSTITUTE OF  
AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

<b>Time</b>	<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Title</b>
8:00	<b>Tyson Raper, PhD</b>	Opening comments Cotton Specialist, University of Tennessee
8:25	<b>Aaron Smith, PhD</b>	Navigating 2026 Cotton Markets: Supply, Demand, Profitability, and Price Extension Economist, University of Tennessee
8:55	<b>Andrew Muhammad, PhD</b>	Ag Policy Outlook Ag Trade Economist, University of Tennessee
9:25	<b>Buddy Allen</b>	Potential impacts of the Buy American Cotton Act President and CEO, American Cotton Shippers Association
9:45	<b>Break</b>	
9:55	<b>Brian Pieralisi, PhD</b>	Making cotton pencil in 2026 Cotton Specialist, Mississippi State University
10:15	<b>Tyson Raper, PhD</b>	Seed Quality; Extra Long Staple Cotton; General update Cotton Specialist, University of Tennessee
10:35	<b>Sebe Brown, PhD</b>	Insect control update Field Crop Entomologist, University of Tennessee
10:55	<b>Larry Steckel, PhD</b>	Weed control update Weed Scientist, University of Tennessee
11:15	<b>Heather Kelly, PhD</b>	Disease/nematode update Field Crop Pathologist, University of Tennessee
11:35	<b>Nutifafa Adotey, PhD</b>	Fertility update Fertility Specialist, University of Tennessee
11:55	<b>Tyson Raper, PhD</b>	Closing comments Cotton Specialist, University of Tennessee
<b>Lunch</b>		
1:00	<b>Boyd Barker</b>	Lunch Boll Weevil Meeting