



INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE CENTER • TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
LUBBOCK, TEXAS USA

*Sharing current
research
information and
trends in the
cotton and
textile
industries.*

NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FIBER INSTRUMENTS

The ITC has a new Zellweger Uster Advanced Fiber Information System (AFIS) instrument for the Materials Evaluation Lab. This latest model adds a fineness and maturity module, as well as an automatic sample loader. The purchase was made through the generous donations of Plains Cotton Cooperative Association, Plains Cotton Oil Mill, and Farmers Coop Compress. Other segments of the Texas cotton industry have also pledged support for the enhanced testing capability.

An automatic, high-precision microtome has been added to the microscopy lab to be used for

cutting cross sections of fibers, yarns, and fabrics. The visual analysis system will now be state-of-the-art with the addition of the microtome, which slices specimens down to one micron in thickness.

The Lintronics Fiber Contaminants Tester (FCT) is running well, with a good correlation to the subjective card test for fiber stickiness. A new high pressure liquid chromatograph (HPLC) is now in use for identifying sugars in aqueous samples. The ITC now has an impressive range of quantitative testing equipment for stickiness to support its expanded research in this area.

TEXAS INTERNATIONAL COTTON SCHOOL

Please remember that the next Texas International Cotton School is scheduled to be conducted at the ITC during October 6-17, 1997. For additional information, contact:

Mandy Howell, Lubbock Cotton Exchange
(806) 763-4646 telephone, (806) 763-8647 fax

PRODUCER INFORMATION WORKSHOP

The ITC is assembling and jointly sponsoring a producer information workshop with Plains Cotton Growers and Texas Agricultural Extension Service. The producer education event will be held during the Texas Cotton Ginners Trade Show in Lubbock on April 11. On the program are

sessions on sticky cotton, managing for plant sugar and late season aphid infestations; the boll weevil economic impact study; an introduction of the new Extension cotton specialist—Randy Boman; record keeping for pesticide use; and nematode soil sampling and control.

COTTON FIBER PROPERTIES SEMINAR

The ITC will conduct a cotton fiber properties seminar on June 4th and 5th, 1997. The seminar will include sessions on HVI and AFIS testing and how to read those test results. This is helpful information for cotton breeders and buyers. See the back of this issue for additional information.