



Arizona Cotton  
Growers Association

June 20, 2001

Whitney Rick, Chief  
Research & Promotion Staff  
Cotton Program  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
USDA  
Stop 0224  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20250-0244

Re: Document Number CN 01 002, 66FR 16440 (March 26, 2001)

Dear Ms. Rick:

On behalf of the Arizona Cotton Growers Association I am writing in full support of the position of the National Cotton Council regarding whether a referendum is necessary to determine the continuation of Cotton Research and Promotion Order as amended.

The central issue is whether growers are so dissatisfied with Cotton Incorporated and its assessment program as to justify a referendum. It is the finding of the Association that the level of support in Arizona is extremely high and that a referendum is unwarranted.

Cotton Incorporated and its State Support Program is very essential to our work and our efforts to improve profitability through critical research projects, especially in addressing increasing levels of micronaire in Arizona cotton. The Cotton Incorporated program is a part of our cotton community and is necessary to our work.

Finally, if a referendum was seen as necessary, by growers, there is certainly a process that they can use to petition for a referendum. For the Department to initiate a referendum without any solid reason would seem to be inappropriate and costly.

In conclusion, the Arizona Cotton Growers Association urges you to reject any Department initiated referendum at this time. The CI program is sound, well run, and is serving the best interests of American cotton producers.

Sincerely,

Rick C. Lavis  
Executive Vice President  
Arizona Cotton Growers Association

cc: Roger Hooper, President, ACGA  
CI Directors/Alternates

