

Commissioner Todd Staples
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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COTTON STALK DESTRUCTION DEADLINE IS EXTENDED FOR ZONE 1

AUSTIN - Texas Agriculture Commissioner Todd Staples announced today cotton growers in Zone 1 are granted an extension for cotton stalk destruction. The new deadline for 2008 is Oct. 1 and was extended because of weather.

The deadline applies to cotton fields in Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Starr, Willacy and Zapata counties, and the southern part of Kenedy County encompassing the area below an east-west line through Katherine and Armstrong.

Deadlines for cotton stalk destruction are established by regulations adopted under the Cotton Pest Control Law to help control boll weevils. After the deadline, cotton stalks are not allowed to have squares, blooms or uncracked bolls and must remain without fruiting structures until emergence of the new cotton crop next spring. Planting next spring can begin Feb. 1, 2009.

For more information, contact the TDA Valley office at (956) 787-8866.

All TDA press releases are also available via the Internet at www.tda.state.tx.us