

Clemson University

Department of Plant Industry
511 Westinghouse Road, Pendleton, SC 29670

REQUEST TO GROW ORNAMENTAL COTTON IN SOUTH CAROLINA

According to 27-1095 the Director of Regulatory and Public Service Programs, Division of Public Service and Agriculture, Clemson University, has the delegated responsibility for the administration and enforcement of the rules, regulations and quarantine of Ornamental Cotton in South Carolina.

Ornamental cotton (27-1098) means cotton of any color planted on any premise for purposes other than commercial production for lint and includes seeds, bolls, potted plants or any portions of the plant being distributed or offered for sale. This term encompasses cotton planted for educational purposes, as a tourist attraction, for retail or wholesale sale as a growing or dried plant, for individual use or for personal satisfaction.

However, The following articles are prohibited from sale or distribution within the state (27-1099 B.):

- (1) ornamental cottonseed; and
- (2) individual potted specimens of cotton plants.

Ornamental cotton (27-1096) shall not be planted without the prior written approval of the Director. A request for approval will include a brief description of the acreage and the purpose for such planting. The Director will base his decision on:

1. Location of growing area;
2. Size of intended planting area;
3. Pest conditions in the growing area;
4. Any stipulations or requirements as may be set forth in a compliance agreement between the noncommercial grower and the Director, which the Director determines are necessary for the effectuation of the program.

If you are approved by the Director to grow ornamental cotton you can grow up to 1 acre.

Ornamental cotton (27-1097) shall be assessed at \$40.00 fee. A check for this amount should be made payable to **SCBWEF** (South Carolina Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation) and mailed to *Clemson University Regulatory Services, 511 Westinghouse Rd., Pendleton, SC 29670* by May 1st each year.

We want you to understand that growing ornamental cotton is strongly discouraged due to the risks and costs associated with this practice. The \$40.00 fee for ornamental cotton does not approach the cost associated with establishing and monitoring a boll weevil trap throughout the season, and if a weevil outbreak were to occur as a result of failure to fully comply with program requirements, the costs could be measured in the millions.

REQUEST TO GROW ORNAMENTAL COTTON

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address of Planting (GPS coordinates & street address): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Estimated Planting Date: _____

Source of Seeds: _____

Amount of Ornamental Cotton to be planted (in acres): _____

Reason/ Purpose for Planting Ornamental Cotton: _____

If permission to grow ornamental cotton is granted by the Director of Regulatory Services at Clemson University, I agree to all stipulations outlined in the Ornamental Cotton Compliance Agreement and listed below:

- A. *Permission will be granted to the Department of Plant Industry (DPI) to trap for boll weevil in or near ornamental cotton.*
- B. *If a boll weevil(s) is/are trapped, to follow the recommendations of DPI to combat this pest up to and including total crop destruction.*
- C. *That in authorizing and participating in these trapping requirements as a basis for compliance with the aforementioned statutes, regulations, and/or quarantines, no liability shall be attached either to DPI, Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, cooperating agencies, or to any of their employees in the event of injury to the property or the regulated articles.*
- D. *That no cotton or cotton products may be produced for sale, given away, or distributed from ornamental cotton acreage.*
- E. *To disclose to DPI sources and location(s) of all cotton and/or regulated articles as listed above and to notify DPI prior to conducting work that disturbs the land. DPI shall be informed of seed source and nature, location and planned duration of work and agreement holders shall maintain and offer for inspection such records as may be required.*
- F. *To provide DPI and Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation personnel access to all land, equipment, or any property deemed by an inspector to present a risk of housing or spreading boll weevil for the purpose of inspection or treatment.*
- G. *To safeguard and use all certificates in accordance with requirements.*
- H. *Compliance agreements are non-transferable. Owner agrees to notify DPI of ownership/lease changes before transfer of land*

Signature

Date