



# Arizona Department of Agriculture

Plant Services Division

1688 W. Adams Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

P: (602) 542-0994 F: (602) 542-1004

Below is the Department's interpretation of A.A.C. R3-4-204 Cotton Pest Management: Interior. This rule became effective January 4, 2020. The official rule will be published in the March 2020 version of the Arizona Secretary of State's registry.

## **R3-4-204. Cotton Pest Management: Interior**

### **A. Definitions.** The following terms apply to this Section:

1. "Crop remnant" means the stalks, leaves, bolls, lint, pods, and seeds of cotton;
2. "Stub cotton" means cotton stalks of a previous crop that begin to show signs of growth;
3. "Volunteer cotton" means a sprout from seed of a previous crop.

### **B. Regulated commodities and appliances.**

1. Cotton, all parts;

### **C. Cultural practices.**

1. Arizona's cultural zones are:

- a. Zone "A" -- Yuma County west of a line extended directly north and directly south of Avenue 58E.
- b. Zone "B" -- Cochise County, Graham County, and Greenlee County.
- c. Zone "C" -- Mohave County and La Paz County, except for the following: T6N, R11W, 12W, 13W; T5N, R12W, 13W; T4N, R12W, 14W, 15W; T3N, R10W, 11W; and T2N, R11W.
- d. Zone "D" -- Pima County; the following portions of Pinal County: T10S, R10E, sections 34-36; T10S, R11E, section 31; T7S, R16E; T6S, R16E; T5S, R15E; T5S, R16E and T4S, R14E; and the following portions of the Aguila area: T6N, R8W; T7N, R8W, 9W, 10W; T7N, R11W, other than sections 24, 25 and 36; and T8N, R9W, sections 31-36.
- e. Zone "E" -- All portions of the state not included in zones "A", "B", "C", and "D."

2. No stub or volunteer cotton shall be grown in or allowed to grow in the state. The landowner or grower shall be responsible for eliminating stub-or volunteer cotton.
3. Tillage deadline. Except as provided in subsection (C)(4), a grower shall ensure that a crop remnant of a host plant remaining in the field after harvest is shredded and the land tilled to destroy the host plant and its root system so no stalks remain attached to the soil before the following dates or before planting another crop, whichever occurs earlier: Zone "A", January 15; Zone "B", March 1; Zone "C", February 15; Zone "D", March 1; Zone "E", February 15.
4. Rotational crop following cotton harvest.
  - a. If a grower elects to plant a small-grain crop following a cotton harvest, the grower may, after the host plant is shredded, irrigate and plant with wheat, barley, or oats (or other similar small-grain crops approved in writing by the Associate Director before planting) instead of tilling as prescribed in subsection (C)(3). The small-grain crop shall be planted before the tillage deadline for the zone.
  - b. The Associate Director shall approve small-grain crops other than wheat, barley, and oats, if the

planting, growth, and harvest cycles of the small-grain crop prevents the maturation of stub or volunteer cotton. A grower shall submit a written request for approval of a small-grain crop, other than wheat, barley, or oats, at least 15 days before the tillage deadline for the zone. The written request shall include the scientific and common name of the proposed small-grain crop and the estimated date of harvest.

- c. If a grower elects to plant a crop other than an approved small-grain crop following a cotton harvest, the requirements specified in subsection (C)(3) apply.
5. Planting dates.
    - a. A grower who meets the tillage deadline specified in subsection (C)(3) for the preceding cotton crop year shall not plant cotton earlier than 15 days after the tillage deadline for the zone.
    - b. A grower who does not meet the tillage deadline specified in subsection (C)(3) for the preceding cotton crop year shall not plant cotton on a farm until 15 days after the grower ensures that all crop remnants of a host plant remaining in the fields after harvest are shredded and the land tilled to destroy the host plant and its root system so no stalks remain attached to the soil.
  6. Dry planting. Any grower who meets the tillage deadline for the zone may dry plant cotton five days after the tillage deadline for that zone, but shall not water until 15 days after the tillage deadline for that zone.
  7. An inspector shall give written notice to any owner or person in charge or control of the nuisance found in violation of subsection (C). The processes established in subsections (C)(3) and (C)(4) shall be repeated, as necessary, to destroy the pests.