



Greg A. Holt

Greg A. Holt is the recipient of the 2023 Mayfield Cotton Engineering award for meritorious achievements in research related to cotton ginning, cotton by-product value-added processing, agricultural air quality, and plastic contamination mitigation.

Holt is a research leader and cotton post-harvest research and education coordinator with the USDA-Agricultural Research Service. As research leader, he heads a team of engineers addressing issues faced primarily by cotton producers and ginners. This group conducts research in the preservation of fiber quality, cotton harvester improvements, ginning processes and machinery development, quantification of particulate matter emissions from agricultural operations, and value-added processing of agricultural substrates. Holt also serves as the cotton post-harvest research and education coordinator for all three of the USDA-ARS ginning laboratories. Additionally, he helps coordinate all three gin schools of the National Cotton Council and National Cotton Ginners Association which educates more than 300 cotton industry personnel annually on topics of safety, electricity, hydraulics, machine operation/maintenance, pneumatics, and air pollution abatement.

Holt's work has been transferred to industry and was the driving factor in two companies created to manufacture a hydro mulch erosion control product featuring cotton plant materials. His research was instrumental in the launch of the first 100% biodegradable packaging material made from cotton byproducts and mycelium designed to replace polystyrene packaging, development and optimiza-

tion of the power roll gin stand, generation of new particulate matter emissions data used to improve the permitting process for cotton gins, the successful design and testing of an improved mechanical cottonseed delinter that efficiently removes lint from ginned cottonseed and more recently, a collaborative development of a commercial plastic detection and ejection system to remove plastic contamination from seed cotton.

Holt is a 29-year ASABE member. He is a current member of the National Cotton Ginners Association, the Association for the Advancement of Industrial Crops, and the American Society of Testing and Materials.

Holt has authored more than 325 peer-reviewed articles, conference proceeding papers, and other publications. He also holds eight US patents. He has received several other awards including the Federal Laboratories Consortium Mid-Continent Region and National, Excellence in Technology Transfer award, the USDA-ARS Technology Transfer award, and the Charlie C. Owen Distinguished Service award from the National Cotton Ginners Association. He has been also been recognized for outstanding contributions to the profession and inducted into the Industrial, Manufacturing, and Systems Engineering Academy at Texas Tech University.