

2011 Mid-South Cotton Defoliation Guide



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2011 Mid-South Cotton Defoliation Guide

By: L. Thomas Barber
University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

Darrin M. Dodds
Daniel B. Reynolds
Mississippi State University

Christopher L. Main
Robert M. Hayes
University of Tennessee –
West Tennessee Research and Education Center

Cotton Defoliation

Defoliation is the natural shedding of cotton leaves that usually occurs when leaves become physiologically mature. Leaf shedding (abscission) results from activity of special cells at the base of the leaf petiole where it joins the stem. This area is called the “abscission layer.” Defoliation may also be induced by a light frost, insect damage, disease, drought or mineral deficiency. It also can be artificially achieved by the use of certain chemicals called “defoliant” or harvest aids. **In situations where canopies are dense and there are significant numbers of green bolls that need to be opened, two applications are often required.** Planning a two-pass approach, especially in lush irrigated cotton, as opposed to getting less-than-desirable results such as stuck leaves or poor defoliation from a single application attempt is recommended. The goal of the first application is to remove as much foliage as possible exposing the unopened bolls without causing desiccation. The second harvest aid application will require additional defoliant to finish removing lower canopy leaves but, more importantly, an adequate boll opener to stimulate boll opening.

Desiccation is drying of plant tissues due to disruption of cell membranes and rapid loss of moisture which often results in “stuck leaves.” Product selection and application rates should be adjusted to match environmental conditions as they change during the harvest season in order to reduce occurrence of leaf desiccation.

What Are the Benefits From Defoliation?

- Removing leaves
- Eliminating the main source of stain and trash
- Better lint grades
- Preventing boll rot
- Faster and more efficient picker operation
- Managing maturity, allowing earlier harvest

- Increasing air movement through the crop canopy which facilitates quicker drying, thus allowing picker to begin earlier in the day
- Reducing moisture
- Improving storage in modules

Application Timing and Conditions

Weather – Weather conditions at the time of application and for three to five days following application have a significant effect on cotton response to harvest aids. Harvest aids are most active when temperature, sunlight intensity and relative humidity are high. A nighttime temperature above 60°F is especially important. At temperatures above 60°F, the rate of leaf drop roughly doubles for each 10-degree rise in temperature. At least one full day of clear weather following application is needed for best results.

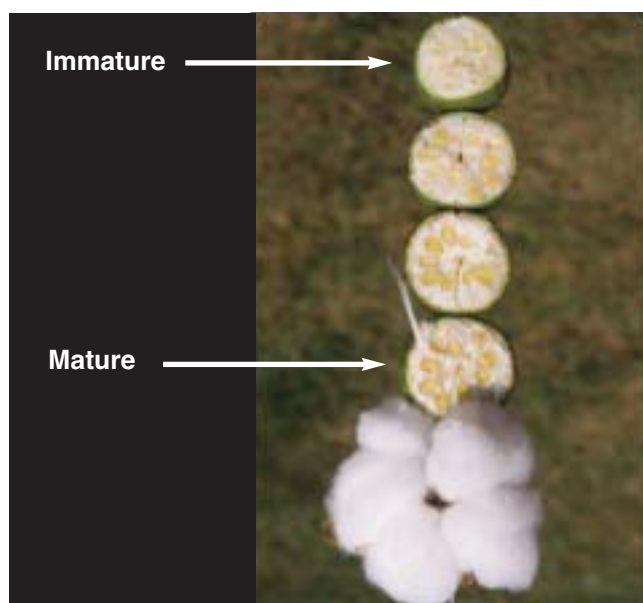
Plant Conditions – Defoliation is best in mature, well-fruited, uniform plants that have “cutout” but are not completely inactive. The nutrient supply, particularly nitrogen, should be almost exhausted, and the crop should not be under drought stress. Poor defoliation may result when defoliant are applied to drought-stressed crops containing leaves with thick cuticles.

Application Timing – There are many ways to determine proper defoliation timing, but the following have proven to be effective:

- **NAWF 5 + 850 DD60s:** Using heat unit accumulation after NAWF (node above white flower) 5 has some merit when determining defoliation timing. Calculating DD60s after “cutout,” which is defined as the point where the cotton reaches NAWF=5, is a good way to gauge crop maturity; however, this method should only be used in combination with other techniques. This method is almost certainly the first to recommend defoliation and can sometimes trigger defoliation applications too

early. DD60 accumulation after NAWF=5 should always be accompanied by determination of percent open bolls and visual inspection to ensure that premature defoliation does not occur. Early defoliation can reduce micronaire, but it has also been shown to reduce yield in some situations. One must first weigh the benefits of decreased micronaire vs. the potential yield loss from early defoliation.

- **Percent Open Boll:** Measuring percent open boll has been the standard defoliation technique for many years and is still the “old standby.” It is generally safe to defoliate when 60% of the bolls are open. However, this strategy may not work well in situations where fruit has been set over a varying period of time due to plant stresses such as insect damage. In some situations, defoliation at 60% open may be premature and cut short the development of bolls in the upper canopy, thereby reducing yield and micronaire. On the other hand, a crop set in a short period of time could be safely defoliated at 40% to 50% open boll. Many producers tend to underestimate percent open boll and may actually be waiting until 70% to 80% open to defoliate. Measuring percent open boll from the truck will generally underestimate percent open bolls. To accurately determine percent open bolls, measure 3 feet of row in 10 places in the field and actually count open and closed bolls and calculate the percent that are open.
- **Node Above Cracked Boll (NACB):** To use the NACB method, find the uppermost first position cracked boll and count upwards on the plant to the uppermost harvestable boll. Once the NACB has been determined, cut the uppermost harvestable boll with a sharp knife to inspect the lint and seed. If the boll is mature, then defoliation is safe. A NACB of 4 is generally safe for defoliation. If the uppermost harvestable boll is immature, wait until NACB of 3. In addition, low plant populations (less than two plants per foot of row) may require a NACB count of 3 to be safe. Low plant populations result in a less evenly distributed crop with high numbers of bolls set on vegetative branches and outer positions of fruiting branches.
- **Sharp Knife Technique:** The sharp knife technique should be used to validate all methods of defoliation timing. Choose the uppermost boll that has a chance of contributing to yield and make a cross section of the boll with a sharp knife. Generally this boll will be located 4 to 5 nodes below the terminal depending on end-of-season stresses. Bolls are mature when they are difficult to cut and a cross section of the seed reveals folded cotyledons, absence of jelly and darkened seed coats.



- **Hal Lewis Method:** The Hal Lewis Method of timing defoliation has gained momentum over the last several years and has shown promise in predicting end-of-season micronaire. The system uses a representative sample of the bottom four first position bolls and compares the micronaire to a chart which predicts whole field micronaire. If whole field micronaire is predicted to be in the discount range, defoliation prior to 60%-70% open is recommended. The technique may save a producer from discounts while maintaining yields. For those producers interested in this method, see the web site <http://www.arkansascrops.com> for more information.

Regardless of which method you prefer, a combination of several techniques should always be used. All growers are urged to walk as many of their fields as possible and determine the overall maturity of their crop. Rarely do all portions of a field mature at the same time; however, some of the risks of defoliating too early or late can be reduced by using a combination of the aforementioned techniques.

Application – Most harvest aid materials do not translocate or move very far within the plant; therefore, application coverage is important. Cone-type nozzles are superior to air-induction nozzles with regard to foliar coverage using ground application equipment. Two equally spaced hollow cone nozzles per row will give adequate coverage. Spray pressure, ground speed and nozzle size should be matched appropriately in order to apply the desired spray volume in accordance with label instructions. The amount of water used as a carrier in each defoliation application should not be lower than 5 gallons per acre for aerial applications and 15 gallons per acre by ground. A second application of

defoliant may be required for defoliation of rank cotton. Consult the product label for rates and other pertinent information.

Other Factors to Consider When Defoliating

Do not defoliate all cotton at one time. Defoliants should be applied 10 to 14 days prior to anticipated harvest date. Leaf drop should start in about 4 days and be complete in about 10 days. Rain 3 to 4 hours after application of a defoliant does not lessen the effectiveness of most chemicals, with the exception of Dropp[®]/FreeFall[™], which require a 24-hour rain-free period.

Types of Defoliants

Defoliants can be categorized as having either herbicidal or hormonal activity. Def[®], Folex[®], Harvade[®], Aim[®] and ET[®] are herbicidal-type defoliants that injure the plant, causing it to produce ethylene in response to the injury. Ethylene production promotes formation of an abscission layer and ultimately leaf drop. Increased application rates of these materials during periods of warm temperatures may kill the leaf prior to ethylene synthesis. This results in desiccation or “leaf stick” instead of the desired defoliation (leaf drop).

Dropp[®], FreeFall[™], Finish[®], First Pick[™] and Prep[™] are hormonal defoliants that result in increased ethylene synthesis by the plant. Prep[™] releases ethylene, which stimulates further ethylene synthesis in the plant, resulting in abscission zone activation in the boll walls and leaf petioles. Dropp[®] contains a hormone known as cytokinin. Although cytokinins promote leaf health in most plant species, in cotton and related species such as velvetleaf, very high concentrations of cytokinins promote ethylene synthesis and act as a defoliant. Because these hormonal-type defoliants bypass herbicidal injury, they are not as likely to cause desiccation (leaf stick) as herbicidal defoliants.

Herbicidal Defoliants

- **Def[®] and Folex[®]:** Phosphate-type materials containing tribufos (active ingredient in Def[®]/Folex[®]) have been used for years and are regarded as standards. Their performance is essentially equal, and they are effective over a broad range of environmental conditions. Minimum temperature for optimum performance is 55°-60°F. These materials do not inhibit regrowth or appreciably improve boll opening. Activity improves with increased maturity of the crop. Leaf removal with each of these products is usually rapid, and addition of surfactants offers benefit only under adverse

conditions. Both products have a pungent odor. **Labeled Rates: 16 – 24 oz per acre, lower rates may be utilized in tank mixtures with other harvest aids.**

- **Harvade[®]:** Harvade[®] or dimethapin has generally provided defoliation of mature cotton equal to Def[®] and Folex[®] but is usually slower. Harvade[®] does not inhibit regrowth or improve boll opening. Addition of crop oil concentrate (1 pt/A) is necessary for acceptable defoliation. Addition of Harvade[®] will increase desiccation of morningglories and other vining weeds. Harvade[®] has very little odor. **Labeled Rates: 8 – 10 oz per acre.**
- **Aim[®]:** Aim[®] (carfentrazone) has excellent activity in regard to desiccation of juvenile growth but does not inhibit regrowth. In mature cotton and/or cool conditions, Aim[®] activity has been shown to be similar to Def[®] or Folex[®]. However, in warm conditions, less-than-desirable defoliation and excessive desiccation have been observed. In situations in which two applications are necessary, Aim[®] has performed very well as the second application. Aim[®] has shown excellent activity in desiccating morningglories. In situations with thick vines, Aim[®] alone or in combination with other defoliants will desiccate morningglories very well. Aim[®] can be tankmixed with any defoliants, and the addition of 1% v/v crop oil is needed. **Labeled Rates: 0.25 – 1.6 oz per acre.**
- **ET[®]:** ET[®] (pyraflufen ethyl) has excellent activity in desiccation of juvenile growth but does not inhibit regrowth. In mature cotton and/or cool conditions, ET[®] activity has been shown to be similar to Def[®] or Folex[®]. However, in warm conditions, less-than-desirable defoliation and excessive desiccation have been shown with ET[®]. In situations in which two applications are necessary, ET[®] has performed very well as the second application. ET[®] can be tankmixed with any of the other defoliants, and the addition of 0.5 – 1.0% v/v crop oil may be needed. **Labeled Rates: 1.5 – 2.75 oz per acre.**
- **Glyphosate (many formulations):** Glyphosate provides excellent regrowth inhibition of conventional (non-Roundup Ready Flex[™]) cotton when applied in conjunction with defoliants or ethephon and helps control susceptible late-season weeds. Check specific product labels for registration as a harvest aid. Glyphosate will not enhance performance of harvest aids when applied to Roundup Ready[™] or Roundup Ready Flex[™] cotton. **Labeled Rates: 11 – 44 oz per acre Roundup WeatherMax[™] or PowerMax[™] or equivalent rate of alternative product for regrowth control in non-Roundup Ready Flex[™] cotton.**

Hormonal Defoliants and Boll-Opening Materials

- **Dropp[®] (Dropp SC[®], FreeFall[™]):** Dropp SC[®] (thidiazuron) is formulated as a soluble concentrate while FreeFall[™] is formulated as a soluble concentrate (SC) or a wettable powder (WP). Each requires a 24-hour rain-free period and is sensitive to cool weather. Dropp[®] and FreeFall[™] should not be applied when the average 24-hour temperature is predicted to be below 65°F for two to three days after application. In addition, these products are slower with regard to leaf removal than Def[®] or Folex[®] and may leave some bottom leaves; however, both effectively remove juvenile foliage. Neither product improves boll opening, but they will strongly inhibit regrowth when applied under favorable weather conditions. The potential for leaf desiccation is reduced with these products compared to herbicidal defoliants, especially when applied during periods of high temperatures. If Dropp[®] or FreeFall[™] are applied under less-than-favorable conditions, the addition of crop oil concentrate may enhance the activity of these materials. It is important to follow suggested cleanout procedures with Dropp[®] or FreeFall[™]. **Labeled Rates: Dropp SC[®] 1.6 – 6.4 oz/ac; FreeFall 50 WP[™] 0.1 – 0.4 lb per acre.**
- **Ginstar[®]:** Ginstar[®] is an emulsifiable concentrate formulation of thidiazuron (active ingredient in Dropp[®] and FreeFall[™]) and diuron (Karmex[®], Direx[®]). Ginstar[®] should be applied to mature cotton at least five days prior to scheduled harvest; however, defoliation may take longer under cool conditions. Addition of adjuvants or excess Ginstar[®] rates can cause desiccation or “stuck leaves” under warm conditions. The Ginstar[®] label does not discuss tank mixtures; however, tank mixtures with ethephon have enhanced boll-opening activity. **Labeled Rates: 6.4 – 16 oz per acre. Lower rates may be utilized during periods of extremely warm air temperatures or in tank mixtures with other harvest aids.**
- **Finish 6 Pro[®]:** Finish 6 Pro[®] contains ethephon and the synergist cyclanilide which aids in defoliation. Finish 6 Pro[®] is an excellent boll opener and may be used as a stand-alone product in warmer temperatures and well-cutout situations. Finish 6 Pro[®] exhibits a limited level of regrowth control and is generally a faster boll opener than ethephon. Finish 6 Pro[®] can be tankmixed with thidiazuron, phosphate materials and Ginstar[®]. **Labeled Rates: 1.33 – 2.33 pints per acre.**
- **FirstPick[™]:** FirstPick[™] also contains the boll opener ethephon and a synergist, urea sulfate. FirstPick[™] is an excellent boll opener and is usually applied in tank mixture with other harvest aids. Acceptable defoliation with FirstPick[™] alone requires mature cotton and warm weather. In cases of rank growth and/or cool weather, the addition of Def[®] or Folex[®] is recommended. To suppress regrowth, the addition of Dropp[®] or FreeFall[™] is recommended. **Labeled Rates: 1.5 – 3.5 quarts per acre.**
- **Prep[®], Ethephon 6:** Ethephon is a boll-opening material that also enhances defoliation when applied in combination with other harvest aids. Acceptable defoliation with ethephon alone usually requires mature leaves, warm weather and high use rates. Ethephon does not help bolls mature but helps open mature and immature bolls. The addition of Dropp[®] or FreeFall[™] is recommended in cases where regrowth is expected. **Labeled Rates: 1.33 – 2.33 pints per acre.**

Desiccants

- **Paraquat (Gramoxone Inteon[™]; Firestorm[®]):** Paraquat can aid in opening of mature bolls when 3.1 to 5 oz/A are applied in combination with Def[®], Folex[®], Dropp[®], Harvade[®] or ethephon. Development of immature bolls will be inhibited by paraquat application. Paraquat is not recommended for use as a defoliant or boll opener for spindle-picked cotton unless a freeze is imminent. Use higher rates for desiccation of weeds and for stripper-harvested cotton. **Labeled Rates: 3.1 – 32 oz per acre.**
- **Sodium Chlorate (numerous brands available):** Higher rates of sodium chlorate may act as a desiccant, tending to stick leaves on the cotton plant. At normal use rates for defoliation, sodium chlorate is generally not as effective as the other defoliants. It is not a strong inhibitor of terminal growth. Do not mix the chlorates with phosphate defoliants, phosphate insecticides or Prep[®].

Defoliating Drought-Stressed and Rank Cotton

Drought-stressed cotton often has thick cuticles and leathery leaves that inhibit the uptake of many defoliants. The potential for regrowth is often high due to unused nitrogen remaining after premature cutout. Uptake of Dropp[®] or FreeFall[™] appears to be slightly inhibited in drought-stressed cotton, and higher rates and/or surfactants may be needed. Dropp SC[®], FreeFall SC[™] and Ginstar[®] are liquid formulations

of thidiazuron, and limited research suggests that their uptake may be less affected by drought-stressed cotton than FreeFall WP™. Tank mixtures with Def® or Folex®, as well as the addition of silicone surfactants or ammonium sulfate, have been shown to increase the uptake of Dropp® or FreeFall™ in drought-stressed cotton. However, use caution when applying higher rates or adjuvants in warmer weather, as desiccation and stuck leaves may result.

Obtaining adequate spray coverage makes defoliation of rank cotton challenging. A common mistake is to increase rates in an effort to achieve better defoliation. Increased rates are likely to cause leaf desiccation at the top of the plant because most spray solution is intercepted there. In rank situations, the best approach is to apply normal rates, keeping in mind that a second application is likely to be necessary. Rank cotton is generally more difficult to defoliate than normal cotton. However, if effective defoliation is achieved in the first application, the second application may not require high application rates of selected products or complex tank mixes. Additionally, a boll opener can be more effective if added to the second application due to increased coverage.

Drought-stressed cotton tends to have thicker cuticles that limit the penetration of some products. Addition of an approved adjuvant to hormonal-type harvest aid materials such as Dropp®/FreeFall™ or FirstPick™ may improve defoliation when applied to drought-stressed cotton or when 60°-65°F nighttime temperatures are expected. However, use of adjuvants with Ginstar® is not recommended due to increased likelihood of leaf desiccation, especially during periods of high temperatures. In addition, during high temperature situations, combinations of herbicidal-type defoliant may desiccate leaves. Regrowth is often a problem if rainfall occurs following application. Regrowth can be a concern with applications of Def® or Folex® alone or tankmixed with ethephon, depending on moisture conditions and temperature following application. Activity of most defoliant is reduced under cooler conditions at which time higher application rates will be needed. Regrowth is generally not as big a concern during periods of cooler weather compared to warmer weather. Boll openers should be added to all treatments to promote boll opening at least three but preferably five days in advance of freezing temperatures.

Rotational Crop Restrictions

Producers who wish to follow a cotton crop with a small grain such as wheat should observe the following re-crop intervals to prevent injury or loss of stand with the wheat crop.

Table 1. Label restrictions for planting small grains following harvest aid application in cotton.

Harvest Aid	Small Grain Re-Crop Interval
Def® 6	None
Folex® 6	None
Harvade® 5F	6 months
Ginstar®	1 month
Aim®	None
ET®	None
Dropp SC®	14 days
FreeFall™	14 days
Finish® 6 Pro	1 month
FirstPick™	30 days
Glyphosate	None
Ethephon	30 days
Paraquat	None
Sodium Chlorate	None

Additional Questions

Additional questions regarding information contained within this guide may be directed to your local Extension specialist.

Disclaimer

Information contained within this publication is intended to serve as a guide with regard to cotton defoliation. Many factors influence activity of harvest aid materials. Leaf desiccation and stuck leaves may result with any harvest aid application. Use this guide and previous experience when selecting harvest aid programs.



Table 2. Use pattern and expected activity for defoliant and desiccants.

Harvest Aid ¹	Labeled Broadcast Rate/Acre	Max. Use Per Season	Rain-Free Period (hours) ²	Pre-Harvest Interval (days)	Estimated Min. Temp.	Mature Leaves	Juvenile Growth	Regrowth Prevention	Boll Opening
Def [®] 6	16-24 oz	24 oz	1	7	60 F	Excellent	Fair	Poor	None
Folex [®] 6	16-24 oz	24 oz	1	7	60 F	Excellent	Fair	Poor	None
Harvade [®] 5F	8-10 oz	14 oz	6	7	55 F	Excellent	Fair	Poor	None
Ginstar [®]	6.4-16 oz	16 oz	12	5	60 F	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	None
Aim [®]	0.5-1.6 oz	3.2 oz	8	7	55 F	Excellent	Excellent	Poor	None
ET [®]	1.5-2.75 oz	5.5 oz	1	7	55 F	Excellent	Excellent	Poor	None
Dropp [®] SC	1.6-6.4 oz	9.6 oz	24	5	65 F	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	None
FreeFall [™] WP	0.1-0.4 lb	0.6 lb	24	5	65 F	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	None
Finish [®] 6 Pro	21-42 oz	42 oz	6	7	60 F	Excellent	Poor	Fair	Excellent
FirstPick [™]	96-112 oz	112 oz	N/A	7	60 F	Excellent	Poor	Poor-Fair	Excellent
Glyphosate ³	11-44 oz	44 oz	4	7	55 F	Fair	Fair	Excellent	None
Ethephon	21-42 oz	42 oz	6	7	60 F	Fair	Poor	Poor	Excellent
Desiccants									
Paraquat	3.1-32	32	30 min.	3	55 F	Fair	Excellent	Poor	Fair
Sodium Chlorate	4.5 # ai	N/A	24	7	55 F	Fair	Fair	Poor	None

¹Addition of spray adjuvants may enhance defoliation during cold temperatures or when leaves are tough from drought-stressed conditions. However, adjuvants may increase leaf desiccation during the early season when temperatures are warm.

²Expected rain-free periods are estimates only and may or may not be exact. Other conditions, including temperature, moisture and crop status, will play a role in product performance.

³Non-glyphosate tolerant (Roundup Ready Flex[®]) varieties only.

Defoliation Program Selection Guide

Maximum Daytime Temperature Greater than 80°F

- High Regrowth Potential
 - Boll Opening Needed
 - One-Pass Program. Category 1
 - Two-Pass Program. Category 2
 - Boll Opening Not Needed
 - One-Pass Program. Category 3
 - Two-Pass Program. Category 4
- Low Regrowth Potential
 - Boll Opening Needed
 - One-Pass Program. Category 5
 - Two-Pass Program. Category 6
 - Boll Opening Not Needed
 - One-Pass Program. Category 7
 - Two-Pass Program. Category 8

Maximum Daytime Temperature Less than 80°F

- Boll Opening Needed
 - Two-Pass Program Category 9
- Boll Opening Not Needed
 - One-Pass Program Category 10
 - Two-Pass Program Category 11

Defoliation Program Product Selection Guide

Category 1 – Warm temperatures; high regrowth potential; boll opening needed; one-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + ethephon 26 – 32 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4.0 oz + ethephon 21 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 21 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + FirstPick 1.5 – 2.0 qts/A

Category 2 – Warm temperatures; high regrowth potential; boll opening needed; two-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 1.6 + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC + ethephon 8 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A* + ethephon 32 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + ethephon 8 – 16 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A* + ethephon 26 – 32 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 21 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + FirstPick 1.5 – 2.0 qts/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 oz/A + ethephon 21 oz/A or Finish 6 Pro 21 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Dropp/FreeFall 2.0 – 3.0 oz/A + Def/Folex 4 – 6 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 8 – 10 oz/A or Aim 1 oz/A* + ethephon 26 – 32 oz/A
Finish 6 Pro 1.5 – 2.0 pt/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
FirstPick 2.0 qt/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*

Category 3 – Warm temperatures; high regrowth potential; one-pass program; boll opening not required

Dropp/FreeFall 3 – 4 oz/A + 0.25% NIS
Dropp/FreeFall 2 – 3 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4 – 6 oz/A
Ginstar 5 – 8 oz/A

Category 4 – Warm temperatures; high regrowth potential; two-pass program; boll opening not required

Dropp/FreeFall 3 – 4 oz/A + 0.25% NIS fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Ginstar 5 – 8 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*

Category 5 – Warm temperatures; low regrowth potential; boll opening needed; one-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + ethephon 21 – 26 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4.0 oz/A + ethephon 21 – 26 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 21 – 26 oz/A
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + FirstPick 1.5 – 2.0 qts/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 6 – 12 oz/A + ethephon 26 – 32 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 6 – 12 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 21 – 26 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 6 – 12 oz/A + FirstPick 1.5 – 2.0 qts/A

Category 6 – Warm temperatures; low regrowth potential; boll opening needed; two-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4.0 oz + ethephon 21 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 21 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + FirstPick 1.5 – 2.0 qts/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Def/Folex 4 – 6 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 8 – 10 oz/A or Aim 1 oz/A* + ethephon 26 – 32 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 0.5 pt/A + ethephon 21 oz/A or Finish 6 Pro 21 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Finish 6 Pro 1.5 – 2.0 pt/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
FirstPick 2.0 qt/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 1.0 pt/A or Aim 1 oz/A*

Defoliation Program Product Selection Guide (cont.)

Category 7 – Warm temperatures; low regrowth potential; one-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + 0.25% NIS
Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4 – 8 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 – 16 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 8 – 12 oz/A + ethephon 8 – 12 oz/A
Ginstar 5 oz/A

Category 8 – Warm temperatures; low regrowth potential; two-pass program

Dropp/FreeFall 1.5 oz/A + Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 4 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 oz/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 8 – 12 oz/A + ethephon 8 – 12 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 – 16 oz/A
Ginstar 5 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 oz/A or Aim 1 oz/A*

Category 9 – Cooler temperatures; boll opening needed; two-pass program

Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 – 16 oz/A + ethephon 32 – 40 oz/A or Finish 6 Pro 26 – 32 oz/A
Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 12 – 16 oz/A + FirstPick 2 qt/A
Finish 6 Pro 32 oz/A + Aim 0.75 oz/A**
FirstPick 2 qt/A + Aim 0.75 oz/A**
Ginstar 6 – 9 oz/A + ethephon 32 oz/A
Ginstar 6 – 9 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 32 oz/A

Category 10 – Cooler temperatures; one-pass program

Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 16 oz/A + Finish 6 Pro 24 oz/A
Finish 6 Pro 32 oz/A
FirstPick 2 qt/A + Aim 1 oz/A*
Ginstar 7 – 9 oz/A

Category 11 – Cooler temperatures; two-pass program

Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 16 oz/A fb Def 6 EC/Folex 6 EC 16 oz/A or Aim 1 oz/A*
Aim 0.75 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Finish 6 Pro 24 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
FirstPick 2 qt/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*
Ginstar 7 – 9 oz/A fb Aim 1 oz/A*

* ET at 1.5 fl oz/A may be substituted for 1 oz/A Aim.

** ET at 1.3 fl oz/A may be substituted for 0.75 oz/A Aim.



ARKANSAS CONTACT

L. THOMAS BARBER, associate professor and Extension cotton agronomist, University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Little Rock, Arkansas.

University of Arkansas, United States Department of Agriculture and County Governments Cooperating

Printed by University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service Printing Services.

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MP503-PD-8-11N