

## 2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards

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### 1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

### 2. Fiscal Year

2024

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Advisory Committee on Universal Cotton Standards

### 3b. GSA

### Committee No.

1260

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

06/01/2023 06/01/2025

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

### 7. Expected Term Date

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

Pub Law 97-35;  
U.S.C. Sec. 61(

### 8c. Actual Term Date

10/18/2014

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority

Authorized by Law

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

Pub Law 97-35; U.S.C.  
Sec. 61(a)

### 13. Effective Date

06/19/2000

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for  
this Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open

0

### 17b. Closed

0

### 17c. Partially Closed

0

### Other Activities

0

### 17d. Total

0

### Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$12,300.00	\$6,500.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$10,000.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)</b>	\$7,700.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Total</b>	\$60,000.00	\$6,500.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.10	0.05

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The committee physically reviews freshly prepared sets of Universal Cotton Standards for conformity with the existing standards. They also make recommendations regarding the establishment or revision of cotton standards.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

Committee membership is balanced to represent

all segments of the cotton industry. Membership consists of 12 producers and ginneries, 6 merchants and 6 textile manufacturers. The overseas members are selected by merchants and textile manufacturing associations who are signatories to the Universal Cotton Standards Agreement with USDA. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership shall include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women and persons with disabilities. Efforts will also be made to obtain geographic balance in committee representation across cotton production areas. Candidates for U.S. committee membership are identified by USDA through outreach to U.S. cotton industry organizations, tribal governments, interest groups, historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, etc.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?**

This committee meets in conjunction with the Universal Cotton Standards Conference which takes place once every four years. The purpose is to physically review the Universal Cotton Grade Standards for American Upland cotton that are prepared by USDA. The committee also makes recommendations regarding the establishment or revision of the Universal Cotton Standards.

**20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

This is the only group with representation of all segments of the U.S. cotton industry and representatives of overseas cotton merchants and textile manufacturers that are directly involved in

cotton trading utilizing the Universal Cotton Standards. Their recommendations are essential to USDA in maintaining cotton standards which will support the pre-eminent position of American grown cotton in the world market.

**20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

**21. Remarks**

The charter was reestablished on June 1, 2023. FY23 work to solicit for nominations and seat members. The next committee meeting is scheduled for June 2024.

**Designated Federal Officer**

Gretchen R Deatherage Director, Standardization & Engineering Division

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Bamonte, Kimberly	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
Barber, Caroline	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Barrier, Frederick	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Cooperative	Representative Member
Batchelder, Ellen	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Merchant	Representative Member
Bowen, William	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
Carbonel, Adriane	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Ginner	Representative Member
Elzie, Bryan	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Merchant	Representative Member
England, Cassy	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Evans, Rowan	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Ginner	Representative Member
Gaona, Richard	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Garcia, Carlos	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Cooperative	Representative Member
Jabbour, Kennett	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Merchant	Representative Member
Johnson, Patrick	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member

Lancaster, Christopher	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
McKinnon, James	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
Quinn, James	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
Reed, Nathan	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Rovey, Gerald	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Scott, Willie	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Subealdea, Jaime	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Ginner	Representative Member
Suddath, Mark	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Manufacturer	Representative Member
Vardeman, Lacy	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Producer	Representative Member
Walton, Bobby	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Merchant	Representative Member
Williams, John	01/31/2024	01/31/2026	Cotton Ginner	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 24**

### Narrative Description

The Committee provides the means for cotton industry input to the USDA in the development of cotton classification standards. This committee ensures that USDA's Universal Cotton Standards remain relevant to the needs of the cotton trade.

### What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if  
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Outcome Comments

Facilitates the trading of U.S. grown cotton both domestically and internationally.

### What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Cost Savings Comments

The Universal Cotton Standards provide the U.S. and international cotton industries with a globally accepted standard for cotton trading. The existence of the Universal Cotton Standards minimizes the need for the creation and production of other physical standards. This results in tremendous cost savings to the U.S. and international cotton industries.

### What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

0

### Number of Recommendations Comments

### What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

%

### % of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

### What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

## **% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

NA

## **Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

## **Agency Feedback Comments**

Feedback is provided to the committee at Universal Cotton Standards Conferences and by written communications directly to committee members. Feedback is also provided to the general cotton industry through presentations at cotton industry sponsored meetings.

## **What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **Action Comments**

Planning for the next Committee meeting in 2024 as recommended by the cotton industry segments.

## **Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

## **Grant Review Comments**

NA

## **How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>

Online GSA FACA Web Site



Publications



Other



### **Access Comments**

The agency web site for the Universal Cotton Standards Advisory Committee can be found at:<https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/facas-advisory-councils/acucs>