



# Course Outline and Registration Information



Entering its 39th year of classes, the ginners school will be offered at three locations in 2026. Cooperators for the school include USDA-ARS, National Cotton Ginners Association and its member associations, National Cotton Council, Cotton Incorporated, gin machinery/equipment manufacturers and suppliers, Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Services, and select land grant universities.

**National Cotton Ginners Association**  
P.O. Box 2995  
Cordova, TN 38088-2995  
<https://ncga.cotton.org/ginschool/>

## Southwest Ginners School

**April 6-8, 2026**

South Plains Ginning Laboratory  
1604 East FM 1294  
Lubbock, TX 79403

## Western Ginners School

**May 5-7, 2026**

Southwestern Cotton Ginning Research Laboratory  
300 E College Street  
Mesilla Park, NM 88047

## Stoneville Ginners School

**June 2-4, 2026**

USDA Ginning Research  
Laboratory 111 Experiment Station  
Road Stoneville, MS 38776

## Course Outlines

Each level of ginners school coursework is built on the previous level of instruction, with Level I as the foundation. Therefore, the school's coordinators strongly recommend that beginning students, regardless of gin experience, start with Level I. Levels I, II and III are all three-day courses, therefore students enroll for one level per school. The 2026 Continuing Education schedule is being developed and may be different for each of the three schools. Please note that the information included in Continuing Education session may not be suitable for all certified ginners, and therefore, may want to consider Level III as an alternative.

### Level I

- Introduction to Cotton Ginning and the Industry
- Maintenance of Auxiliary Gin Components
- Basic Hydraulics
- Basic Gin Safety
- Maintenance and Adjustments for Seed Cotton Cleaners, Gin Stands, and Lint Cleaners
- Air Utilization and Drying
- Electricity in the Gin

### Level II

- Purpose and Operating Principles of Individual Gin Machines
- Efficient Operation, Adjustment, and Maintenance of Gin Equipment
- Pneumatics and Waste Collection
- Electrical Systems
- Hydraulic Systems
- Gin Safety
- Management Tips

### Level III

- Review of Functions of a Ginning System
- Electrical Systems
- Air Systems in the Gin
- Drying and Moisture Restoration Systems
- Matching Machinery Capacities in the System
- Seed Cotton Unloading Systems and Management of Seed Cotton Handling Systems
- Bale Presses and Hydraulic Systems
- Safety Programs and Labor Regulations
- Cottonseed Handling Systems

### Continuing Education Course Offerings in Development:

In addition to three levels, all schools will feature a two-day Continuing Education (CE) course.

Topics for each school are currently being developed and may vary with regional interests and speaker availability.

**Please note the CE courses are the first two days of the schools. Monday and Tuesday for the Southwest school and Tuesday and Wednesday for the Western and Stoneville schools.**

### All Schools

Harrison Ashley or Jana Jackins  
National Cotton Ginners Association  
(901) 274-9030

### Southwest School

Greg Holt  
South Plains Ginning Laboratory  
(806) 746-5353

### Stoneville School

Chris Delhom  
Stoneville Ginning Laboratory  
(662) 686-3095

### Western School

Derek Whitelock  
Southwestern Cotton  
Ginning Research Laboratory  
(575) 526-6381

# Cotton Ginner Certification Program

*In conjunction with the schools, National Cotton Ginners Association is offering a Cotton Ginner Certification Program.*

## **Certification Program requirements are:**

- Completion of all three levels of instruction or, with equivalent experience for Level I, completion of Levels II and III.
- Red Cross Standard or other OSHA-approved first aid certification.
- Written recommendation from an established ginner, detailing the applicant's knowledge, skill, experience, and character.
- Satisfactory performance on a comprehensive written examination covering practical aspects of gin operation.
- Minimum three years experience working for a commercial ginning operation.
- Membership in National Cotton Ginners Association, constituted by active membership in one of its member associations as follows: Arizona Cotton Ginners Association, California Cotton Ginners Association, Oklahoma Cotton Council, New Mexico Cotton Ginners Association, Ginners Committee of Kansas Cotton Association, Southeastern Cotton Ginners Association, Southern Cotton Ginners Association, and Texas Cotton Ginners Association.
- Upon completion of the initial certification requirements, continuing education course work credit will be required to maintain certification. Continuing education courses will be offered in conjunction with all three 2025 schools. Continuing education registration information will be mailed to participants in the certification program.
- The Certification Program is optional for each school participant.
- The Certification Program written examination will be offered at each school in 2026.

## **Register Online**

**at [www.cotton.org/NCGA/ginschool](http://www.cotton.org/NCGA/ginschool) and click on the Gin School Registration Link**



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