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## **NEW MEXICO RESEARCHER RECEIVES COTTON GENETICS AWARD**

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (Special) -- Dr. Dick D. Davis, professor of cotton breeding and genetics at New Mexico State University, is the recipient of the 1992 Cotton Genetics Award.

The announcement was made during the Beltwide Cotton Conferences in New Orleans earlier this month.

Commercial cotton breeders have given a special award to a scientist for outstanding basic research in cotton genetics for the past 30 years. Criteria for the award are established by the Joint Cotton Breeding Policy Committee comprised of representatives from state experiment stations, USDA, private breeders and the National Cotton Council.

Dr. Davis has had a long and successful career in cotton genetics research. He has authored or co-authored 34 articles on cotton genetics and hybrid cotton research.

The New Mexico researcher is best known for his pioneering research on cotton hybrids, particularly interspecific hybrids. Dr. Davis has served for 28 years as an integral member of the team developing the New Mexico cotton varieties, renowned throughout the world for their high fiber quality. His contributions have largely been in the host-plant resistance to diseases.

In addition, he is cooperating in the host-plant resistance part of a larger AID project on biocontrol in Egyptian cotton. These efforts should also prove to be extremely beneficial to the U.S. cotton industry, especially in resistance to the cotton bollworm, tobacco budworm, and lygus.

"Dr. Davis' dedication to the area of cotton research is to be admired by all of us," said Dr. John R. Gannaway of Texas A & M University's Agricultural Experiment Station. "His

persistence, optimism and realistic approaches have been the source of encouragement for many of us working in the hybrid cotton arena. His commitment to the cotton industry is not only evidenced through his direct efforts as a cotton geneticist, but also as he strives to assist graduate students in their efforts to further education."

Dr. Davis received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from Oklahoma State University. He has been on the faculty at New Mexico State since 1964.

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