

Screen of Different Cotton Varieties under Dry Land Conditions in Namibia

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Cotton has been identified as a crop with promising potential in Namibia. As such, cotton variety evaluation trials have been conducted for yield, fiber qualities, resistance to diseases and pests, as well as adaptability to the climatic conditions. Some promising cultivars have been recommended for pre-release, and communal farmers have planted them under dry land conditions. Seeds have been obtained from neighboring South Africa and Zimbabwe, and this has complicated the evaluation process and cotton production. Namibia has experienced early season drought since 1997. It is against this background that the breeding program was established in Namibia.