

**INVESTIGATING THE INTERACTION OF PLANT AGE AND TIMING OF COTTON LEAFROLL
DWARF VIRUS INFECTION ON YIELD LOSS**

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Abstract

A three-year field study was conducted to examine whether disease caused by cotton leafroll dwarf virus (CLRDV) infection is influenced by the age of cotton plants at the time they are infected. We hypothesized that the younger the plants are at the time of infection, the greater the disease severity and yield loss. Viruliferous cotton aphids, *Aphis gossypii* Glover, were released into caged cotton plots to transmit CLRDV each week for 3-4 consecutive weeks beginning the week after emergence. Plots were arranged in a randomized complete block design with four replicates. Data on CLRDV incidence, plant mapping symptom rating, and lint yield will be presented.