



From the Secretariat

For Release April 1, 2011

## 17th CSITC ROUND TRIAL COMPLETED

The 17<sup>th</sup> Round Trial under the auspices of the Task Force on Commercial Standardization of Instrument Testing of Cotton (CSITC RT 2011-1) was conducted from January to March 2011. Seventy-six testing facilities participated in the Round Trial and submitted results for evaluation from 115 instruments. Summary results are available at [www.CSITC.org](http://www.CSITC.org).

**The typical inter-laboratory variations achieved by instrument testing, given as standard deviations, were:**

CSITC RT 2011-1

Property	Standard Deviation based on Single Tests	Standard Deviation based on 30 Tests/Sample
Micronaire	0.088 mic	0.071 mic
Strength	1.26 g/tex	1.02 g/tex
Length	0.017 inches	0.012 inches
Length Unif.	0.81 units	0.52 units
Color Rd	0.95 units	0.89 units
Color +b	0.36 units	0.29 units

Inter-laboratory variation for the color parameters of Rd and +b increased in 2010. However, the variations in this round trial were smaller, indicating that laboratory operators are able to utilize the detailed diagnostic information provided after each Round Trial in order to improve performance.

Laboratories are given an overall ranking, as well as rankings for performance on each of the six parameters. Results for each test center are confidential. Rankings are based on the results of each lab in coming closest to the mean (average) values for all laboratories participating in the Round Trial on all six parameters.

The range of scores for the combined properties among the 115 instruments was 0.22 to 1.66 (a score of zero would be perfect), and the median overall evaluation of combined properties was 0.50.

Besides the 6 parameters for ranking, 4 additional parameters were evaluated for informational purposes: Short Fiber Index (SFI), Maturity, Trash Area and Trash Count. The inter-laboratory variations for the four experimental parameters are higher than for the 6 CSITC approved parameters. Therefore, laboratories are not evaluated on their ability to test for the new parameters. Nevertheless, information from the tests of the new parameters are reported on the CSITC web site, [www.csitc.org](http://www.csitc.org).

-----  
Press releases are available via e-mail. Register online for this free service at:  
<https://1/21/2011www.icac.org/cart/register.php?newsletter=1>

The Secretariat of the Committee publishes information related to world cotton production, supply, demand and prices, and provides technical information on cotton production technology. Detailed statistics are found bimonthly in *COTTON: Review of the World Situation*, \$185 per year via email, \$230 per year in hard copy. A monthly outlook is available by email for \$295 per year. Access to the latest weekly estimates of world cotton supply and use by the Secretariat is available on the Internet for \$460 per year. Access Secretariat reports at <[www.icac.org](http://www.icac.org)>.