

Battalion Classifieds

Study shows processing raw cotton in Texas could help state economy

By Sharon Maberry STAFF WRITER

Processing cotton in Texas rather than selling it in raw form to buyers outside the state could enhance Texas' economy, according to a study by the Texas A&M agricultural engineering department and the Texas Agribusiness Electric Council.

Spinning raw cotton into yarn adds about \$1 per pound to the market value and weaving yarn into fabric adds another dollar per pound.

Stark said that although Texas has had textile mills, many did not update technologically in the 1960s and could not compete with mills in other states.

The primary focus of the study was to determine if processing cotton in Texas is economically feasible, Stark said.

'We've put together five different feasibility studies for different types of textile mills,' he said of the study, which was conducted from June of 1988 to February. 'We examined the return on investment to see if they would make money, and they all had favorable returns on investment.'

The mill with the lowest cost had capital costs, including land, equipment and building costs, of \$14 million and would employ 68 people with a yearly payroll of \$1.4 million, he said. It would produce about 11 million pounds of yarn from raw

cotton per year, which would earn about \$13.8 million in revenue. The mill would buy raw cotton and sell the yarn it produced for the manufacture of T-shirts and similar products.

The largest mill in the feasibility study would produce about 13.7 million T-shirts per year and would sell them for about \$30.8 million, Stark said. Capital costs would be about \$9 million and the mill would employ 468 people with an annual payroll of \$7.3 million.

'A lot of entrepreneurs in the state have been giving this (processing cotton) some thought for a long time,' Stark said. 'Entities that might be interested in starting textile mills in Texas would be primarily large corporations looking to diversify or possibly a cooperative venture between a number of different producers.'

Now that the study is completed, the council is promoting the idea of processing cotton throughout the state. It's an ideal time to present the idea, he said.

'In the past, Texas has relied on the oil and gas industry so much that we've never been forced to broaden and diversify our economy,' Stark said.

'I think the interest in processing cotton in Texas will be high.'

Stark said southeastern states have Texas cotton at low costs because it has a reputation for inferiority in the textile industry.

'This perception is held over from the ring spinning of yarns Stark said. 'A newer method, called open-ended spinning, better utilizes the qualities of Texas cotton.'

'Also, there's a new computerized cotton grading system that grades Texas cotton better than the traditional grading system by humans. The computerized grading system, being widely used, is much more accurate than grading by humans and it takes into account Texas cotton's high strength qualities.'

Processing cotton in Texas rather than selling it in raw form to buyers outside the state could enhance Texas' economy, according to a study by the Texas A&M agricultural engineering department and the Texas Agribusiness Electric Council. The council is an organization of 10 investor-owned electric utilities in Texas. 'We grow 32 percent of U.S. cotton in Texas, but only about 4 percent of that crop is processed in the state,' said Greg Stark, executive director of the council. 'About 37 percent of the Texas cotton crop goes to the southeastern states and about 55 percent of the Texas crop goes to foreign export markets.'

Report

(Continued from page 1)

money he ever received was from former receivers coach George Pugh, Matey and Paulson in June and September 1988. Smith's statement says he knew Pugh and Matey but didn't recognize Paulson's name.

Matey's statement says he had never met nor known Smith.

'The point is, I didn't know George Smith personally or by reputation; didn't know he was a former football player; didn't know of any relationship that existed with anyone,' Matey's statement says.

Paulson's statement says Matey once told him 'he didn't know George Smith from Adam.'

Smith's statement also goes against statements in the Nov. 18 story by Doug Bedell, a Morning News reporter, which said Bedell witnessed Smith open an overnight letter from Matey containing \$500.

'Although Mr. Bedell claims he saw the five \$100 bills when this letter was opened, that is not true,' Smith's statement reads. 'I received that letter at noon that day and opened and deposited the money before ever meeting with Mr. Bedell

later that afternoon.'

In his statement, Smith says he thought Bedell 'had a basic dislike for Jackie Sherrill and (Bedell) said to me that no one likes Jackie Sherrill anyway, he's such a jerk.' Smith's statement says Bedell told him the NCAA wanted to 'get Jackie Sherrill' and that the NCAA thought Sherrill had covered up evidence during the probe into A&M's athletic program. The statement says Smith 'didn't know the truth of those statements.'

The report was released under the Texas Open Records Act, but many paragraphs have been deleted including 17 lines of Smith's five-page testimony and five pages of Sherrill's 16-page testimony.

The report's cover letter, written by Lane Stephenson, director of A&M's public information office, says, 'most of the deletions relate to restriction on release of information pertaining to students as stipulated in federal law commonly known as the 'Buckley Amendment.'

The report also contains an agreement between Smith and Bedell binding Smith to 'be truthful in the information he provides' and 'cooperate with counsel for Bedell

and/or the Morning News in the event that any written version of the interviews should result in any legal action.'

According to the agreement, Bedell could only write newspaper stories from Smith's interviews after a proposal was prepared for the book the two were working on. At the Nov. 19 news conference where he recanted his statements to Bedell, Smith said he never saw the proposal for the book.

In Smith's affidavit, Smith said he thinks Bedell broke the agreement.

'I did not make the incorrect statements for use as a news story, but only for the book, and the news story release was done, in my opinion, in violation of the agreement I had with Mr. Bedell,' the statement says.

The agreement's final paragraph states that 'the Dallas Morning News has not paid, nor will it pay, any financial consideration or any other form of gratuity to George Smith in connection with this agreement.'

A Dec. 19 memorandum from Charley Clark, director of the University's Internal Audit, details the findings of the first internal report. Clark's memo says the only evidence

found were overnight mailings to Smith on Nov. 18, 1986 and Jan. 25, 1988. The memo says the 'actual contents of the above express envelopes are unknown at this time.'

The Internal Audit investigation did discover that a man Smith knew only as 'Bill from Lampasas' frequently bought Smith's complimentary tickets, the report says. The report says Sherrill became aware of the situation when 'Bill' left \$1,600 for Smith at Christmas 1982. At that point, Sherrill told Smith to stop his dealings with 'Bill.'

Clark's investigation included review of all A&M long-distance telephone records between May and November 1988 to or from George Clark reported 12 calls either made to or from Smith's home number, including three calls to or from Pugh's home on the evening of Nov. 16 for a total of 127 minutes.

Phone records included with the report show calls to the home of Lois Phillips, the mother of Smith's fiancée, on Nov. 16 for a total of 127 minutes.

Smith told the Morning News Nov. 17 he decided to recant his story after talking to Pugh's wife.

Haitian soldiers thwart military coup attempt

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Shooting broke out early Sunday near the presidential palace, and a source close to the government said loyal soldiers had foiled an attempt to overthrow the government of Lt. Gen. Prosper Avril.

A few hours earlier, sources in Haiti said military commanders had ousted the 6-month-old government. It would have been the third coup in this Caribbean country in less than a year.

There was no way to immediately confirm any of the reports, which came four days after four top army officers were discharged after being accused of drug trafficking.

Haiti's international airport was closed, a move taken after previous coups, and large numbers of soldiers were at the palace and on the streets.

State-run radio and television continued regular programming and made no mention of a coup several hours after the initial reports of shooting.

Susan Clyde, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Haiti, said there were 'reports that there has been a change of government,' but that the capital of Port-au-Prince appeared calm.

Five soldiers of the Presidential Guard arrived at independent radio station Liberte at 11:45 a.m. to deny

the reports Avril had been ousted.

An announcement read by a soldier identified only as Georges Metayer said: 'President Avril is in the National Palace. There's no problem in the army.'

A source close to the government said soldiers in the Presidential Guard had foiled rebels who tried to stage a coup.

A Haitian government source said shortly after daybreak three military officers, including Maj. Gen. Herard Abraham, the army commander-in-chief, had overthrown Avril and that Abraham was placed in charge of the government. The source spoke on condition of anonymity.

One source said, however, that Abraham had refused to accept the presidency. Abraham was foreign minister under the government of Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy, whom Avril replaced.

There were other unconfirmed reports from sources that Avril and Col. Acedius Saint-Louis, the interior and defense minister, were being held at the Leopard Corps barracks in suburban Port-au-Prince.

Richard Melton, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for Caribbean affairs, visited Haiti on Monday and told Avril that U.S. aid depended partly on Haiti's efforts to crack down on the drug trade.

In Advance

Peace Corps recruits volunteers at A&M

Peace Corps recruiters from the Dallas office will be at Texas A&M Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in hopes of recruiting some of the 3,300 needed volunteers for 1989.

The Peace Corps will be inviting up to 3,500 new volunteers this year, 2,000 of which will be recent college graduates, according to a Peace Corps release. The majors most requested by the host countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Pacific are biology, allied health, secondary education, business and elementary education.

In addition to these specially skilled graduates, the Peace Corps will train and place at least

525 liberal arts generalists in agriculture or forestry extension, education, health extension, fisheries, community service, home economics extension, general construction and others.

The Dallas Peace Corps recruiters will be answering questions from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at an information table in the MSC. There will be a film seminar Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Rudder Tower.

On campus interviews for career planning and placement will be Thursday.

For more information, call toll free 1-800-442-7249.

Author discusses American peace movement

Paul Loeb, author of 'Nuclear Culture' and 'Hope in Hard Times,' will discuss the peace movement of the 1980s at 7:30 tonight in 701 Rudder in a lecture sponsored by MSC Great Issues. Loeb will tell the audience how he thinks they can make a difference in today's world.

Loeb's books, in which he explores the resurging peace movement and the effects of nuclear weapons on American com-

munities, have been praised by authors such as Kurt Vonnegut and Studs Terkel, as well as various publications.

The Chicago Tribune said Loeb's book 'Nuclear Culture' is 'vivid, sympathetic and chilling to the bone.'

Loeb is writing a book on the world view of American college students.

Admission to the lecture is free.

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URINARY TRACT INFECTION STUDY

If you PRESENTLY have the following signs and symptoms call to see if you are eligible to participate in a new Urinary Tract Infection Study. Eligible volunteers will be compensated.

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NEW ENGLAND BROTHER/SISTER CAMPS (mass.) Mah-kee-Nac for boys/Danbee for girls. Counselor positions for Program Specialists: All team sports, especially baseball, basketball, field hockey, soccer and volleyball; 25 Tennis openings; also Archery, Rifle, and Biking; other openings include Performing Arts, Fine Arts, Yearbook, Photography, Cooking, Sewing, Roller-skating, Rocketry, Ropes, Camp Craft; All Waterfront activities (swimming, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing/kayak). Inquire J&D Camping (Boys) 190 Linden Avenue, Glen Ridge, N.J. 07028; Action Camping (Girls) 263 Main Road, Montville, N.J. 07045. Phone (Boys) 201-429-8522; (Girls) 201-316-6660. 12404/06

NEW ENGLAND BROTHER/SISTER CAMPS (mass.) Mah-kee-Nac for Boys/Danbee for Girls. Counselor positions for program Specialists: All Team Sports, especially baseball, basketball, field hockey, soccer, and volleyball; 25 tennis openings; also archery, rifle, and biking; other openings include performing arts, fine arts, yearbook, photography, cooking, sewing, rollerskating, rocketry, ropes, camp craft; All waterfront activities (swimming, skiing, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing/kayak). Inquire J&D Camping (Boys) 190 Linden Ave., Glen Ridge, NJ 07028; Action Camping (Girls) 263 Main Road, Montville, NJ 07045. Phone (Boys) 201-429-8522; (Girls) 201-316-6660. 11404/04

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The College Station Parks and Recreation Aquatics Division is now offering courses in CPR, Standard 1st Aid, National Pool and Waterpark Lifeguard Training, Advanced Lifesaving, Lifeguarding, and Water Safety Instruction. For more information please call the Parks and Recreation office at 764-3773. 1188/05

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