

Challenges and Opportunities Facing the U.S. Cotton Industry

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Memphis, Tennessee



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The U.S. cotton industry is facing a number of serious challenges and opportunities. These include:

- Competitively meeting the demands of a newly restructured customer base,
- Debate of the new farm bill,
- Resolving the cotton trade dispute with Brazil, and
- Negotiating new trade agreements.

In the seminar, Dr. Slinsky will provide an overview of the U.S. cotton industry and provide background information on domestic and trade policy issues. In particular, he will share key issues that have potential to impact the outcome of the challenges and opportunities facing the industry and provide insight into how U.S. agricultural interests view the farm policy debate.

About Dr. Slinsky ...

Dr. Slinsky joined the National Cotton Council as a Senior Economist in December, 2003. His responsibilities include the assessment of U.S. and world cotton market conditions, the analysis of U.S. cotton program provisions and trade policy issues, the assessment of risk management programs, and the analysis of various material and information flow issues.

Prior to joining the Council, Steve received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics at Purdue University, where he specialized in Risk Management and Production Economics. While at Purdue, he conducted agri-business research and taught agri-business and economics courses. He was awarded the 2003 Purdue University Graduate Teaching Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Steve went to Purdue after spending seven years with the Agricultural Policy Analysis Center (APAC) located at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he earned his B.S. in Animal Science and M.S. in Agricultural Economics.

Steve resides in Olive Branch, Mississippi, with his wife Michelle and three sons.