



® **SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY
QUALITY COTTON GROWERS ASSOCIATION**

GROWER MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND AGREEMENT

Member applicant and the San Joaquin Valley Quality Cotton Growers Association (“Association”) hereby agree as follows:

1. The Association is a Non-Profit Mutual Benefit Corporation.
2. Membership in the Association is not transferable.
3. Each member is entitled to one (1) vote in the affairs of the Association.

4. The Association shall **annually approve cotton varieties** which can be marketed as “Association Approved Cottons” as determined by the Association’s Board. These approved varieties shall be identified for the membership by January 15 of each year. **Members may plant any variety of cotton they so choose, however, only those varieties that have been approved by the Association’s Board may be marketed as “Association Approved Cottons.”** Until otherwise determined by the Association’s Board, all members shall adhere to the following:

(a) The current approved cotton varieties are ACALA’s and PIMA’s, which have gone through the San Joaquin Valley Cotton Board Testing program and have exceeded the standard as approved by said Board in some meaningful respect and/or **have been approved by the Association’s Board.**

(b) All members shall implement a **sticky free cotton production program** whereby their cotton shall be overseen and monitored by a pest control advisor (PCA) utilizing a scouting program to ensure that the cotton is sticky free. Said PCA shall be retained and paid by the individual member. This sticky free program shall continue until the cotton is harvested and any and all necessary treatments required there under shall be administered up until the time of harvest. The Association shall create a committee of members to develop detailed protocols, which shall govern the administration of the sticky free program.

(c) All members shall implement a **contaminant free cotton program** and shall ensure that any cotton gins involved in the processing of the cotton adhere to said program. The program shall include the routine monitoring of the cotton fields for contaminants and shall encompass the total harvesting process, including picking, moduling and hauling to the gin, to ensure that all cotton is contaminant free. The Association shall create a committee of members to develop detailed protocols, which shall govern the administration of the contaminant free program.

(d) **Only those cottons that meet the Association’s criteria for quality** may be packaged and marketed using the Association’s registered trademarks or logo.

5. The **term of this membership shall** be for one (1) year and shall **continue on a year-to-year basis thereafter, unless terminated** in accordance with the Bylaws or as stated herein. Either party shall have the right and privilege to terminate Member’s membership in the Association and this Agreement upon giving written notice of termination to the other party between February 1 and February 15 of any year. Member shall be bound by the Association’s Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations now in existence or hereafter adopted or amended.

6. Member recognizes the Association’s right to promote, evaluate, handle, store, and facilitate the inclusion of all CCC Loan eligible cotton through its designated Loan Servicing Agency (LSA). Member agrees to market its cotton through an SJV ® Premium Marketing Pool or to give the Association the right to act as broker on Member’s behalf.

7. **A copy of the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws of the Association shall be made available to any member** and/or candidate for membership upon request made in writing to the Association’s Office: 4900 California Avenue, Suite 115-B, Bakersfield, California 93309.

8. This Agreement shall govern cotton that is produced by Member **beginning in the _____ crop year**, and shall become effective immediately at such time as it is signed by Member and an authorized representative of the Association.

Dated: _____, 20__ **MEMBER APPLICANT**

By _____ Federal ID or SS # (if individual) _____

Title _____ Phone # & or Email _____

Name of Entity _____ Approximate acreage to be marketed _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

APPLICATION ACCEPTED By _____ Date of Acceptance _____
