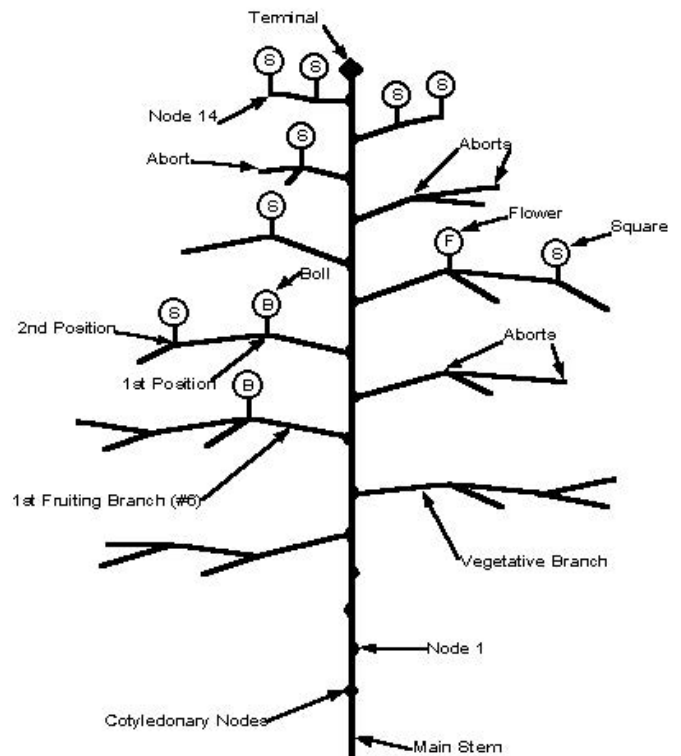# ESTIMATING FRUIT RETENTION - PROCEDURE

J. C. Silvertooth

1. Count Mainstem Nodes
   Ex.: Nodes = 14

2. Determine node of first fruiting branch(FFB)
   Ex.: FFB = 6

3. Determine Number of Vegetative Branches (VB)
   Ex.: FFB = 6
   Therefore, VB = 5 or FFB - 1 = VB = 5

4. Count number of aborted sites
   Pre-bloom: first position only
   Post first bloom: first two fruiting sites
   Ex.: Aborts = 7 (first 2 positions)

5. Determine total fruiting sites
   Total fruiting
   branches: FB = Nodes - VB
   Sites = FB x 2
   Ex: 14 Nodes - 5 VB = 9
   9 FB x 2 sites = 18 sites

6. Calculate % Fruit Retention (FR)
   Retained sites = Total sites - Aborts
   %FR = (retained sites/total sites) x 100
   Ex.: 18 sites - 7 aborts = 11 retained positions
   %FR = (11 retained sites/18 total sites) X 100= 61%

7. Refer to UA Baseline
   1. for stage of growth
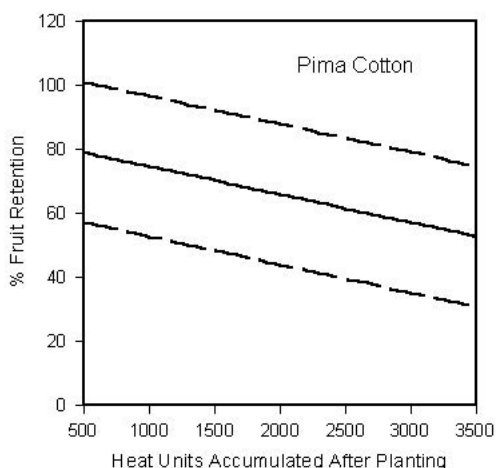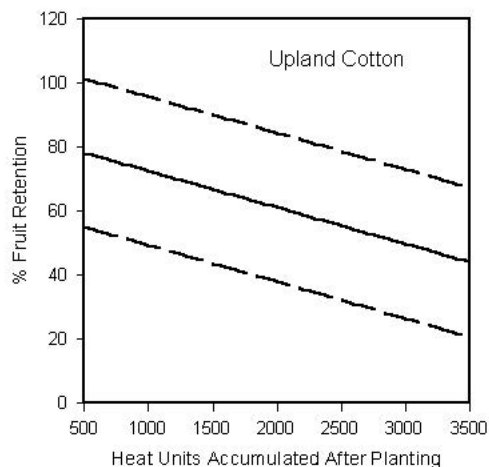   2. Heat Units After Planting (HUAP)

KEY:
FFB = first fruiting branch
VB = vegetative branch
FB = fruiting branch
FR = fruit retention
HUAP = Heat Units Accumulated since Planting (86/55°F thresholds)

Upland Cotton

% Fruit Retention vs Heat Units Accumulated After Planting

Pima Cotton

% Fruit Retention vs Heat Units Accumulated After Planting