Record Nr. UNINA9910816313403321 Autore Bennett Evan P. Titolo When tobacco was king: families, farm labor, and federal policy in the Piedmont / / Evan P. Bennett Pubbl/distr/stampa Gainesville, Florida: .: University Press of Florida, . [2014] ©2014 **ISBN** 0-8130-5059-6 0-8130-5508-3 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (166 p.) Disciplina 338.1/7371 Soggetti Tobacco - Southern States - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Introduction: a hornworm's-eye view of the tobacco South -- Family --Nota di contenuto Hands -- Tobacco-raising fools -- Cooperation -- Stabilization --Untied -- Buyout -- Conclusion: a dead end for the tobacco road?. "Tobacco has left an indelible mark on the American South, shaping the Sommario/riassunto land and culture throughout the twentieth century. In the last few decades, advances in technology and shifts in labor and farming policy have altered the way of life for tobacco farmers: family farms have largely been replaced by large-scale operations dependent on hired labor, much of it from other shores. However, the mechanical harvester and the H-2A guest worker did not put an end to tobacco culture but rather sent it in new directions and accelerated the change that has always been part of the farmer's life. In When Tobacco Was King, Evan Bennett examines the agriculture of the South's original staple crop in the Old Bright Belt--a diverse region named after the unique bright, or flue-cured, tobacco variety it spawned. He traces the region's history from Emancipation to the abandonment of federal crop controls in 2004 and highlights the transformations endured by blacks and whites, landowners and tenants, to show how tobacco farmers continued to find meaning and community in their work despite these drastic

changes."--