

## 1. Cotton Australia: Research, Development and Extension

In its research and development stakeholder role, Cotton Australia has carriage of a range of cotton grower stewardship functions and a number of grower facilitated decision making and industry support committees that ensure a pathway for adoption of important industry research findings.

Some of Cotton Australia's extension and adoption project activities include the Best Management Practices (BMP) Program, the management of the Australian Cotton Conference, Queensland Reef Rescue, and the facilitation of the Future Cotton Leaders Program.

### COTTON AUSTRALIA AND THE COTTON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Cotton Australia has been declared by the Federal Minister for Agriculture to be the representative organisation in the cotton industry to the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC). In this role, Cotton Australia advises the CRDC on cotton grower priorities in research, development and extension areas, and lobbies research issues on behalf of cotton growers.

While the statutory levy (\$2.25 per bale) goes directly to CRDC for funding research, development and extension, Cotton Australia plays an important role in advising the CRDC on cotton grower priorities in these areas.

The CRDC also has a responsibility to take this advice into account when developing its strategic plan, report activities and performance to Cotton Australia and ensure identified priorities are addressed. Cotton Australia is also responsible for lobbying in regards to research issues generally on behalf of cotton growers.

The main role of Cotton Australia and its members (via their representatives) is to provide advice to the CRDC on research matters from the perspective of cotton growers. This is achieved through a number of advisory panels whereby members provide their perspectives on the relevance of research funding submissions received by CRDC each year.

Advisory panels consider research and/or adoption applications in detail, and report their views to a general meeting through a panel lead. Each of the panels directly relate to goals found in the CRDC's Strategic Plan.

These advisory panels are explained in more detail overleaf.



There are four current Cotton Australia advisory panels:

1. The **Value Chain** advisory panel aims to: look at ways to develop contemporary knowledge and intelligence about products, markets and supply chains; develop improvements in current products; facilitate the development of novel products; advance cotton product processing; and facilitate the development of objective measurement of Australian cotton fibre.
2. The **Biosecurity** advisory panel aims to; identify and communicate biosecurity threats; support the industry's preparedness to deal with biosecurity threats; research the management of established, invasive and endemic insect pests, weeds and diseases; and assure industry capacity to manage the stewardship of biotechnologies and crop protection products.
3. The **Farming Systems** advisory panel aims to: build the industry's understanding of climate and natural resource challenges; and enhance the capacity of the industry to adopt resilient and adaptive farming systems
4. The **Human Capacity** advisory panel aims to identify, understand and plan for future industry capacity needs; improve human resource development and capacity; and enhance the capacity to innovate.

These panels meet twice a year (May and December) to review current CRDC research projects. In addition to this, the panels meet in March to prioritise proposed research projects and suggest potential [commissioned] project ideas based on emerging issues from a grower perspective for CRDC to consider. The panels also meet as needed to discuss other Cotton Australia priority areas including member services, policy and advocacy and communication and engagement.

For more information on the CRDC please visit [www.crdc.com.au](http://www.crdc.com.au)

## COTTON AUSTRALIA AND THE COTTON CATCHMENT COMMUNITIES COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE (COTTON CRC)

Cotton Australia is a participant in the Cotton CRC, contributing untied funding, project investments and in-kind commitments. Cotton Australia and the Cotton CRC also manage five residential units in Narrabri to provide accommodation for research students and visiting scientists. Cotton Australia and Monsanto also contribute to a CRC post graduate scholarship project; Thresholds for Bt susceptible *Helicoverpa* survivors on Bollgard II.

For more information on the Cotton CRC please visit [www.cottoncrc.org.au](http://www.cottoncrc.org.au)

## RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION STEWARDSHIP

Cotton Australia builds on research, development and extension outputs to inform key industry developments and sustainability issues like resistance management and biosecurity.

Cotton Australia facilitates and leads key industry committees such as TIMS, NORCOM and the Cotton Industry Biosecurity Group.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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