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Cotton Australia recognises Queensland Cotton's 100th Birthday

The peak body for cotton growers in Australia, Cotton Australia (CA) has congratulated Queensland Cotton (QC) on its 100th birthday and recognised the role the company has played in the reputation of Australian cotton as among the best in the world.

Cotton Australia Board Chair Nigel Burnett said the early efforts of cotton pioneers paved the way for today's cotton industry and began the journey of continual improvement.

"When Queensland Cotton, or the Australian Cotton Growers Association as it was then known, started out in 1921 there was much to be learnt about growing cotton in this country.

"Investing in cotton here was a bold thing to do at that stage yet the then Queensland Premier Hon. Ted Theodore had a strong belief that it would bring prosperity for not just growers but the broader community.

"We must also pay tribute to the investors who backed the Association, putting their money into building cotton gins in Brisbane and Rockhampton."

Mr Burnett said Queensland Cotton, under the guidance of many visionary leaders including CA Board Member Bob Dall'Alba became one of the first agricultural companies in Australia to think globally and to investigate trading cotton directly in foreign markets rather than going through agents.

"Queensland Cotton tackled the big growing countries head on, setting up an office in California, acquiring a big US cotton company and expanding its office network to Brazil."

Mr Burnett said Olam recognised the key role of QC and the culture of its people by making the company their first acquisition.

"Many of our growers have played an important role in the development of cotton for many decades and some of those have assisted Queensland Cotton to become what it is today.

"At the risk of singling out one among hundreds, Alan Brimblecombe played a huge part in pushing cotton, developing the quality of the crop and demanding good environmental outcomes through stewardship of the land and water resources. The Brimblecombe's are still invested in the cotton industry, and they continue to be innovators and forward thinkers."

Mr Burnett said Cotton Australia's myBMP program has also played a significant role in the continual performance improvement of Australian cotton and its growing reputation worldwide as the highest quality cotton available.



Advancing Australian Cotton

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