



AUSTRALIAN  
**FUTURE  
COTTON  
LEADERS**  
PROGRAM

**APPLICATIONS  
CLOSE  
ON FRIDAY  
30 NOVEMBER 2023**



# 2024 Program Information Kit

Are you committed to the future of the cotton industry and have an interest in developing your leadership knowledge, skills and experience?

Then apply to join the **AUSTRALIAN FUTURE COTTON LEADERS** program today!



Meet other like-minded people in the cotton industry  
Hear from industry leaders

Take away new information and tips for your future from inspiring speakers

Attend face-to-face meetings with funding support

Develop your leadership skills and confidence

Experience new friendships and ideas

**START YOUR FUTURE TODAY! AND JOIN A COMMITTED NETWORK OF OVER 140 GRADUATES.**



The Australian **FUTURE COTTON LEADERS PROGRAM** is an initiative of Cotton Australia supported by the Cotton Research and Development Corporation. It is recognized as the premier leadership development program for the Australian cotton industry.

Cotton Australia invites you to apply for one of up to 15 places available in the eighth program, being run in 2024.

## **INTRODUCING THE AUSTRALIAN FUTURE COTTON LEADERS PROGRAM**

The Future Cotton Leaders program is a national leadership program for Australia's future cotton leaders. The program has four key stages:

- Stage 1 Leadership Development
- Stage 2 Individual Skill Application and Project Goal
- Stage 3 Leading Change
- Stage 4 Contributing to Industry

The Australian Future Cotton Leaders Program is an innovative program supporting individual commitment to creating and leading change in the Australian cotton industry.

The program is designed to assist and work with you to develop, implement and evaluate your own leadership development project with the ongoing support of your own leadership facilitator and industry partner / mentor.

## **WHAT IS THE AUSTRALIAN FUTURE COTTON LEADERS PROGRAM ALL ABOUT?**

The program will focus on the following areas:

- Innovative Leadership models

- Skill development in the areas of communication, negotiation, visioning, goal setting, the cotton industry, media skills, public speaking, personality styles, networking, action planning etc.
- Networking with industry leaders
- Individualised interactive program with one on one phone sessions through program
- Industry, community, enterprise application of knowledge and skills
- Access to current cotton industry / business leaders
- Setting of a leadership goal / project

## **WHO SHOULD PARTICIPATE?**

The program is best suited to people keen to progress their leadership and who:

- Are actively involved in a cotton enterprise or related position / sector / area such as cottonseed, ginner, extension, research, consulting or merchant
- Are in the process of undertaking a change process
- Are keen to look at options to enhance their cotton industry leadership
- Are keen to develop personal and professional leadership knowledge and skills to an advanced level in a short timeframe.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS FOR YOU?

- Participate in a program developed especially for you and your industry, rather than an 'off the shelf' type program
- Enjoy the benefits of personal growth from being a member of a small national learning group
- Be a part of a partnership experience with people highly committed to change
- Mix with other highly motivated successful people through industry networks
- Develop knowledge and skills and explore the potential of a project of interest to you
- The cost of this program is subsidised.

## YOUR COMMITMENT

You must be able to commit to all the activities outlined in the Program Calendar to be considered for this Program. To take full advantage of this program, you must have access to the internet and be committed to creating and leading future change in the cotton industry.

## COST?

Whilst the cost of this program is subsidised and covers the cost of travel, accommodation and all tuition, participants are expected to pay for any operational costs relating to their project, eg phone, internet etc.

## PROJECT

You will undertake a small leadership project where you will put your new knowledge and skills into practise. Your project must align to an enterprise or industry issue or opportunity.

# PROGRAM CALENDAR

## INTRODUCTION

One-on-one phone sessions with Facilitator and online activities.

Dates: **February 2024**

## STAGE 1 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Face-to-face Forum – two days,

Location to be advised

Dates: **3 – 4 June 2024**

## STAGE 2 INDIVIDUAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Leadership Project and Industry Partnership

Date: **February – September 2024**

## STAGE 3 LEADING CHANGE

Face-to-face Forum being held at the Gold Coast, QLD

Dates: **3 – 5 August 2024**

## STAGE 4

## CONTRIBUTING TO INDUSTRY

Participation in Cotton Online 2024 via online discussion forum

Date: **July**

Attendance at the Australian Cotton Industry Leadership Dinner

Date: **5 August 2024**

Attendance at the 2024 Australian Cotton Conference on the Gold Coast.

Dates: **6 – 8 August 2024**

Please note the second face-to-face is being held in conjunction with the Australian Cotton Conference. Your travel and accommodation for two nights will be paid for by the program. Additional accommodation and conference fees etc are not part of the Australian Future Cotton Leaders Program.



# TESTIMONIALS

## NICOLE MCDONALD, FERTREE GULLY



"I found my time in the program to be truly transformational. I was supported to reflect, test, and refine my understanding of myself, my strengths, vision, and ultimately my leadership capabilities. It was in the 1:1 coaching and group work that I was able to develop the outline

for the SHIFT project – with an ambitious goal to develop and extend a program focused on great people management and workforce development in the industry. Two years on and it's a reality. I'm amplifying the good practice, challenging people to think about new approaches, and collaboratively working on solving some of the issues that impact workforce attraction and retention on farms and to the cotton industry. I have no doubt the AFCL program can help you to flex your leadership muscles, gain new tools and find a diverse community of other leaders to support you."

## BRAD JONSSON, FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND



"I can't recommend this course enough it's really good. If you're new to the industry like I was it's the best way too meet people and get a real understanding of the whole industry. Cotton conference was amazing, met sooo many people, and enjoyed great

conversations. Everyone is willing to help you learn. It's like a mini family. An experience I'll never forget. Definitely apply."

## MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about the Australian Future Cotton Leaders Program or to ask any questions you have or to be put in touch with a program graduate, please contact:

- **Paul Sloman**, Program Coordinator  
Cotton Australia  
Mobile **0448 094 883**  
Email [pauls@cotton.org.au](mailto:pauls@cotton.org.au)
- **Jo Eady**, Program Facilitator  
RuralScope Pty Limited  
Mobile **0419 912 879**  
Email [jo.eady@bigpond.com](mailto:jo.eady@bigpond.com)

## JENNA BELL, NEW SOUTH WALES



"Participating in the Future Cotton Leaders program was an incredibly enriching experience. Not only did I gain invaluable insights into the cotton industry, but I also had the privilege of connecting with like minded peers who share the same passion and

drive. The program's well-structured curriculum provided me with a deep understanding of the industry's challenges and opportunities, equipping me with the knowledge needed to excel in my role. What truly stood out to me was the diverse network of professionals I had the chance to interact with. Being a part of the Future Cotton Leaders program has undoubtedly accelerated my growth and development, personally and professionally. I am honoured to share my positive experience and encourage others to seize this incredible opportunity."

## AARON KIELY, EMERALD, QUEENSLAND



"This program has brought me a long way to better understanding where I want to go and how I can contribute to the cotton industry. It's improved my business, family life, time management and forward planning. I am happy to have now taken on the

President's role of CHCGIA as well as attended the Australian Agrifutures GrowAg Forum and participated in the recent industry field trip – The Northern Australian RoadShow. I never thought I would have come so far in the industry in two years."

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE  
FRIDAY 30 NOVEMBER 2023**

**Note: Please  
Click Here to  
Submit Your  
Application  
or Scan QR Code**

