COTTON AUSTRALIA

COTTON ANNUAL 2016

AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY STATISTICS

Welcome to the 2016 Cotton Australia Cotton Annual

1 Australian Cotton Bale = 227kg

1 Hectare = **Approx 2 rugby football fields**

Cotton Australia annually collates data for key areas affecting cotton production in Australia: crop size, area, forecasts, yield, quality, price, water, biotechnology, environmental indicators and the world market.

Unless stated otherwise, the numbers quoted in this booklet relate to the 2014-15 Australian cotton crop. Sources and references are identified at the back of the booklet.

For more information, statistics and facts please visit: www.cottonaustralia.com.au

Cotton Australia is the peak representative body for Australia's almost 1,200 cotton farmers.

Crop size 2015-16
SEASON FORECAST

2.4 million bales (estimated)

270,000 hectares

▲ **37%** compared to the 2014-15 planted area

Bales: Cotton Australia (compilation of industry sources). Hectares: Monsanto audited numbers, 17.12.15

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Number of cotton farms

1094

60% in NSW and 40% in Qld

▲ **796** Up from 796 in 2014-15

Australian Grown Cotton Sustainability Report 2014

Average area of cotton on a farm

495

hectares

(five year average, 2009-14)

14%

On average, cotton makes up 14% of land on a farm

Australian Grown Cotton Sustainability Report 2014

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Contribution to the regional Australian workforce

6.6

The average cotton farm provides jobs for 6.6 people

10K

In a non-drought year, the Australian cotton industry employs up to 10,000 people

Towns list, Cotton Australia database

Communities where cotton is grown

152

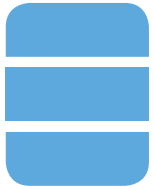
regions

Cotton is grown in 152 regional communities across NSW and Queensland

Towns list, Cotton Australia database

Previous crop size harvested (2014-15)

2.2



million bales

196,689

hectares

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

State split
(BASED ON 2014-15 HECTARES)

66%

of the crop was grown in NSW

34% of the crop was grown in Queensland

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

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Dryland/irrigated
(% OF AREA)

95%

was irrigated

5% of the crop was rain grown (dryland)

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources), ABARES Crop Report, December 2014

Yields this season (average)

Irrigated cotton yield

11.5

bales/hectare

4

Dryland cotton yield
4 bales/hectare

Australian yields are high by international standards, more than three times the world average

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources). Dryland yield calculated by dividing bales by paddock hectares (not green hectares), ABARES

Farm gate value (seed and lint)

The 2014/15 Australian cotton crop was worth

$1.3 Billion

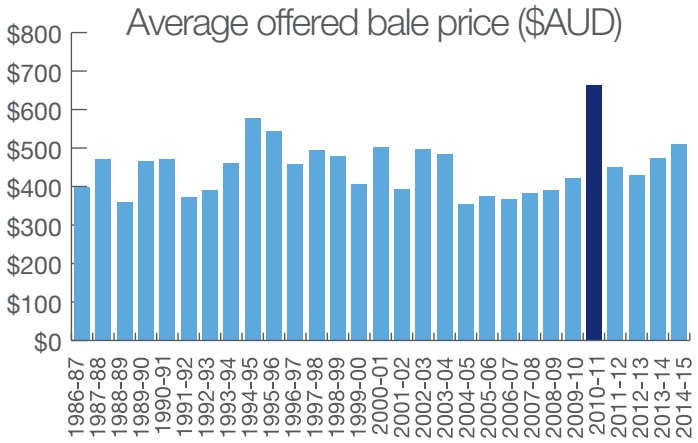
- Cotton lint value: $1.1 billion
- Cottonseed value: $200 million

^ based on CA estimates
Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Price

$511

Average offered price of a bale of cotton



Price for Central Valleys between 01/02/2015 and 31/07/2015, Farmarco

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Quality

91%

More than 91% of Australia's cotton crop met the base grade or higher, with less than 9% being below base grade of Middling

43%

More than 43% of the crop was graded as Strict Middling three leaf and higher

Australian Cotton Shippers Association

World market for cotton
IN 2015-2016:

World cotton production: approximately

101.7

million bales

World cotton consumption: approximately

107.2

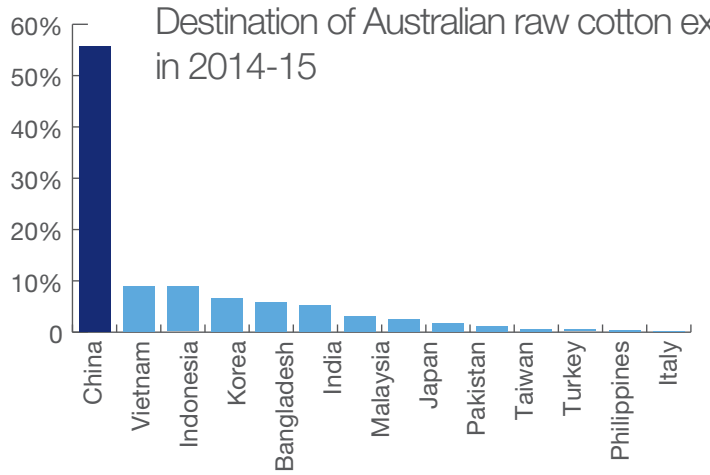
million bales

ICAC (data in metric tonnes converted to Australian bales by multiplying the tonne number by 4.4 – (x4 227kg bales in a metric tonne)

Australia's place in the world cotton market

99%

of Australia's raw cotton is exported



ABARES, Australian Cotton Shippers Association (percentages listed by marketing year from March 2014 to February 28, 2015

Area planted using biotechnology

99.98%

of Australia's cotton crop is grown with varieties containing biotech traits

Monsanto audited numbers, 17.12.15

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Insect pest control

↓92%

Comparing five year averages for the periods 2010-15 and 1998-2003, the Australian cotton industry has achieved an 92 percent reduction in insecticide use

CCA

Percentage of catchment used to grow cotton

Cotton crops occupy less than

<5%

of the catchment areas in which they operate

Australian Cotton Water Story 2012

Average cotton farm riparian lenght

7.5km

42km

The average length of the riparian (native vegetation) corridor was 7.5km, with some as long as 42km

Cotton Growing Practices 2014: Findings of CRDC's survey of cotton growers (Cotton Research and Development Corporation and Roth Rural, 2015)

Land use efficiency

<33%

In Australia, 33% less land is now required to produce one tonne of cotton lint compared to 1995-96

25%

It takes 25% of the land to produce one metric tonne of cotton fibre in Australia, compared to the global average

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

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Cotton crop water requirements

Cotton's average irrigation requirement is: 8 megalitres per hectare

This compares to rice (12 ML/ha), fruit and nut trees, plantation or berry fruits (7 ML/ha), sugar cane (5 ML/ha) and nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf (5 ML/ha)

Rice is: 12ML/ha

ABS 2013-14

Water use efficiency improvements

↑40%

The Australian cotton industry has achieved a 40% increase in water productivity since 2003. In other words, 40% less water is now needed to grow one tonne of cotton lint, compared to 2003

X2

Australian cotton growers have almost doubled their irrigation water use index from 1.1 bales/megalitre in 2000-01 to 1.9 bales/megalitre in 2009-10

Australian Cotton Water Story 2012
ABS 2014

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Cotton's total water use

24%

The largest volume of irrigation water was applied to cotton, which used 2773 gigalitres, or 24% of the national irrigation total for the period (11,562 gigalitres)

29.7%

In 2013-14, the largest area of irrigated land in Australia was pasture and cereal crops used for grazing (or fed off), which accounted for 701,619 ha, or 29.7% of the total area irrigated

ABS 2014

ADVANCING AUSTRALIAN COTTON

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