



COTTON

ANNUAL 2017

AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY STATISTICS

Welcome to the fifth annual Cotton Australia Cotton Annual

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 2015-16 Australian cotton crop. Sources and references are identified at the back of the booklet.

For more information, statistics and fact sheets please visit www.cottonaustralia.com.au

Cotton Australia is the key representative body for the Australian cotton growing industry.




Crop size 2016-17 season forecast

(estimated hectares and bales as at February 2017)

4.2 million
bales

472,000 hectares

 **33%** compared to the
2015-16 planted area

Bales: Cotton Australia (compilation of industry sources) Hectares: Monsanto audited numbers, February 2017

Number of cotton farms

1473

60.5% in NSW, 39% in Queensland and 0.5% in Victoria

 **1094**

Up from 1094 in 2015-16

Monsanto audited numbers, February 2017

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

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

Communities where cotton is grown

152

regions

Cotton is grown in 152 regional communities across Queensland, NSW and Victoria

Previous crop size harvested

2.7



million bales

263,339

hectares

State split
(based on 2015-16 hectares)

63%

of the crop was grown in NSW

37%

of the crop was grown
in Queensland

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Irrigated/dryland
(% of area)

77%

was irrigated



23%

was dryland

of the crop was rain grown
(also known as dryland)

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Australian cotton yields

Irrigated cotton yield

11.07

bales/hectare

3.87

Dryland cotton yield

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 2015/16 Australian cotton crop
was worth

\$1.3 Billion

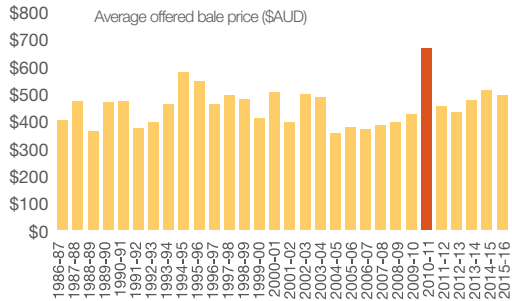
- Cotton lint value: \$1.1 billion
 - Cottonseed value: \$200 million
- Based on Cotton Australia estimates

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Price

\$492

Average offered price of a bale of cotton



Price for Central Valleys between 1/2/2016 and 31/7/2016, Farnarco

Quality

91.5%

91.5% of Australia's cotton crop met the base grade, with approximately 8.5% of the crop attracting a discount on the world market

67.5%

67.5% was graded as premium or high quality (above base grade), attracting a higher price on the world market

Australian Cotton Shippers Association

World market for cotton In 2015-2016:

World cotton production: approximately

92.7
million bales

World cotton consumption: approximately

106.2
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

Australia is the fifth largest exporter in the world (behind the USA, India, Brazil, Uzbekistan)

↑ 99%
of Australia's raw cotton is exported



ABARES, Australian Cotton Shippers Association (percentages listed by marketing year from 2016 Season - to December 31, 2016, ICAC)

Area planted using biotechnology



99.9%

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

Monsanto audited numbers, February 2017

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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

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Percentage of catchment used to grow cotton

Cotton crops occupy less than

< **5%** 

of the catchment areas in which they operate

Average cotton farm riparian length

7.5km

42km

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

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)

Cotton crop water requirements

Cotton's average irrigation requirement is: **7.5** 
megalitres per hectare

This compares to rice (12.6 ML/ha), fruit and nut trees, plantation or berry fruits (5.7 ML/ha), sugar cane (5.3 ML/ha) and nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf (4.8 ML/ha)

Rice is: **12.6** **ML/ha**

ABS 2014-15 (released April 2016)

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

Cotton's total water use

13.5%

In 2014-15, cotton accounted for 13.5% of water use on Australian farms

25.7%

The largest volume of irrigation water was applied to pastures (including lucerne) and cereal crops used for grazing or fed off, which accounted for 2,301 gigalitres, or 25.7% of the total water applied nationally in 2014-15

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