



COTTON

ANNUAL 2018

AUSTRALIAN COTTON
INDUSTRY STATISTICS





Welcome to the sixth 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 2016-17 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 2017-18 season forecast (estimate as at April 2018)

4.6 million
bales

452,000 green hectares

▲ **Forecast
increase
in yield** yet decrease in green
hectares area compared
to the 2016-17 season

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Number of cotton farms 2017-18

1436

66% in NSW, 33% in Qld and 0.01% in Victoria

66% in NSW

Monsanto audited numbers, May 2018

Average area of cotton on a farm

305

hectares

(five year average, 2013-17)



14%

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

Monsanto audited numbers, May 2018. Australian Grown Cotton Sustainability Report 2014



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

Australian Grown Cotton Sustainability Report 2014

Communities where cotton is grown

152

regions

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

Previous crop size harvested (2015-16 season)

3.8 

million bales

473,000
green hectares

State split

62%

of the crop was grown in NSW

38%

of the crop was grown
in Queensland

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Dryland/irrigated (% of area)

92%

was irrigated



8%

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

10.12

bales/hectare

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

Dryland cotton yield

1.34

bales/hectare

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

Farm gate value (seed and lint)

The 2016/17 Australian cotton crop was worth

\$2.3

Billion

Value of cotton lint: \$2 billion

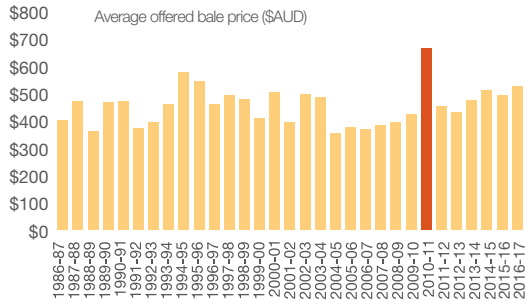
Value of cottonseed: \$300 million

Cotton Australia tables (compilation of industry sources)

Price

\$539

Average offered price of a bale of cotton in 2017



Farmarco (figure from 1 Feb to end of July each season)

Quality

91.4%

of Australia's cotton crop in 2017 met or exceeded the base grade

40.7%

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 2016-2017:

World cotton production – approximately

102.8
million bales

World cotton consumption – approximately

105.2
million bales

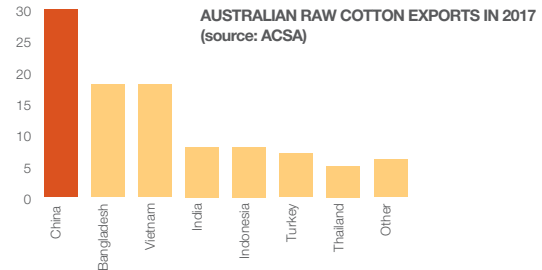
ABARES

Australia's place in the world cotton market

Australia was the third largest exporter in the world in 2016-17
(behind the USA and India)

↑ 99%

of Australia's raw cotton is exported



In 2016, China represented approximately 30% of Australia's raw cotton exports, and Bangladesh represented approximately 12%

ICAC. Australian Cotton Shippers Association (percentages listed from 2017 Season - to February 28, 2018)

Area planted using biotechnology



99.9%

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

Monsanto audited numbers, May 2018

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Insect pest control



↓ 93%

There's been a 93% decrease in insecticide use since 1997, coinciding with the introduction of BT cotton and strong IPM

CRDC

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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 area

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

30%

It takes 30% of the land to produce one metric tonne of cotton fibre in Australia, compared to the global average

Cotton crop water requirements

Cotton's average
irrigation
requirement is: **6.8**
megalitres per
hectare

This compares to rice (12.1 ML/ha), fruit and nut trees, plantation or berry fruits (6.5 ML/ha), sugar cane (5.6 ML/ha) and nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf (4.6 ML/ha)

Rice is: **12.1 ML/ha**

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

Cotton's total water use

16%

In 2015-16, cotton accounted for 16% of water use on Australian farms

26.8%

In 2015-16, the largest area of irrigated land in Australia was pastures and cereal crops for grazing, which accounted for 576,000 hectares of area watered, or 26.8% of the total area irrigated (2,148,000 hectares)

GROWING TOMORROW



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