



the cotton tale

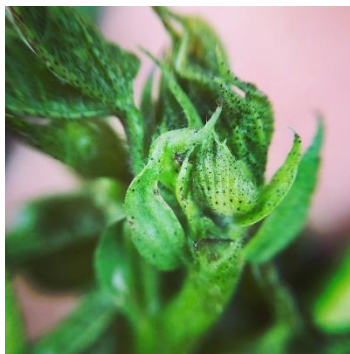
November 2018

Season progress

In general cotton is progressing well but there is a wide range of development stages from 4 to 8 nodes with early squares developing in the more advanced crops.

There were some emergence issues with a rain event at watering up. There has been some thrip pressure in hot spots but in general insect pressure has been low.

Black root rot continues to be a problem in farms with a longer history of cotton as it has slowed development. Alternaria leaf spot has been widespread in repeat ground but is also present in some fallow fields. All regions have had a good start with weekly rain events delaying first irrigation.



Early squares

New appointment

Welcome to Hayden Petty who has just started in the role of Cotton Research Agronomist at NSW DPI Yanco. Hayden has a cropping background and is keen to help out with any cotton trials this season. He can be contacted on hayden.petty@dpi.nsw.gov.au or 0447 825 052.



A number of positions at Yanco DPI in Crop protection (disease and insect management) should also be filled in the near future.



Disease surveys

As you can see above Hayden has been helping out with the annual early season disease surveys. The surveys are now complete and results will be presented in a future newsletter.

There are also a number of agronomist BRR trails around in different areas that are being assessed now. To help out the SVCGA has received a CRDC Grassroots grant to employ a pathologist and to have the trials analysed. More on this as the data comes through.

Deep sub soiling manure

This trial work is giving excellent responses in winter cereals and has potential to overcome subsoil constraints in cotton. There are some trials in cotton this season and it would be good to look at this over a number of seasons. [Watch this video from GRDC's Groundcover to learn more.](#)

SVCGA 2017-18 crop awards

I will soon be asking advisors to nominate crops and farms for the SVCGA awards for last season. Awards winners will be announced at the awards dinner next year for Lachlan and Murrumbidgee/Murray districts with awards for highest individual field yield and the highest farm average yield.

Be a good mate. Stop it at the gate

A short video from CottonInfo here with top tips for biosecurity on farms. [Click here to view.](#)

Faststart cotton awards

As part of the FastStart Cotton Program, Cotton Seed Distributors and Syngenta are offering one irrigated and one dryland cotton grower a trip for two people to Kununurra and Broome, including return airfares, six

nights accommodation, meals, car hire and more.

Simply take and upload a photo of yourself with your cotton crop and complete some information, your planting rates and establishment details.

[Entries can be submitted here.](#)

Important date coming up! Extra bus has been booked. 12th December - layouts bus trip.

Irrigation Layouts – What are your options?

A CottonInfo bus tour to look at what growers have done to upgrade existing layouts. Starting at 8am sharp 12th December from Coleambally Community Club growers will visit three sites to observe different irrigation layouts and hear from farmers and designers that have converted fields to various bankless and Pipe through the bank layouts.

Buses will return to Coleambally for Lunch and a panel session to answer questions from growers. A tour booklet with detailed case studies will be provided on the day.

Limited places on the buses (with no cars to follow) with RSVP essential to:

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