

The Macquarie Bale Up

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2016 2017 planting update

As we go to print we are about 80-90% through planting. In the northern end of the valley its almost done, we have had a small amount of replant due to some quick dry back in areas where the seed was planted shallow. We have had some up and down weather events but the soil temp has been constant in the north and only dipping below the line a few times in the south.

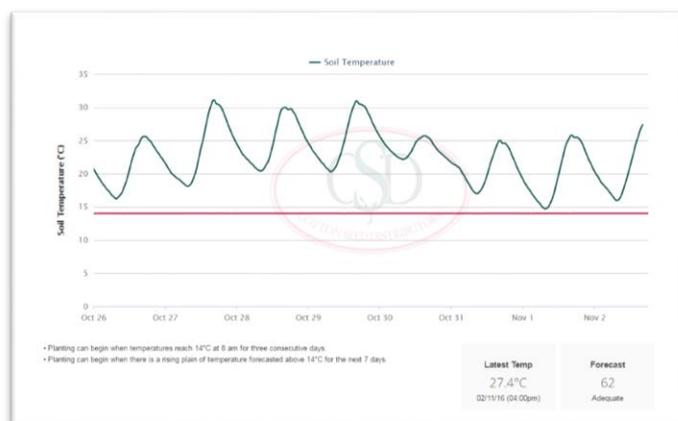


Fig 1. Insert from the soil temp network at “Hatton” warren.

For more soil temp and coming soon canopy temperature info head to the CSD website

<http://www.csd.net.au>

The southern end of the valley has had a treasure trove of joys to contend with this season. Growers who use cover crops (common under laterals and pivots) have had added moisture that has in cases slowed them from getting on the ground and planting or at least made it difficult. Some growers also got hail in areas and had to replant fields or sections of fields.

The new pest on the block in the southern part of the valley is slugs this season. They are mainly affecting the fields with stubble cover, in cases they are at the point of needing control. The cheaper option of using “slugger” pellets seems to lose its attractiveness if the bait is in contact with water. There are other options which are more robust but come at three times the price.



Figure 2. “Slugger being eaten overnight” Source Matt Ward.

There have been the odd patches of *Helicoverpa* heading into the cotton from wheat crops that are finishing off.

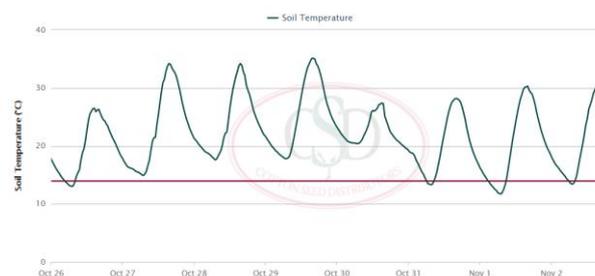


Figure 3. Soil temp at “Westwood” Narromine

Day Degree Update

Just to get a gauge on how we are traveling for Day Degrees (DD) I have looked up a few weather stations and used a common planting date of the 1st of October (we can only dream that it went in on that day)

Station	2016	2015
“Colane”	228.5	389.5
“Auscott Warren”	202	359.3
“Mungiebar”	189.5	341
Narromine Airport	186.5	333.3
Trangie Research	192.9	352.0

As you can see there is a big spread throughout the valley and big difference between this season and last season.

What's going down in cotton town....

Nutrition info session.....

Dr Chris Dowling one of Australia's leading specialist's in the management of soils and plant nutrition.

The sessions will be very informal and will give growers and consultants the opportunity to address any nutrition issues they might have.

Some of the topics covered will be

- what are the implications of a cold wet start on crop nutrition?”.
- timing of post plant P

- % of N required and what timeframes we have post plant to avoid significant yield impacts.
- This year there are several crops planted with some of the following, no N, no P, no incorporated P, what are our options
- double-crop behind chickpeas, what could be the pitfalls or gains?
- dryland cotton nutrition requirements
- What should growers expect to see and how do you react when it occurs

Bring along a soil test for Chris to discuss your options

Warren 8th Nov 1pm -3pm RSL upstairs

Narromine 9th Nov 8.30 – 11.00

RSVP – amanda.thomas@cottoninfo.net.au

Ph 0417 226411

Please see the attached flyer for more details

Herbicide resistance testing

Monsanto is offering a free herbicide resistance testing program this season to all cotton growers who have grown Roundup Ready Flex in **any** of the previous seasons. Growers can test five of the major weeds present in cotton systems for resistance to three critical herbicides, Roundup Ready® Herbicide with PLANTSHIELD® by Monsanto, Verdict® and Select®. The five weeds are Annual ryegrass, Barnyard grass, Liverseed grass, Red Pigweed and Milk (sow) thistle.

I have a supply of envelopes that are needed to collect mature seed heads. Plant Science Consulting will carry out the testing with results back in around 12 weeks. The results are returned direct to the grower and others nominated by the grower. Monsanto will

receive a collective report from Plant Science Consulting **without** individual grower details.

Please contact me if you would like to participate. Further information about the program is also available from Luke Sampson, Monsanto Regional Business Manager Ph 0427 701 986 or luke.sampson@monsanto.com

IPM Workshop, "Auscott", Oxley Hwy Warren , Monday 21st November at 9 am

CottonInfo & CRDC are hosting a series of IPM workshops in Nov- Dec, looking at managing pests using IPM while achieving high cotton yields.

Leading industry expert on IPM, Dr. Lewis Wilson of CSIRO, will deliver this series of workshops, opening the door on how to grow high yielding cotton using IPM principles. CSIRO Physiology expert Dr. Mike Bange will also be speaking about retention - when we need it the most and how to keep it. We hope to have some demonstrations in the field as well.

The workshop will finish with a BBQ lunch at 12 pm. Registration is essential and is needed by Thursday 17th November via email amanda.thomas@cottoninfo.net.au or text 0417 226411. Please register now.

<http://www.cottoninfo.com.au/sites/default/files/img/CottonInfo%20IPM%20workshop%20series.pdf>

Spraywise workshop "Wharboy" Carinda Road Warren , Tuesday 24th November 6.30 am

Advisors, applicators, growers and retailers are invited to a Nufarm SprayWise workshop, presented by Bill Gordon.

The half day program will consist of a series of short talks and demonstrations on:

- Sprayer set up and operation for efficacy & drift reduction; including Rogator® and WeedIT demonstrations and test drive opportunities
- Product choices for key summer weeds and comparative damage to sensitive crops
- Managing spray drift risk, identifying suitable conditions for spraying, droplet drift versus volatility risk
- Decontamination - products and procedures
- Resources available to support good decisions and a Q&A session with the panel of industry speakers

To attend please RVSP please email your name, number of people attending and the location to nufarm.marketing@au.nufarm.com

Please don't RSVP to me on this workshop as I am away during that week.

For more information, please follow this link

http://www.cottoninfo.com.au/sites/default/files/img/4740%20Spraywise_Roadshow_Flyer_A4_inhouse.pdf

Well, that's it for the planting edition of the Macquarie Bale Up. I know we have a lot of things coming up that will clash with harvest and irrigation etc. ~~but you all can only do what you can do~~. Please provide me with feedback if you have any issues you want covered or even feedback on where we should host field days etc.