



the **cotton wrap**

June/July 2023

What's been happening?

Picking is wrapping up across the Namoi & Bourke. Some later dryland crops still coming in. What a great run for picking compared to last year. Although May – early June were quite dry for winter crops, it meant picking could continue relatively uninterrupted. Yields are good considering the season, and many growers are pleasantly surprised with the quality. Read more about preliminary ginning reports below.

CRDC News

CottonInfo Program Manager takes on new role

After nine years as Program Manager for the Australian cotton industry's joint extension program – CottonInfo – Warwick Waters commenced his new role 1st July.

Since its inception in 2012, the CottonInfo program team has grown from just nine to today having more than 20 experts working to connect cotton growers, agronomists and industry with research and development outcomes.

Read on [here](#).



Ginning Updates

Ginning is progressing nicely with some really good results coming out. Lint turnouts have been high, and classing results are good. There was some high mic on irrigated cotton reported, but overall quality is said to be the best seen for several years. Cotton price slowly rising again, with good outlook for future.



CottonInfo Fact Sheet – Turn Out

Technical Lead for Fibre Quality, René van der Sluijs, compiled a factsheet on turnout outlining the three key components of turn out.

Seed cotton that is delivered to the gin contains three main components: fibre, seed, and trash. One of the major tasks of the gin is to separate the fibre from the seed and remove trash. From a growers' perspective the amount and percentages of each of the three components are very important as they will determine their economic return. This is commonly referred to as turn out and mostly quoted in percentage, with lint turn out (LTO%), sometimes referred to as gin turn out (GTO%) the most important followed by seed and trash percentages.

Read more of René's article [here](#).

CSD Update

Cotton seed orders are now open! Visit the CSD [website](#) to view the 2023 Grower Information Guide, variety trial information and seeds per kilogram data. Speak to your local agent today for ordering planting seed for 2023/2024 season.

Just Announced... CSD Growing Better Mastering Cotton Forums!

These forums will be tailored to suit the experiences and challenges of growing cotton in each valley. The Namoi and Gwydir locations are listed below. More information such as speakers and outline of the forums will be available soon.

11th September, Moree

12th September, Narrabri



Dr Michael Bange – Winner of the ICAC Researcher of the Year Award, 2023

Dr. Bange has recently been announced as the winner of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) Researcher of the Year Award.

With over three decades of groundbreaking work and an exceptional international reputation as a cotton systems agronomist, Dr. Bange has made remarkable contributions to the industry. His innovative approach and commitment to sustainable management practices have truly set him apart.



Congratulations, Mick! Thank you for your invaluable contributions to the world of cotton research!

Bayer XtendFlex® Cotton Spray Applicator Training

All TUA signers, on-farm spray application staff (i.e., mixers and applicators) and spray contractors MUST complete spray applicator training. Hosted by Craig Day from Spray Safe and Save, the training is a half day, free program covering theory and practical topics. To take delivery of XtendFlex® cotton seed, this training **must be completed**.

Upcoming dates and locations for local sessions listed below:

DATE	LOCATION
Monday 17 th July, 2023	Bourke, NSW
Tuesday 18 th July, 2023	Walgett, NSW
Monday 24 th July, 2023	Burren Junction, NSW
Tuesday 25 th July, 2023	Gunnedah, NSW
Wednesday 26 th July, 2023	Narrabri, NSW
Tuesday 8 th August, 2023	Gunnedah, NSW
Wednesday 9 th August, 2023	Narrabri, NSW



To register head to the Bayer Australia [website](#).

Biosecurity Workshop

On the 27th of July, Sharna Holman (QDAF & CottonInfo Biosecurity Technical Lead) is hosting a workshop on farm biosecurity. A small-group style workshop designed to be interactive and discussion oriented.

Growers will leave with a documented **farm biosecurity management plan** that is tailored to their farm and specific circumstances, an understanding of practices that can be implemented to manage biosecurity risks on their farm and how to adhere to the **myBMP biosecurity module**.

Spaces are limited – please get in touch for more information.



FARM BIOSECURITY PLAN WORKSHOP

This interactive workshop is designed around managing biosecurity risks and how to complete a farm biosecurity management plan.

Join in discussions and get assistance with:

- Identifying and assessing biosecurity issues
- Practically managing your biosecurity risks
- Documenting your farm biosecurity management plan
- Completing the cotton industry's myBMP biosecurity module

Thursday 27 July, 9am - 12pm

Ready to complete or update your farm biosecurity plan and myBMP biosecurity module?

- Resources provided to assist you in implementing and documenting biosecurity practices on farm
- Find out about changes to the myBMP biosecurity module and how to complete Level 1 and 2 checklist items

SPACES ARE LIMITED


RSVP's are required

TO RSVP OR FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COTTONINFO REP, EMMA CHORLEY
E: EMMA.CHORLEY@COTTONINFO.NET.AU

Meet the CottonInfo team

My role

I'm the CottonInfo Biosecurity Technical Lead. As part of this role I help raise the awareness and adoption of best management farm biosecurity practices



Sharna Holman
Technical Lead
Biosecurity

What I can help with

I can help you with questions about farm biosecurity and documenting your farm biosecurity plan.

Key activities

I develop farm biosecurity extension material and have also recently commenced a PhD on endemic pest, Cluster caterpillar (*Spodoptera litura*) to inform the Northern Australian RMP. As part of this role, I'll be based in Kununurra, WA, during the cotton season.

How to contact me

sharna.holman@daf.qld.gov.au
or 0477 394 116



Dates for the Diary – a busy few months ahead!

July

- 19th July – GRDC Grains Research Update, Bellata
- 20th July – GRDC Grains Research Update, Spring Ridge
- 25th July – CCA Young Member Workshop, Narrabri
- 26th – 27th July – CCA Cropping Solutions Seminar, Narrabri
- 27th July – Biosecurity Workshop, Narrabri

August

- 1st – 3rd August – WeedSmart Week, Dubbo
- 2nd – 3rd August – Cotton Collective, Toowoomba
- 3rd August – GRDC Update, North Star
- 16th August – Northern Farming Systems Industry Discussion Forum, Gunnedah
- 17th August – Northern Farming Systems Industry Discussion Forum, Narrabri
- 29th August – Northern Farming Systems Industry Discussion Forum, Mungindi

September

- 5th – 7th September – Association of Australian Cotton Scientists Conference, Toowoomba
- 11th September – CSD Mastering Cotton Forum, Moree
- 12th September – CSD Mastering Cotton Forum, Narrabri

Emma Chorley (nee Lambeth)

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