



Information when you need it



Darling Downs crop check

DATE – 23 March 2022 (CC7)

DALBY AIRPORT

Date range: 10 October, 2021 to 30 March, 2022 (172 days).

[Download](#)

[Summary](#) [Seasonal comparison](#)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	10 year mean
Base 12	1975.8	2149.1 ▲	2290.1 ▲	2200.8 ▲	2078.8 ▲	2149.5 ▲
DD1532*	1309.7	1399.8 ▲	1457.0 ▲	1435.1 ▲	1339.8 ▲	1397.5 ▲
Cold shock days ($\leq 11^{\circ}\text{C}$)	8	9 ▲	14 ▲	4 ▼	10 ▲	8.8 ▲
Days above 36°C	2	24 ▲	42 ▲	29 ▲	19 ▲	22.8 ▲
Nights above 25°C	0	0	0	0	1 ▲	0.5 ▲
Days above 40°C	0	4 ▲	3 ▲	1 ▲	3 ▲	2.3 ▲
Total rainfall (mm)	762.8	412.8 ▼	269.8 ▼	381.2 ▼	407.1 ▼	379.3 ▼
Total radiation (MJ/m^2)	3343.8	3485.3 ▲	3772.1 ▲	3775.4 ▲	3748.3 ▲	3365.6 ▲
Average temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	23.4	24.4 ▲	25.2 ▲	24.8 ▲	24.0 ▲	24.4 ▲

* Experimental calculation.

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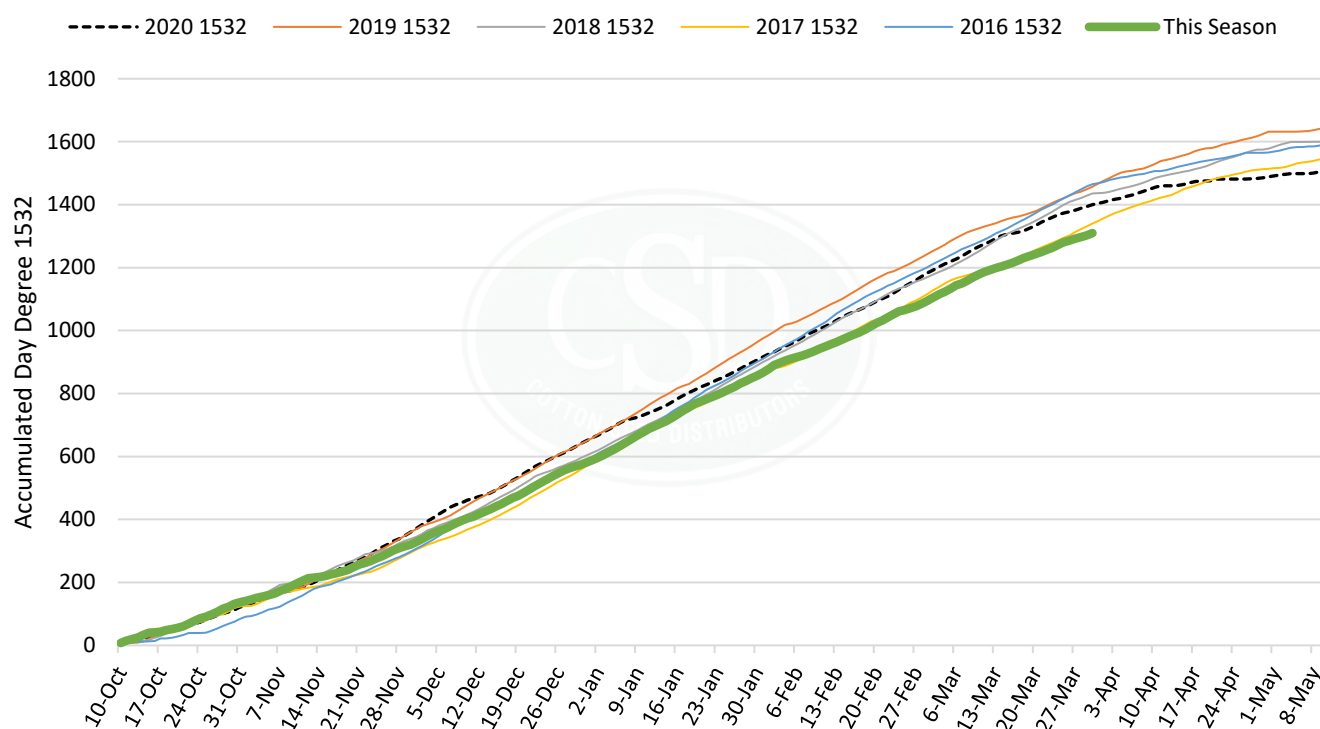


Best Practice



Darling Downs crop check

Seasonal Comparison Accumulated Day Degree - 1532



AREA	Darling Downs
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defoliation 5-13 NACB Cutting out
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still irrigating some crops Rain forecast next week so holding off Some crops have received a flush mid March



Darling Downs crop check

Insects/Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aphids • Whitefly numbers increasing along river • GVB have required management • Few cotton stainers
Weeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fleabane • FTRG • Barnyard grass • Milkthistle • vines
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vert continues to increase • boll rot 5-10% • fusarium around
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • significant damage caused by hail • wet and cloudy conditions for early March • significant regrowth has required pix • some crops with low boll counts. Unsure why

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Seasonal Day Degree and historical data is sourced from Cotton Seed Distributors Day Degree Calculator found at www.csd.net.au/ddc. For more specific day degree and crop management detail for your farm, field and variety check out CottonTracka® at www.cottontracka.com.au

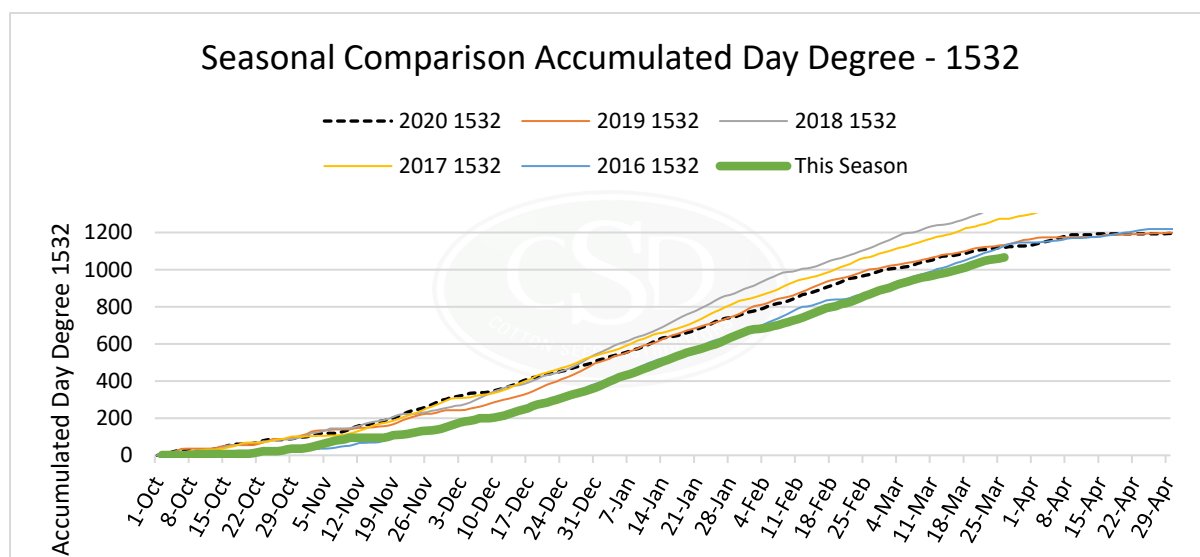
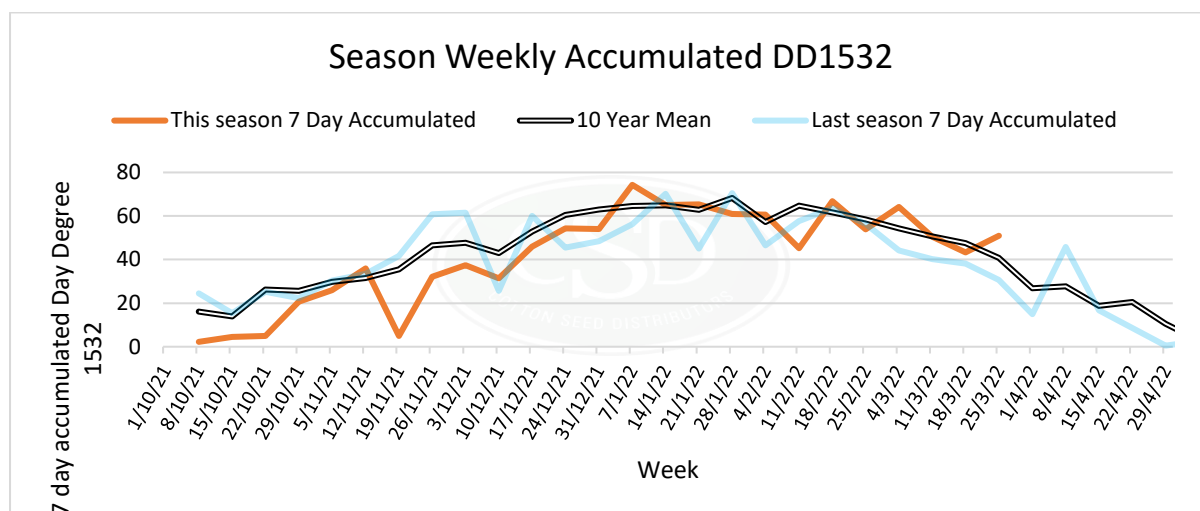


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Southern NSW crop check

26th March 2022 Griffith 1066 1532 DDs (89 % of average)





Information when you need it



Southern NSW crop check

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GRIFFITH AIRPORT AWS

Date range: 1 October, 2021 to 26 March, 2022 (177 days).

Download

Summary Seasonal comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	10 year mean
Base 12	1805.6	1904.6 ▲	2010.9 ▲	2249.9 ▲	2138.3 ▲	2042.7 ▲
DD1532*	1066.0	1119.4 ▲	1132.5 ▲	1335.3 ▲	1274.5 ▲	1196.3 ▲
Cold shock days ($\leq 11^{\circ}\text{C}$)	41	34 ▼	46 ▲	36 ▼	31 ▼	38.3 ▼
Days above 36°C	11	21 ▲	36 ▲	46 ▲	37 ▲	32.4 ▲
Nights above 25°C	1	4 ▲	8 ▲	16 ▲	8 ▲	6.8 ▲
Days above 40°C	1	8 ▲	16 ▲	22 ▲	10 ▲	11.1 ▲
Total rainfall (mm)	382.4	233.4 ▼	192.6 ▼	157.8 ▼	201.4 ▼	184.2 ▼
Total radiation (MJ/m^2)	3633.3	3958.9 ▲	3987.1 ▲	3987.4 ▲	4000.2 ▲	3664.3 ▲
Average temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	21.7	22.4 ▲	22.9 ▲	24.4 ▲	23.7 ▲	23.1 ▲

* Experimental calculation.



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Information when you need it



Southern NSW crop check

AREA	Southern Valleys
Crop Stage	8 -10 Nodes above cracked boll. 3-6 Nodes above mature boll.
Irrigation	Most completed by mid-March. Most crops now 10 -14 days from last water and at refill point. Still 60 mm extractable water in most soils.
Insects/Beneficials	Very Low whitefly and mite pressure.
Weeds	Small weeds emerging under crop canopy and on edges. Cultivation and spraying ryegrass will still small.
Disease/Environmental	Minor to moderate boll rot on higher vegetative fields with more rain events. More Verticillium wilt patches confirmed this season.
Comments	First pass defoliation for most crops around 7 th April plus or minus a few days.

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Gwydir crop check

13th February 2022

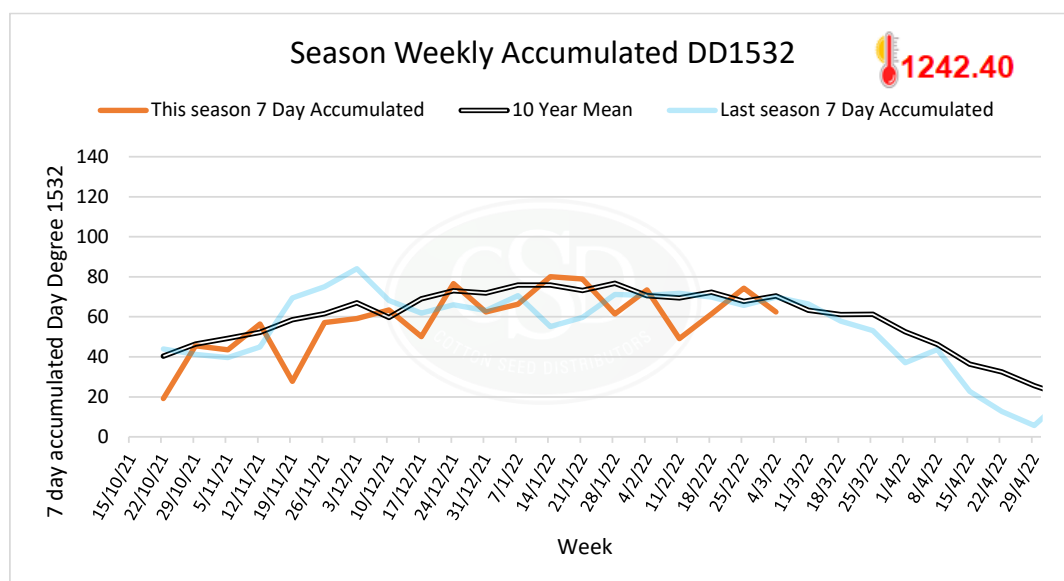


Figure 1: 7-day average DD (1532) compared to 2020/21 and the 10 year average.

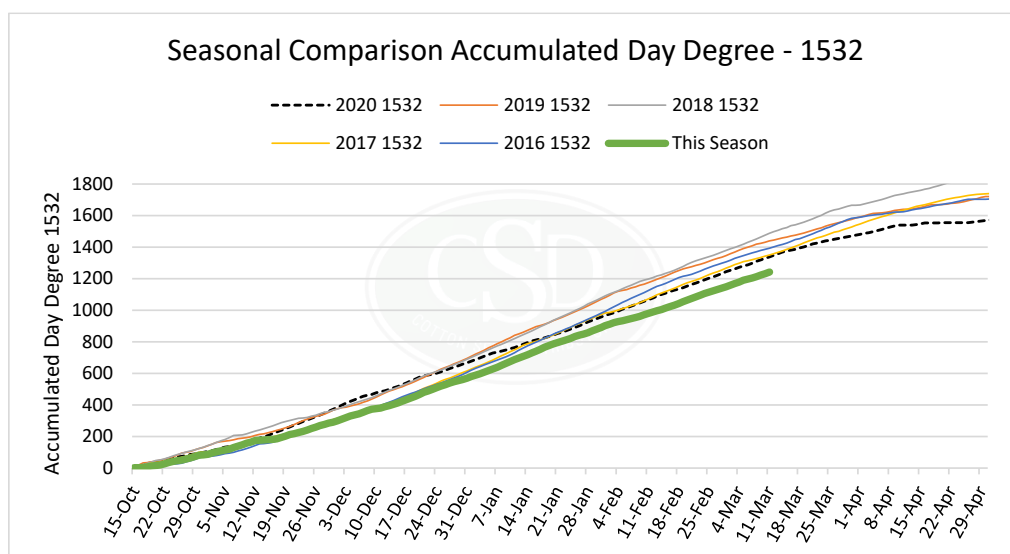


Figure 2: Seasonal Comparison Accumulated Day Degree - 1532



Gwydir crop check

Table 1: Seasonal Information based on 15th October planting date – 11th March 2022 (148 days)

Summary Seasonal comparison

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	10 year mean
Base 12	1912.5	2045.9 ▲	2221.7 ▲	2271.0 ▲	2098.9 ▲	2120.7 ▲
DD1532*	1242.4	1337.8 ▲	1439.4 ▲	1487.3 ▲	1350.0 ▲	1380.9 ▲
Cold shock days ($\leq 11^{\circ}\text{C}$)	11	7 ▼	7 ▼	3 ▼	5 ▼	6.8 ▼
Days above 36°C	23	34 ▲	61 ▲	61 ▲	52 ▲	44.3 ▲
Nights above 25°C	0	1 ▲	21 ▲	11 ▲	9 ▲	8.1 ▲
Days above 40°C	0	6 ▲	14 ▲	12 ▲	11 ▲	9.0 ▲
Total rainfall (mm)	408.2	379.0 ▼	332.2 ▼	122.8 ▼	315.6 ▼	253.8 ▼
Total radiation (MJ/m^2)	3135.9	3268.7 ▲	3353.3 ▲	3593.4 ▲	3484.2 ▲	3134.5 ▼
Average temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	24.8	25.8 ▲	26.9 ▲	27.3 ▲	26.1 ▲	26.3 ▲

* Experimental calculation.

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Despite generally low pest pressures this year in the Gwydir, mites have persisted throughout the season





Gwydir crop check

AREA	Gwydir Valley
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigated: 21 to 28 nodes at cut out or approaching cut out at 6 NAWF. Dryland: 21 to 28 nodes. Early plant defol started last week. <p><i>"Irrigated crops at 28 nodes, cutout and defoliating in 15 days"</i></p> <p><i>"Irrigated crops range from 1NAWF to 3 NACB, with early planted crops not quite ready for defoliation, but will be in about 7-10 days"</i></p> <p><i>"Irrigated crops 7 NACB - 15 NACB. 1st defol on some in 10 days"</i></p> <p><i>"20-26 nodes for my dryland. Late fields 6 NAWF through to defoliation starting next week"</i></p> <p><i>"Cutting some dryland crops out with pix"</i></p> <p><i>"Dryland 21 – 28 nodes, cutting out"</i></p> <p><i>"Dryland crops 20 node 4-5 NAWF to 1st defoliation last week"</i></p>
Irrigation	<p><i>"Completed!"</i></p> <p><i>"Late crops 1 irrigation to go"</i></p> <p><i>"Majority of crops will receive their last irrigation in next 10-16 days"</i></p> <p><i>"Some crops have 2 or more irrigations depending on the weather"</i></p> <p><i>"Most crops last irrigation last week, some late fields last irrigation this coming week"</i></p> <p><i>"Most last waters completed now except late sown fields/double cropped fields which have 1 more in mid march".</i></p>



CottonInfo is holding a Verticillium Management webinar on Monday 21st March with Linda Smith (QDAF), Karen Kirkby (NSW DPI) & Bob Ford (CSD) – check your email for details this week.



Gwydir crop check

Insects/Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirids present but very low levels • Mites continue to be active in some fields, thrip activity generally suppressing them • Cotton Stainers moderate numbers • Cotton-seed Bugs common • SLW numbers mostly low, but monitoring continues. • <p><i>"Mite hotspots with some paddocks getting sprayed this week"</i></p> <p><i>"Low background levels of mirids, GVB, Shield bugs, Cotton Stainers, Cotton Seed Bugs and SLW"</i></p> <p><i>"Very odd mite found"</i></p> <p><i>"Odd stinkbug, large numbers of cotton seed bugs"</i></p> <p><i>"Mirids have been very quiet, odd brown shield bug and occasional GVB/pizedorus but overall low pressure"</i></p> <p><i>"SLW numbers increasing, have sprayed late cotton with Movento. Most fields will need a knock-down spray"</i></p> <p><i>"SLW populations remain low in most fields with good levels of parasitism. No Admiral sprays to date"</i></p> <p><i>"Whitefly variable - some fields/farms (despite 1 low impact insecticide in January) and very low levels on others. Not much has warranted action yet"</i></p> <p><i>"SLW numbers very low with no control warranted"</i></p> <p><i>"Lady beetles, red blue beetles, thrips, spiders in moderate numbers"</i></p> <p><i>"Plenty of spiders, red and blue beetles, predatory shield bug"</i></p>
Weeds	<p><i>"Late sesbania in some fields has needed a Gly"</i></p>
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verticillium wilt has increased significantly in the last month. <p><i>"Vert severe"</i></p> <p><i>"Alternaria increasing"</i></p> <p><i>"Seeing in VERT in low levels in most irrigated fields"</i></p> <p><i>"Patches of verticillium in known fields taildrains"</i></p> <p><i>"Vert increased; different strains appear to be causing different levels of yield decline."</i></p> <p><i>"Vert and fusarium present but overall the cotton has handled it okay, could have been much worse"</i></p> <p><i>"Boll rots and some Alternaria in the bigger canopies after the week of showers and cloud in late Feb"</i></p>



Gwydir crop check

Comments

"Maturity is very slow due to mild temps"

"Early dryland fields started defoliating this week. Leaf appears to be coming off quickly"

"Very concerned about mid/late December plantings and getting them through before the cold weather and high likelihood of yield and quality issues again this year"



CottonInfo Retention Trial at Norwood. Examining the cotton plants ability to compensate after early season insect pressure.

L-R Control, Fruiting Branches 1-5 damaged, Fruiting branches 6-10 damaged and Fruiting branches 1-10 damages

Results from Paul Grundy, QDAF Retention trials have found no significant difference in yield between treatments across 3 seasons.

Looking forward to the 2021/22 results here in a year where maturity has been delayed with mild conditions.

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Walgett & Bourke crop check

DATE – Friday 11th March 2022

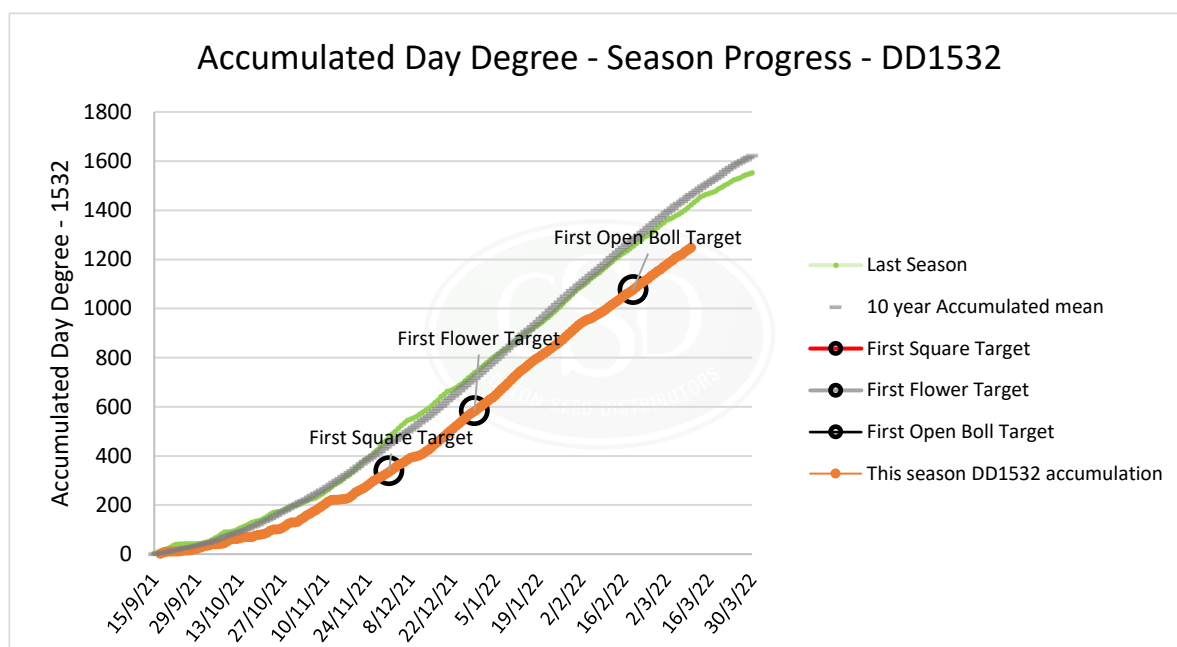


Figure 1: Accumulated day degrees showing crop progression targets – taken Walgett Airport 10/03/2022.

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Walgett & Bourke crop check

Area – Walgett

Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid 30's expected this week and overnight temperatures just under 20°C. • Recent warm (not hot) weather experienced lately has allowed the crop to want to continue growing. Some growers chasing extra top fruit, others happy with what is on the crop already and shutting it down. • Cut out rates of growth regulant being applied across the area – I think many growers are ready to see the end of this season! • Defoliation looks to be underway over the next 10 days. • Plenty of open cotton. • Boll size notably smaller than in previous years, but great early retention has meant large boll numbers on the crop.
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last irrigations going ahead. • 2.8mm rain for the month so far with nothing on the forecast
Pests/Beneficial Insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitefly adult presence constant. Ensure to distinguish between Greenhouse Whitefly and Silverleaf Whitefly when correctly identifying whitefly. See here for more information. • Mite sprays occurring across the area on some places.
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We all know Verticillium Wilt has reared its ugly head this year – older cotton blocks really showing the signs of what can happen with high pathogen levels in the soil.



Walgett & Bourke crop check

	<p>Please keep an eye out for 'new' disease Eutypella also known as Recurring Wilt. Symptoms include rapid wilting of otherwise healthy leaves, some necrotic symptoms on leaves, blackened stems just above ground level. To correctly identify stem cuts are needed to inspect the cross section. Do this just under the soil surface and inspect the stems for black marks and reddening as well as weak/dead bark that can be peeled off easily.</p> <p>Weak outer bark that peels easily.</p> <p>Black and red colours in the stem</p> <p>If you come across any of these symptoms please contact myself (Emma CottonInfo 0455 525 155) or Duy Le (DPI 0439 941 542)</p>
Comments	As always, a big thankyou to those who contribute to the crop check reports.





Walgett & Bourke crop check

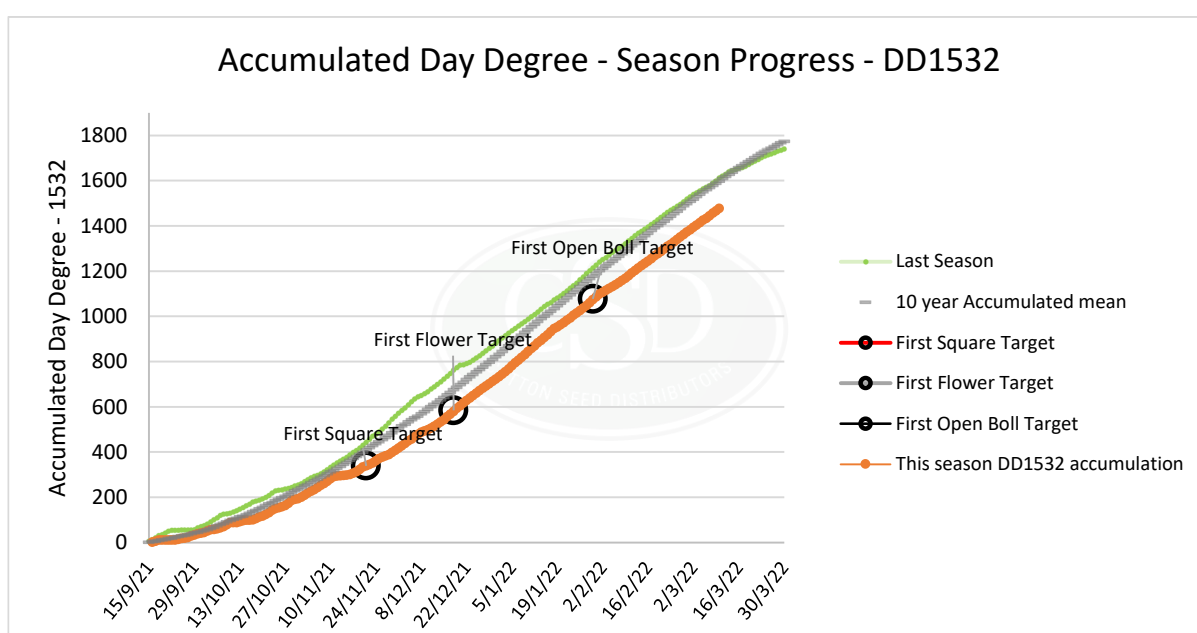


Figure 2: Accumulated day degrees showing crop progression targets – taken Bourke Airport 10/03/2022.

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Walgett & Bourke crop check

Area – Bourke	
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid to high 30's expected this week with overnight temperatures sitting around 20°C. • Up to 30 node crops • Mild season has allowed for chasing top fruit on the crop – perhaps a 'longer than average' season • Cut out rates of growth regulant used more than once this year • Anywhere from 8-11 NACB. • Large boll loads. • Defoliation getting close.
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last irrigations happening now. • Just under 20mm rainfall recorded at Bourke airport for the month of March. • No rainfall on the forecast at this stage.
Pests/Beneficial Insects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whitefly around but in low numbers. Good parasitism level. • Some insecticide control used for whitefly. Again, ensure correct identification of whitefly. See here for ID tips between Greenhouse whitefly and Silverleaf whitefly. • Some sucking insects around.
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some disease around, mainly Verticillium and Alternaria. • Unfortunately, it has been a year for disease!



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Walgett & Bourke crop check

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Gwydir crop check

29th March 2022

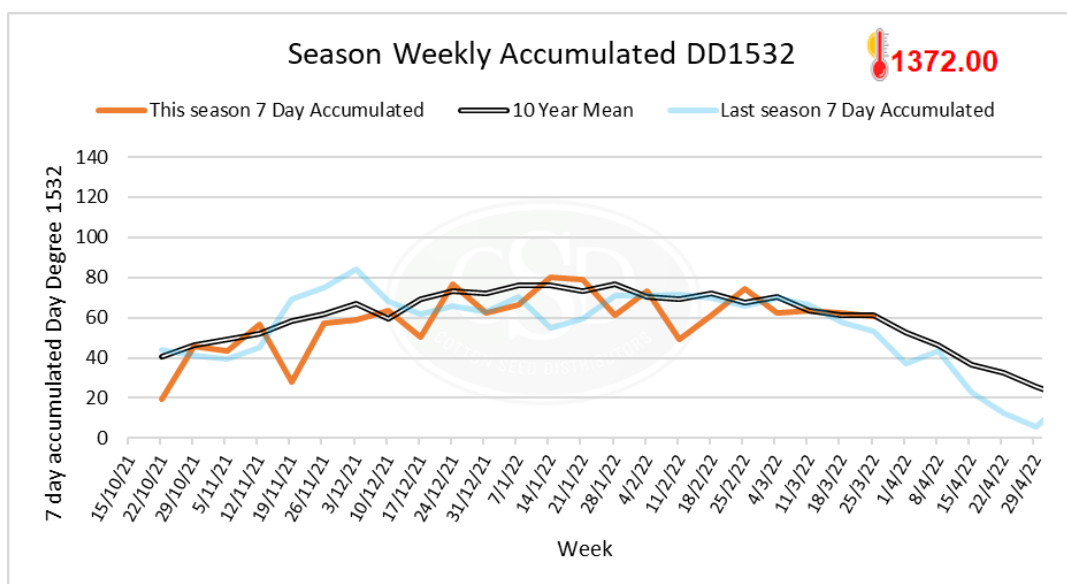


Figure 1: 7-day average DD (1532) compared to 2020/21 and the 10 year average.

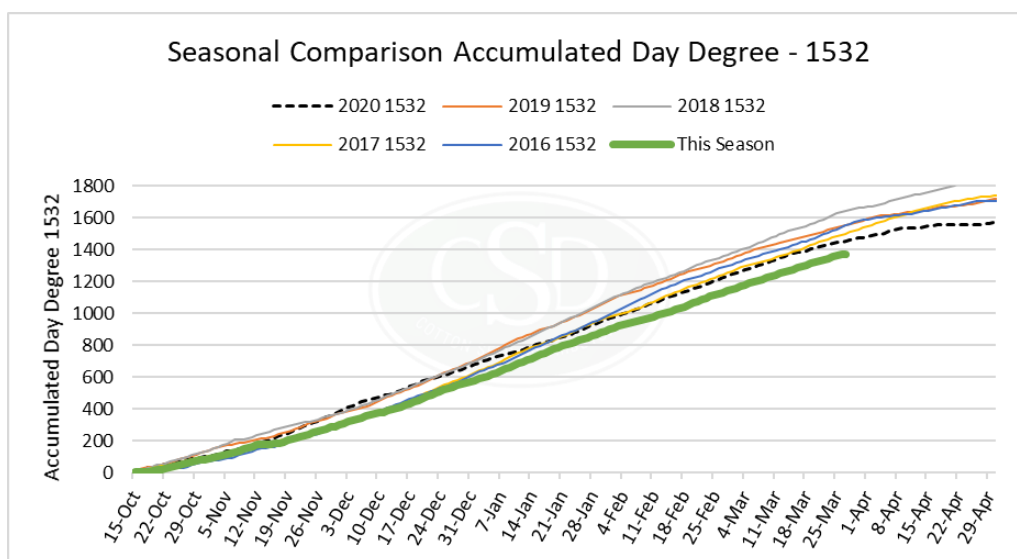


Figure 2: Seasonal Comparison Accumulated Day Degree - 1532



Gwydir crop check

Table 1: Seasonal Information based on 15th October planting date – 27th March 2022 (164 days)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	10 year mean
Base 12	2107.3	2220.9 ▲	2397.8 ▲	2501.7 ▲	2322.0 ▲	2324.5 ▲
DD1532*	1372.0	1454.9 ▲	1554.5 ▲	1641.9 ▲	1500.2 ▲	1518.7 ▲
Cold shock days ($\leq 11^{\circ}\text{C}$)	11	7 ▼	7 ▼	3 ▼	5 ▼	6.8 ▼
Days above 36°C	24	34 ▲	61 ▲	65 ▲	55 ▲	45.6 ▲
Nights above 25°C	0	1 ▲	21 ▲	12 ▲	9 ▲	8.2 ▲
Days above 40°C	0	6 ▲	14 ▲	12 ▲	11 ▲	9.1 ▲
Total rainfall (mm)	451.6	582.0 ▲	342.8 ▼	151.6 ▼	324.0 ▼	298.4 ▼
Total radiation (MJ/m^2)	3417.2	3486.5 ▲	3663.8 ▲	3887.8 ▲	3801.5 ▲	3403.7 ▼
Average temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	24.7	25.5 ▲	26.5 ▲	27.2 ▲	26.1 ▲	26.1 ▲

* Experimental calculation.

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Some early dryland crops ready to be picked



Gwydir crop check

AREA	Gwydir Valley
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picking underway! Saw my first cotton trucks on the road last week and some round modules in dryland fields. Irrigated: Early October plant – defoliation started through to late plant still a month off defol. Dryland: Early October plant – defoliation well underway through to December planted at cutout. <p><i>“Dryland 21-25 nodes, mature, fully defoliated to starting this week. Early leaf has come off well despite the plant trying to regrow on 100mm rain!”</i></p> <p><i>“The very first irrigated paddocks have received first defol last week with the bulk of the early Oct plant to likely happen late this week, weather pending. With a spread to the late planted cotton with the last effective boll at 6 days old (minimum 34 days to defol)”</i></p> <p><i>“Very first of the dryland is received it’s second defol this week. With the bulk of the early plant receiving it’s first defol this week. Later planted at 1 NAWF”</i></p>
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finished - ranging from 7 to 9 in total.
Insects/Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SLW present but low levels High numbers of beneficials including spiders, lady beetles and red-blue beetles High numbers Cotton seed bugs Low level mites persisting <p><i>“Plenty of loopers in refuges to the north”</i></p> <p><i>“Beneficials still very high, soldier beetles also in large numbers”</i></p> <p><i>“Mealy Bug have persisted at low levels in one crop, no action taken and no significant honey dew present at stripping”</i></p> <p><i>“Harlequin bugs appearing near Pally”</i></p> <p><i>“Finishing with a lot of spiders (>10 species), lady beetles, parasitic wasps etc due to soft run”</i></p> <p><i>SLW levels low</i></p> <p><i>“Later planted crops have seen some increases in SLW this week, however with pending rain there has been no need to treat”.</i></p> <p><i>“Low level mites in late dryland”</i></p> <p><i>“Mites persisting where hard chemistry used”</i></p> <p><i>“SLW adults influx into highly attractive late dryland easing”</i></p>



Gwydir crop check

Weeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scattered fleabane and Feathertop survivors throughout <p><i>"Terbyne & Dual Gold have done well"</i></p>
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verticillium wilt Alternaria Boll rot Duy Le, Cotton Pathologist, NSW DPI started the late season disease surveys in the Gwydir, Border Rivers (NSW) and Mungindi regions last week. <p><i>"Disease is still present and increasing slowly, for immature crops the rain will no doubt see more increases of verticillium".</i></p>
Comments	<p><i>"Slow maturity due to mild weather. Now 50+ days from white flower to mature boll"</i></p> <p><i>"Nitrogen>water>mirids>weed control will be the 4 biggest influences this season"</i></p> <p><i>"Premature senescence in low K soils"</i></p>

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Local consultant shared this photo of a harlequin bug in some maturing cotton
"Still a few juicy bolls susceptible to these critters!"



Mungindi crop check

30th March 2022

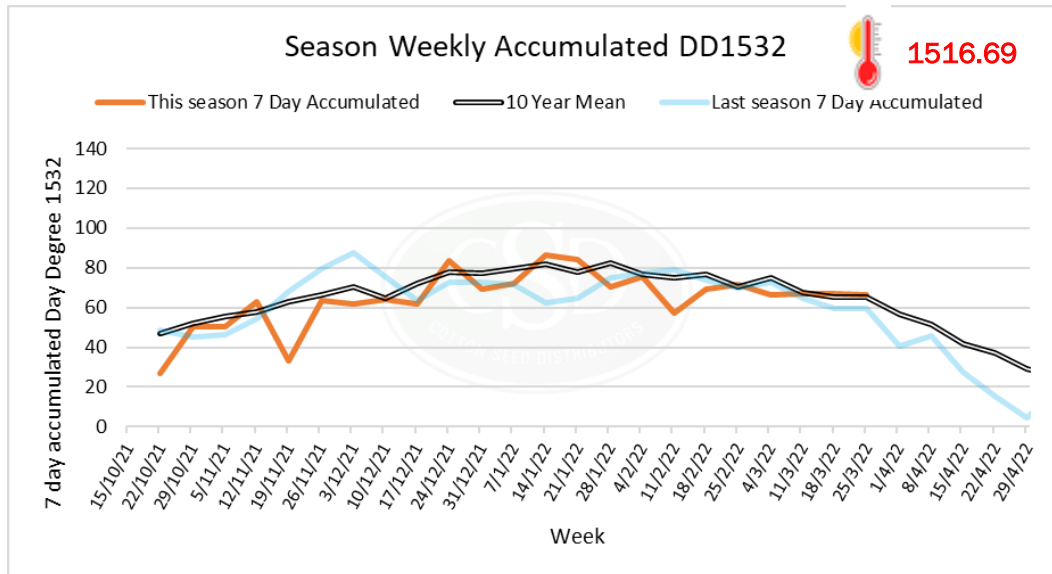


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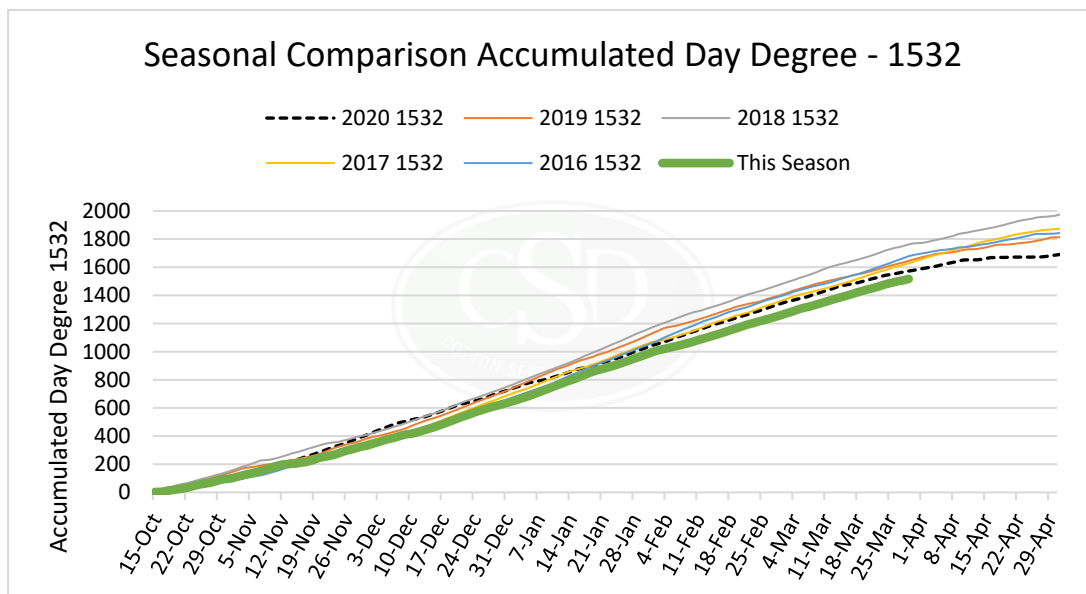


Figure 2: Seasonal Comparison Accumulated Day Degree - 1532



Mungindi crop check

Table 1: Seasonal Information based on 15th October planting date – 29th March 2022 (166 days)

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	10 year mean
Base 12	2313.7	2401.5 ▲	2578.2 ▲	2749.0 ▲	2564.0 ▲	2564.1 ▲
DD1532*	1516.9	1572.5 ▲	1645.3 ▲	1762.1 ▲	1628.4 ▲	1644.1 ▲
Cold shock days ($\leq 11^{\circ}\text{C}$)	9	3 ▼	9	1 ▼	3 ▼	5.6 ▼
Days above 36°C	38	45 ▲	79 ▲	90 ▲	74 ▲	70.9 ▲
Nights above 25°C	2	7 ▲	30 ▲	27 ▲	17 ▲	14.2 ▲
Days above 40°C	8	13 ▲	31 ▲	29 ▲	36 ▲	22.8 ▲
Total rainfall (mm)	339.2	516.1 ▲	324.0 ▼	156.4 ▼	246.7 ▼	248.6 ▼
Total radiation (MJ/m^2)	3498.7	3574.4 ▲	3744.5 ▲	3937.0 ▲	3859.5 ▲	3461.6 ▼
Average temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	25.9	26.4 ▲	27.5 ▲	28.5 ▲	27.4 ▲	27.4 ▲

* Experimental calculation.

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Climate observations and data are obtained via the State of Queensland SILO patched point dataset.

Seasonal Day Degree and historical data is sourced from Cotton Seed Distributors Day Degree Calculator found at www.csd.net.au/ddc. For more specific day degree and crop management detail for your farm, field and variety check out CottonTracka® at www.cottontracka.com.au



Mungindi crop check

AREA	Mungindi
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Irrigated: Majority crops close to defoliation Dryland: Early plant 2 weeks from 1st defol. Late plant defol won't be until May <p><i>"Crops and boll loads look positive"</i> <i>"Late fields are finishing off well, although they are still about 30 days away from defoliation"</i> <i>"Great to finish the season with full storage's and high prices!"</i></p>
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final irrigations done, 9-10 irrigations.
Insects/Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sucking insect pressure SLW remains low with good parasitism levels. Late cotton has had the highest SLW pressure due to migration. Some background GVB Moderate numbers cottonseed bugs High levels of beneficials, spiders, lacewings and lady beetles. <p><i>"85% of my area has not been sprayed for insects this year"</i> <i>"SLW present but low level"</i> <i>"Soft on all fields this year, with some fields unsprayed with insecticide, so no flaring of SLW"</i></p>
Weeds	<p><i>"No issue with weeds"</i> <i>"Second Group A spray has done a good job on FTRG"</i></p>
Disease	<p><i>"Verticillium increasing as the season continues, appears to be more prominent in 746"</i> <i>"Bad year for disease, seeing Verticillium and Alternaria"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Duy Le, Cotton Pathologist, NSW DPI started the late season disease surveys in the Gwydir, Border Rivers (NSW) and Mungindi regions last week.
Comments	<p><i>"Crops are finishing off well supporting a pretty high boll load"</i> <i>"Watching the weather but hoping crop comes home strong!"</i></p>

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