June 2019

Welcome to the June edition of the cotton thread for the 2018/19 season.

Climate update

With little to report on the moisture front the focus is on the outlook.

The CottonInfo Moisture Manager Outlook is for warm dry weather for the coming weeks although some models are predicting the possibility of light showers.

**Multi-week rainfall and temperature guidance summary**

Models favouring drier conditions in the coming weeks, with the exception of light showers forecast in some regions.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Temp Forecast</th>
<th>Precipitation outlook</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Emerald</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFSv2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dry to 28 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>JMA</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>No signal for wet/dry to 20 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCEP 16-day</td>
<td></td>
<td>No rain to 9 July</td>
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<td>Access-S</td>
<td>Warmer</td>
<td>No rain to 9 July</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECMWF</td>
<td>Average</td>
<td>Dry to 9 July</td>
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Crop Checks

The last crops in both the MacIntyre and St George regions are either being picked or have just been picked. Details on how these fared are yet to be obtained.

A recent CottonInfo e-newsletter focused on effective crop destruction as a critical area in the Bollgard 3 management strategy. Whilst largely targeted at managing the development of resistance to the Bt genetics, additional benefits exist in the management of pests and diseases. Click here for the newsletter.

Natural Resource Management

Follow the monthly “top tips” for natural resource management via the monthly Blog from Stacey Vogel. Her June Blog considers retaining large logs and rocks to provide a habitat for native animals. Details can be found here.


CRDC

CRDC Cotton Grower Survey

Conducted annually, the Grower Survey provides interesting insights into the attitudes and practices of growers - across the industry, and by region. A link to the 2018 survey results can be found here.

The 2019 CRDC Grower survey opened in June and growers and farm managers are invited to participate. Those with an email address registered with the CRDC should have received an email invitation. Others will be contacted by phone. For questions re the Cotton Grower Survey, please contact CRDC: 02 6792 4088.

CRDC and CCA Cotton Consultants Survey

A qualitative survey of cotton consultants regarding their practices and attitudes, as well as those of their cotton grower clients. The resulting report provides valuable information to the Australian cotton industry regarding on-farm practices, helping to benchmark the industry's performance in a range of key areas over time. A link to the 2018 report can be found here.

Australian Cotton Comparative Analysis Report 2018

Cotton Comparative Analysis is a joint initiative of CRDC and Boyce Chartered Accountants. The report provides the industry benchmark for the economics of cotton growing in Australia. The report focuses on the economics of the 2018 crop from growers across the different cotton-growing valleys. It also presents trends that have been measured against more than ten years of data, and, for the third year, includes per bale figures. A link to the report can be found here.

CRDC RD&E Investments 2018-2019

Do you want to update on current research investment by the CRDC? Details of investment projects can be found here.
The Australian Rural leadership Foundation announced the recipients of their Rural leadership program in early June. Congratulations to all selected. On a local front, among those selected were Chantal Corish and Rod Gordon from Goondiwindi. Both were sponsored by CRDC, Cotton Australia and Auscott. Chantal was also sponsored by Prime Super. See [here](#) for more details.

**Better Cotton Initiative Forum**

Over 100 brands, retailers and NGOs came together with cotton scientists, farmers and industry to learn about Australia’s sustainable cotton industry at a Better Cotton Initiative (BCI) Forum in Sydney.

The event was headlined by global sustainability leader Mr. Michael Kobori from Levi Strauss & Co., who addressed the group about his company's sustainability journey and its involvement with BCI, a sustainability initiative improving cotton production practices in 21 countries including Australia.

More detail can be found [here](#).

**AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY’S 2019 TOP ACHIEVERS ANNOUNCED**

Congratulations to local Goondiwindi growers Tom and Charm Arnott for their nomination as a finalist in the Grower of the Year competition. Winners of the various award categories will be announced at the Awards dinner on July 24th in Griffith, held in conjunction with the Cotton Collective. For further information, click [here](#).

**Bayer Grower of the Year Finalists**

- Tim Leifels and Kate Ledingham, Alice Downs Farms P/L, "Alice Downs" Moree, NSW
- Tom and Charm Arnott, Fairfield Farming Co P/L "Fairfield" and "Tambalaka" Boggabilla NSW
- Ben and Kim Witham, Mundoora Farming, "Mundoora", Coleambally, NSW

**Roundup Ready PLUS™ 2018/19 season summary** (excerpt from the latest Bayer Cotton Connections May 2019)

In 2018/19 Bayer launched the Roundup Ready PLUS™ program, which is designed to protect the longevity of glyphosate and the Roundup Ready FLEX® trait by rewarding cotton growers who use herbicides sustainably. The program encourages growers to use a range of weed control practices through product recommendations, educational tools and financial rebates.

In its inaugural season, the program exceeded expectations:

- 25% of all cotton growers participated in the program, across 11 valleys and 1,450 fields
- 35% of the total cotton area was sprayed with a program participating product that had a non-glyphosate mode of action
- Over 90% of growers participating in the program used more than one non-glyphosate mode of action in their cotton crop

Bayer would like to thank all growers who participated in the 2018/19 program. Please refer to www.roundupreadyplus.com.au for further details or click [here](#).

**Cotton Matters**

Catch up with the latest activities of Cotton Australia in the June 12th publication of Cotton Matters. Click [here](#).
Topics covered include:

- CA member bodies briefed on CA activities
- The sustainability forum BCI (see above as well)
- Cotton Collective on in Griffith
- myBMP recognised on the International Trade Centre (ITC) Sustainability map
- New Federal minister appointments for Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- Growers encouraged to share the facts on glyphosate

CSD

Cotton Management Tours

Planning for the 2019 Cotton Management tours is well underway. Locations and dates can be found via this link and in the “What’s On” section below. Local dates and places are:

July 15  Goondiwindi, O’Shea Royal Hotel (5pm)
July 17  St George, Golf Club (10am) and Dirranbandi, Dirran Pub (5pm)
July 18  Mungindi, Two Mile Hotel (10am)

What’s On

June/July: CSD Cotton Management Tours – dates and locations can be found here.
July 24-25: Cotton Collective, Griffith
July 24: Australian Cotton Industry Awards, Griffith

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