Welshy’s weather wrap ........

Entering the summer season sees more dynamic climate influences take effect. Jet streams and moisture supply are more influenced by local sea surface temperatures around our continent and less so the whole El Niño Southern Oscillation phenomenon. The Southern Annular Mode and warm Indian Ocean have been the shining lights for the Macquarie in 2015. The SAM looks set to surge into positive (wet) phase on the latest 14 day prediction. Precipitation in the Macquarie is well correlated with this key indicator until the end of the year, unlike most cotton areas, so worth keeping one eye on that. There looks to be an increase in temperatures in the first half of December. This is unusual to see given the consensus on above average rain predictions for this month also. On a positive note, more global models are predicting a rapid decay of the El Niño and hopefully a flip into a 2016 La Niña by late spring. Early days but these results are encouraging”

By Amanda Thomas

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Round the traps ..........

BGIII Footsteps in the field at Forbes

On the 19th of November I attended a field day at Forbes. The field day was a collaborative effort between Monsanto, Cotton Seed Distributors and Ag N Vet in Forbes. The field day was at “Walla Wallah” and was a chance for the new growers to get together and discuss the planting issues as well as potential new growers to see what growing cotton is all about. Sicot 74BRF is the main variety grown in this region but there is a number of new Bollgard 3 varieties being tested at both Forbes and Condobolin. This year the Forbes areas has three new growers, they have all had row crop and Irrigation experience and are trying Cotton for the first time this season. Planting went relatively well for these guys and the cotton is already well advanced for the region.
There is also a Bollgard 3 trial site at the property with all varieties getting off to a solid start. The Upper Lachlan around Forbes and Condobolin had less cotton than usual around the 1000 ha mark.

The trial site will host three more field days planned around crucial decision making times so that the growers can be well supported by the industry experts at the right time.

Pic 1. BG111 Trial site at Forbes

Local Planting update

Planting is done and dusted the in Macquarie, it was a great planting window this season with some scattered moisture that allowed some growers to get field up on moisture. Mortality was greatly reduced due to the ideal soil temps at planting. Unofficially we have an area of just over 10 000 green Ha however some of that cotton will need good rainfall to make it through to the end of the season so the end figure might end up a bit less.

We are up there in terms of where we are sitting with Day Degrees the North end of the valley 665DD is above average but a bit below where we were year at this time.

The south end of the valley is at 595 with 3 times the cold shock days compared to the North.

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Check it out......

Hugh Beveridge and co have been at it again with another funny you tube video, this time the BOM is in their sights .... It’s a music parody worth watching

Check it out

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OKUhwu2JgU

Another cool techy thing is the app that tell you what is in the water storages around Australia is a live feed and is pretty easy to use

The Bureau's Water Storage website gives you access to information for more than 250 publicly-owned water storages across Australia. That information is now available in the palm of your hand. Water storage levels and volumes can now be tracked for over 250 sites across the nation, with daily updates available for most of Australia’s urban and rural water supply systems.


RDO Round Up

I have been a busy beaver of late October was a busy month with our awards and other industry events as well as planting. I have been working with the MCGA on putting in a grass roots grant that will give MCGA members access to state of the art weather stations and look at Canopy Temperature Sensors across 5 different farms. We will have a number of short sharp “Pop Up” field days around the results of the trial. There will be a full write up in the next edition of the Bale up.

I have also been to Toowoomba to attend the Australian Cotton Research Conference. It was great to see firsthand how much research is being done on the crucial issues that growers are facing each season. I will be hoping to get some on farm trial happening over this season and coming seasons that will allow growers in the Macquarie to check out new technology first hand.

I have also been to Sydney to attend a Cotton Info Team meeting as well as catch up with the Cotton Australia RM and the grower panels. It is great to see some changes implemented by CRDC that change the process from letting projects come to CRDC to getting the panels and the Industry to identify research gaps and put out tenders for the research to be done. CRDC have a huge job in making sure the research dollars are not wasted in overlapped areas and making sure the industry goals are being met.
If you are not getting regular updates from the CottonInfo website such as enewsletter and Welshy Moisture Manager please jump on the link and subscribe to them you will then be on the mailing list for the production manuals and spotlight Magazine as well.


You can also find the results of 2014 cotton grower survey below


This year the survey will be run electronically I would like to help support grower to fill out the survey, let me know of anyway we can this task as simple as possible.

**Whats on in December**

30th Nov - 3rd Dec Cotton Irrigation Automation Tour - a four day tour (Mon 30 Nov to Thurs 3 Dec) to northern VIC and southern NSW to see the automation technologies already in use in the southern irrigation industry. Travel with irrigation automation specialists including Rod Smith, Malcolm Gillies, NCEA, Peter Moiler, David Robson, Rubicon, Shawn Padman, Padmans, and Leeton irrigation designer Mike Naylor.

For more information and to view the full tour itinerary, [click here](http://www.cottoninfo.com.au/subscribe) or see attached flyer. To reserve your spot on the tour please contact Janelle Montgomery Mob. 0428 640 990 Email. janelle.montgomery@dri.nsw.gov.au.

REVs close Monday 26 October.

A 2 day BMP workshop in Emerald, Ph Liz Alexander 0429 471 511.