



# Namoi crop check

**DATE** – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Area – Namoi	
<b>Crop Stage</b>	<p><b>Gunnedah</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15-20 nodes</li> <li>- Flowering well</li> <li>- Mepiquat applications</li> <li>- Some foliar fertiliser applications (aircraft)</li> <li>- Lower retention not as good</li> </ul> <p><b>Narrabri/Wee Waa</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 15-22 nodes</li> <li>- Late plant cotton yet to flower – remainder flowering well</li> <li>- Mepiquat applications</li> <li>- Bolls progressing</li> </ul> <p><b>Walgett</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18-22 nodes</li> <li>- 5-7 NAWF</li> <li>- Shorter more compact crop than last year – more mepiquat used than last year</li> <li>- Good retention</li> <li>- Dryland is struggling.</li> <li>- Irrigation OK.</li> </ul> <p><b>Bourke</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 18-22 nodes</li> <li>- 3-6 NAWF</li> <li>- Growers have been watching Last Effective Flower dates</li> <li>- Cut out rates of mepiquat chloride applied</li> <li>- Good size green bolls low in the canopy</li> <li>- Getting close to open cotton</li> </ul>



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<p><b>Irrigation</b></p>	<p><b>All areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Irrigation cycles well underway</li> <li>- Most irrigated crops not looking too stressed, temperatures have been favourable</li> <li>- Dryland is struggling. Looking like it will cut itself out.</li> <li>- Approx. 50mm in Narrabri 30<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>- Storm across Blackville area saw 15-30mm in places on 9<sup>th</sup> February</li> <li>- Other areas have missed rainfall in the last few storms</li> </ul> <p><b>Bourke</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 7-10 irrigations so far – working towards 9-11 in total</li> <li>- Growers a little concerned about final irrigations</li> <li>- River has dropped significantly, likely to rely on stored water for final irrigations</li> <li>- No dryland</li> <li>- Some humid conditions and days above 40°C however, night temperatures have been OK and no moisture stress evident in the crop</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pests/Beneficial Insects</b></p>	<p><b>All areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Spider mites affecting most areas. Damage variable. Thrips present &amp; predator now.</li> <li>- Mirids present.</li> <li>- Vege bugs persistent – both green and brown seen lately. Picture below.</li> <li>- Varying control measures</li> <li>- Whitefly numbers building.</li> <li>- Control measures have been taken on Whitefly populations in Bourke.</li> </ul>



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Brown Vegetable Bug cluster

**Disease**

- Signs of Verticillium Wilt across the valley
- Suspect disease samples can be sent to Duy Le, NSW DPI, at Australian Cotton Research Institute. Contact **Emma 0455 525 155** or **Duy 0439 941 542** for assistance or more information.
- Early detection of Cotton Bunchy Top in the Namoi, see example image below.

[CottonInfo: Cotton Bunchy Top Fact Sheet](#)





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Leaves are small and have a leathery appearance. Leaf mottle may turn red.

**General comments**

- Cold conditions evident on the plant where it has thrown a vege branch on nodes 9-10.
- Drift evidence throughout a lot of crops this year causing abnormal growth. Severity varied.
- Contact local Cotton Australia representative to report any drift incidents. Alec Macintosh 0428 618 004.

*See below graphs for Seasonal Comparison of Accumulated Day Degrees across all areas.*

*Note: Day Degree Degree Accumulation for Gunnedah scaled lower than other areas.*



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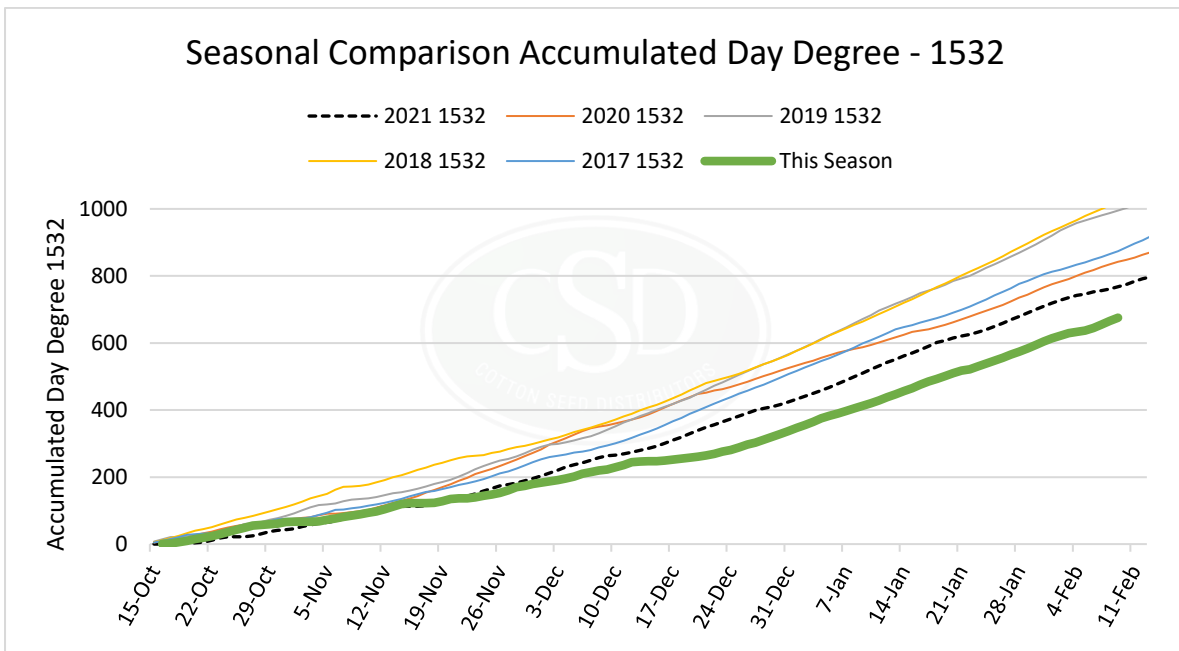


Figure 1: Accumulated Day Degree Seasonal Comparison – **Gunnedah Airport**, taken 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023



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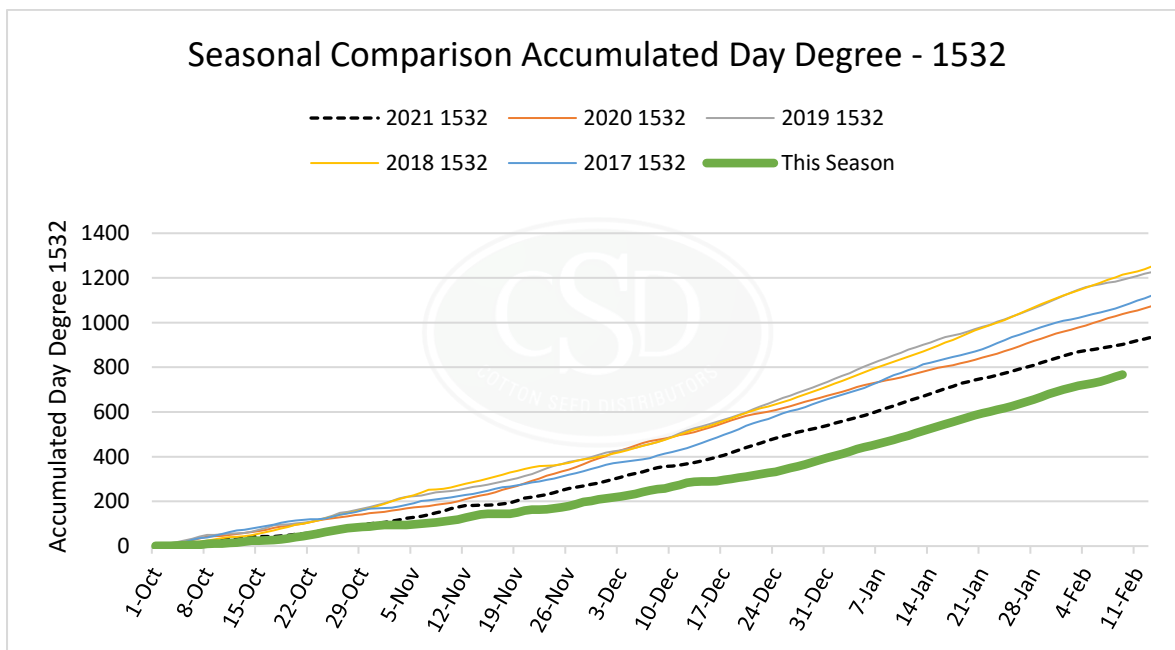


Figure 2: Accumulated Day Degree Seasonal Comparison – Narrabri Airport, taken 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023





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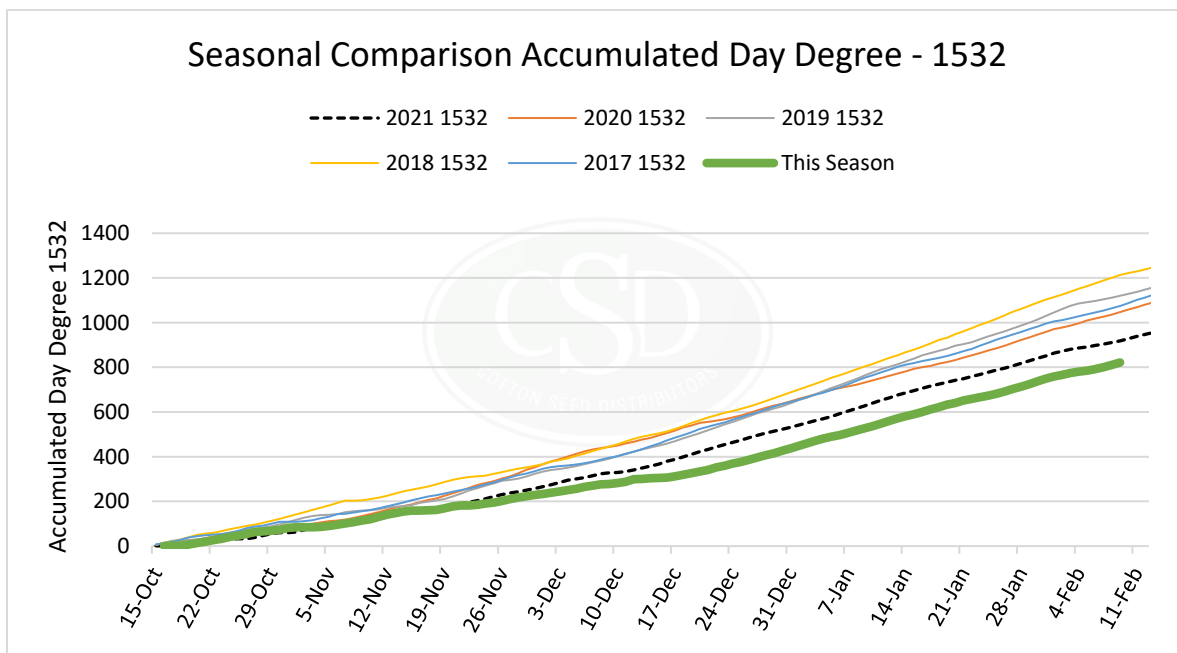


Figure 3: Accumulated Day Degree Seasonal Comparison – Walgett Airport, taken 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023



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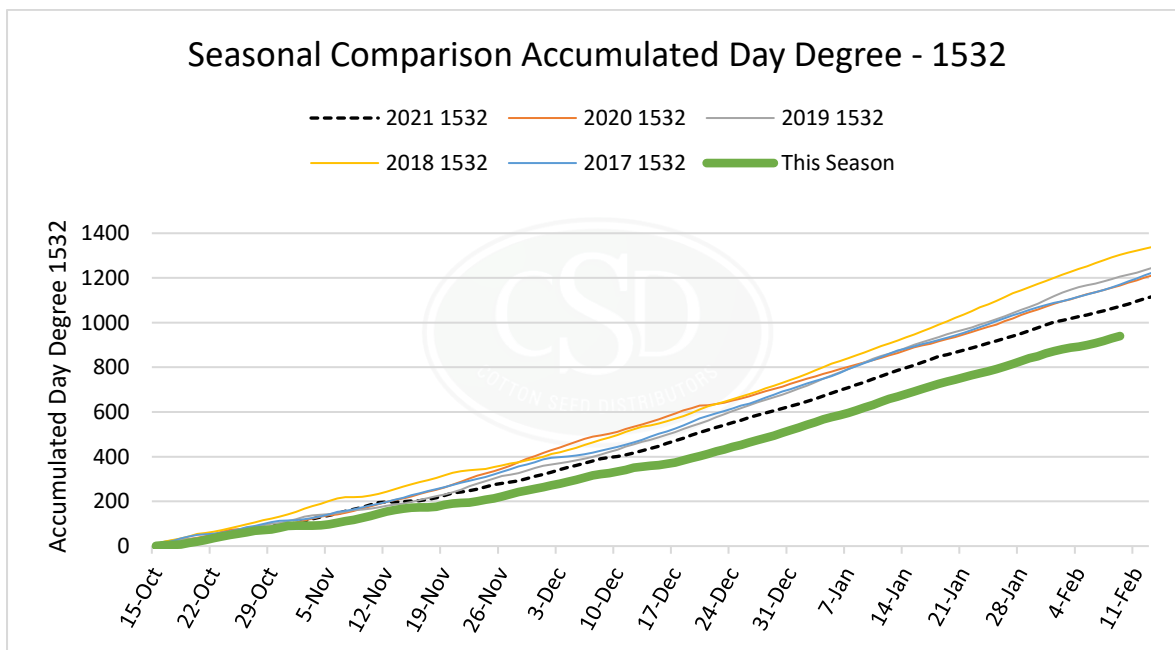


Figure 4: Accumulated Day Degree Seasonal Comparison – Bourke Airport, taken 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Seasonal Day Degree and historical data is sourced from Cotton Seed Distributors Day Degree Calculator found at [www.csd.net.au/ddc](http://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](http://www.cottontracka.com.au)

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