



the **cq cotton call**

January 2023

Welcome to the January Edition

What's been happening?

I hope everyone had a lovely Christmas and New Year with their families, eating too much food and enjoying a bit of down time. Even though cotton doesn't usually allow for this too much!! Central Queensland growers have had some nice dry and warm weather to really get the cotton coming along in late December, early January. Followed by some high rainfall on the highlands and some very cool and overcast weather for the whole area. Other than for the lovely rain, this has not been ideal growing conditions as some cotton crops dropped fruit following that weather. There are crops ranging from 10 nodes to first defoliation, some at cut-out stage with the decision being made to keep it growing or finish it off. As we head into February it will be interesting what the weather will have in store for us, so far, it's looking like another long season for Central Queensland.

There will be some events coming up throughout the coming months, starting early March.

- The Callide Dawson CGA will be hosting a sticky beak tour around their region.
- The Central Highlands CGA will be hosting a Teach the Teacher tour in Emerald.
- Acres of Opportunity Field days at Banana (dryland) and Monto (irrigation)
- Soil Nutrition Workshops
- ExtendFlex trials field walks in Clermont (dryland), Theodore and Springsure (irrigation)

Some of these events may be combined but be sure to look out for us advertising them when dates and sites are locked in. There will be some great information and discussions for everyone.



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CQ crop check

Resistance in Cotton Aphids

DATE – Monday 30th January 2023

Cotton aphids (*Aphis gossypii*) have been a relatively infrequent pest during the last decade for most cotton regions. However, with a cooler season, aphids are now being encountered by many agronomists.

Recent aphid resistance testing has identified several populations from the Darling Downs with very high Group 1 (organophosphates/carbamates) resistance.

This level of resistance to Group 1 insecticides was widespread in the 2000s but has not been seen (except in northern Australia) since about 2014.

In the fields where the aphids were collected, dimethoate had been used for mirid control earlier in the season, and a later application of pirimicarb (an excellent IPM selective tool for aphid management) did not provide adequate control. This is not to say that the two consecutive applications of Group 1 products caused this resistance. It is likely that a strain of aphids with pre-existing resistance had by chance established in this field and that the two applications removed most of the susceptible individuals present. While it is too early to know how widespread resistance might be in cotton aphids this season, this finding is a timely reminder to be mindful about product selection and potential impacts on different pest species. Think about the mode of action group of the products you choose and be aware that the application of an insecticide for one target pest can sometimes create problems with others.

The take home message is to avoid repeat application of Group 1 insecticides, particularly this season when aphids are common. Effective aphid management is important not just for preserving yield and lint quality, but aphids are also a vector for cotton bunchy top, a viral disease that has also been identified from an increased number of fields this season.

Refer to the Cotton Pest Management Guide for the most up to date guidance for when and how products can be best used to avoid the development of insecticide resistance.

In light of this, we are keen to have more aphid samples collected from Central Queensland and neighboring valleys to see if this resistance is in aphid populations in other regions and how far spread it is. To collect aphids, they need 50+ aphids for testing. Collect aphids on leaves or stems and put the plant material and some extra leaves into a PAPER bag with the aphids. Keep cool while in field and put into the fridge until they are couriered to NSW DPI (details below).

They are hardy so can be left in the fridge for 3 or 4 days before sending to NSW DPI.



Sample:	Insect:		
Date of collection		Crop	
Location			
Grower			
Farm			
Field			
Collectors name			
Collectors company			
Spray history			
Additional information			

Please send this information in with your sample – just write it on the paper bag if you want. Include the GPS on the location.

Samples to be couriered to:

Lisa Bird NSW DPI

Tamworth Agricultural Institute

[Aphid Collection Information print out.pdf](#)

AREA	Central Queensland
Crop Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crops ranging from 10 nodes to 28 nodes, first defoliation. • Some starting their second phase of growing due to high fruit loss due to recent wet, cloudy humid conditions.
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irrigations where able to be held off. • Some started again following the wet weather.
Insects/Beneficial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older crops some small hot spots of aphids starting to produce honeydew, broad mites, and rats. • Younger crops the odd mirid activity, broad mites building. • Older crops very high beneficial numbers
Weeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate level • Ground cherry, Sesbania, pigweed • Volunteer sorghum • Fleabane, parthenium • Feather top Rhodes grass
Disease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senescence • Sudden Wilt • Read more on Wilt in cotton here: Be wilt aware.pdf (cottoninfo.com.au) • Alternaria leaf spot • Boll Rot • Not favorable wet and overcast conditions for disease
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humid conditions and high UV occurring with storm activity. • Major fruit loss due to recent weather, anything that wasn't an established boll was thrown, in places up to 7 nodes. • This is the wettest and most humid season in a while with heavy dews in the morning also. • Good soil moisture and temps not exceeding 38 or over for the coming weeks.

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This information is provided as a general guide only; not comprehensive or specific technical advice. Circumstances vary from farm to farm. To the fullest extent permitted by law, CSD expressly disclaims all liability for any loss or damage arising from reliance upon any information, statement or opinion in this document or from any errors or omissions in this document.

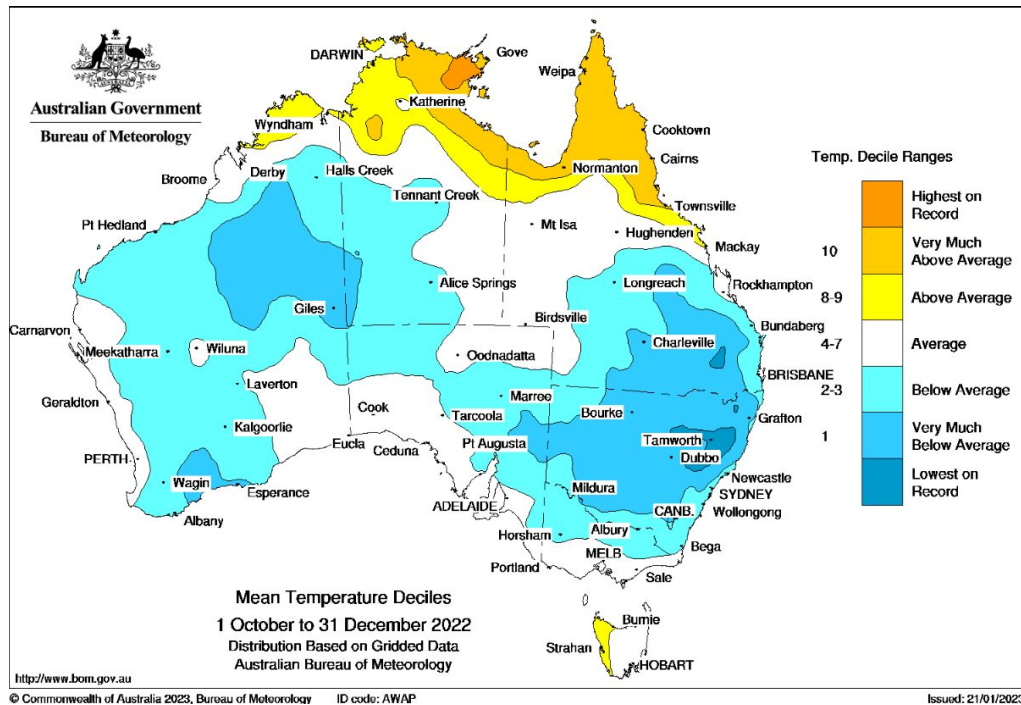
Information and Topics

CottonInfo: Moisture Manager, 23 January 2023

[CottonInfo Moisture Manager - mild temps and mid-tercile rainfall expected to cut-out \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Mean temperature deciles (Oct-Dec)

Mean temperature deciles show a cooler trend during the analysis period. The Liverpool Plains (NSW) and northern Darling Downs region of Qld set new records as mean temperatures plummeted in the last three months of 2022. CQ showing below average which is very apparent.



Australian Cotton Industry looks to a happy 2023 despite floods and global volatility.

The Australian Cotton Industry is forecasting a 2023 crop outcome that has the potential to again be over 5 million bales despite the impacts of cooler than expected weather, and the heavy rain and floods that damaged farms and infrastructure while preventing or delaying planting.

Read More: [Microsoft Word - Cotton Australia MR Cotton Industry looks to a happy 2023](#)





Long standing Managing Director announces retirement from Cotton Seed Distributors

After decades of leading Cotton Seed Distributors (CSD) outstanding growth, Peter Graham will retire from the Managing Director position on 31 December 2023. Over the next 12 months, the CSD board will focus on the recruitment of, and a seamless transition to, the new Chief Executive Officer.

Read More: [CSD | News and Media | Long standing Managing Director announces retirement from Cotton Seed Distributors](#)



What's the future of cotton research?

Once every five years, CRDC creates a new Strategic Plan.

This plan is the roadmap that guides all of CRDC's research, development and extension (RD&E) investments for the following five years. CRDC's next plan - which will cover the 2023-28 period - is now being built and we'd love your feedback. Read More: [What's the future of cotton research? | CRDC](#) Register here: [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Kind Regards

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