



**Information** when you need it



# the **cotton tale**

**April 2023**

Every season is different and this season crops are running late in development. First pass defoliation is happening now on the crops that are ready, which is at least two to three weeks behind the normal timing. Good effective defoliation will be a challenge as temperatures drop as we go into late April/early May.



This CottonInfo produced harvest preparation and defoliation guide will help you to better understand:

- How defoliation and boll opening works.
- Important steps for harvest preparation before you defoliate.
- The impact of environment and crop factors on harvest aid performance.



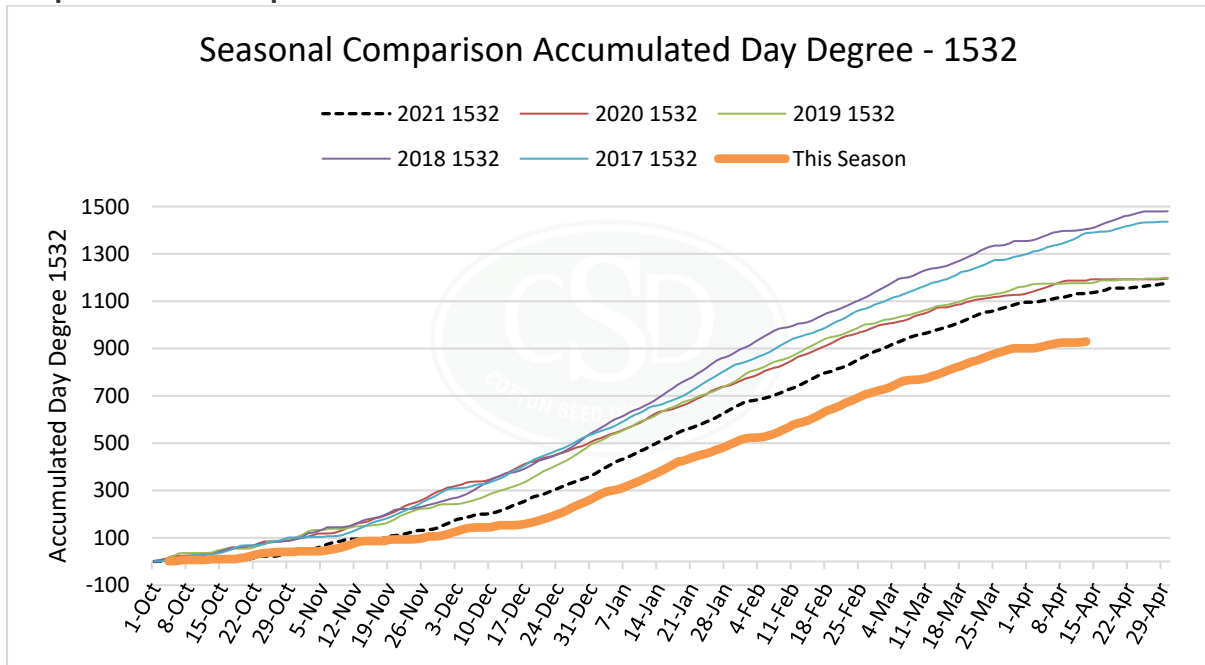
- The mode of action for defoliants, boll openers and desiccants.
- Crop maturity for timely harvest aid application.
- How to improve defoliant application efficacy.

You should have received a hard copy in the latest edition of the Australian Cottongrower magazine. If not – you can download it here: [Defoliation: Optimising your end of season management | CottonInfo](#)

## Seasonal Day degrees

As Graph 1 shows this season will be the lowest day degree accumulation in the past six seasons.

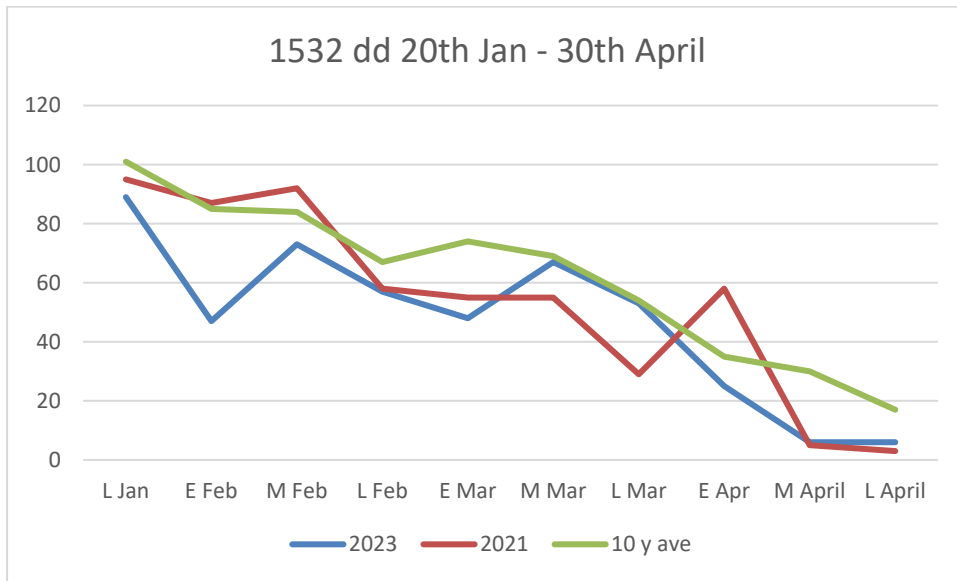
**Graph 1. Griffith Airport data**



## Flowering day degrees

With a lot of cotton planted outside the preferred planting window due to the starting weather conditions, low micronaire becomes more of a risk. The graph below (Griffith Airport data) compares the 2020 -21 season (where low micronaire was common) and this season. We have experienced average to below average day degree accumulation from late January this season.

This season looks likely to end up with 471 1532 day degrees for 20<sup>th</sup> Jan – 30<sup>th</sup> April. In the 2020 -2021 season the total was 537. The 10 year average is 616.



**Graph 2. Griffith Airport data**

### End of season Barry potential yield assessment

For those that are CSD members it is quite easy to do a End of season yield assessment on different fields once the crop is fully open using the BARRY potential yield tool (see screenshot below).

What you need is a realistic boll number/m<sup>2</sup>, boll weight of lint by weighing 100 bolls and converting to a turnout of 40 %, estimate of ML water applied, length of season in days (imbibe date to first defoliation), days of flowering (first flower date to last effective flower date), total rain for the season and days above 40 °C. Most of this information can be accessed using the CSD Day degree calculator. It only costs twenty dollars for yearly membership and there are many benefits to being a member. [CSD | Membership](#)

## Crop Snapshot

Name	Value
Final Boll Count m <sup>2</sup>	105
Overall Boll Lint Weight (gm/boll)	2.1
Grower Est. Irrigation Water App (ML)	8
Length of Season (days)	182
Days of Flowering	26
Total Rainfall (mm)	280
Hot Days > 40 C	3
Yield (b/ha)	7.6 ± 1

## Nomination call for SVCGA GROWER OF THE YEAR

- The call for nominations is for the 2021 – 22 season (last year).
- There will be one major award for SVCGA grower of the year. Award winners will not be eligible for future years awards.
- Anyone can nominate a grower (with their consent) and more than one grower can be nominated by an individual. The deadline for initial nomination is by **Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May**.
- Nominations need to include a brief outline of why the grower has been nominated with details submitted on the attached form allowing the judging panel to select the final nominees for the award.
- The judging panel will consist of independent industry members and a local grower.
- The judging panel will visit the nominees farm in June for a brief interview and photo/video to be used on the awards night.
- Nominees will get two tickets to the awards dinner and will be recognised on the night.
- Grower who receives the award will become part of the judging panel for the following nomination period.



### 2021- 2022 Grower of the Year Nomination Form

Please complete and return via email by **31<sup>st</sup> May** to:

Kieran O’Keeffe [kieran.okeeffe@cottoninfo.net.au](mailto:kieran.okeeffe@cottoninfo.net.au)

or Tom Mannes [tomm@cotton.org.au](mailto:tomm@cotton.org.au)

Grower nominated .....

Business name .....

Farm name .....

Nominated by.....

Permission granted for nomination .....

**Suggested areas to outline (but not limited to):**

Outline why they have been nominated?

For example: Past farm averages and quality/areas grown

Did the grower have a sustainability focus?

For example: rotation type, soil testing, specific nutrition program

What was the growers water use? Bales/ML

Did the grower go above and beyond with industry and community involvement?

Did the nominated grower adopt any innovative use of technology, layouts, or implement any on farm trials?



**March quiz answer** – In what northern NSW town is this interesting house colour scheme? **Inverell**



**April quiz** – Who is this famous Polish explorer and scientist?

**Regards Kieran**

**Disclaimer:**

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 presentation or from any errors or omissions in this document