



December 2015

Welcome and Merry Christmas for 2015

Welcome to the first (and last) edition of the CottonInfo newsletter for 2015.

This newsletter is to introduce myself to the wider cotton community.



I commenced this role in early November (previously John Smith) as the Regional Development Officer (RDO) for the Darling Downs. Previous to this role I was with Bayer CropScience for 13 years which is where many of you would know me from. This new role has provided me with many new challenges including deeper insight into the research and development of the industry.

I have been working my way around the district and hope to continue to meet many more of you in the New Year.

You may ask what exactly does an RDO do. Well, the CottonInfo team is a joint venture between Cotton Australia, Cotton Seed Distributors and the Cotton Research and Development Corporation with the aim to build a team of field officers to support the development and extension of the Australian cotton industry's research to improve practices, productivity, competitiveness and environmental performance.

My role is an extension role and involves connecting growers with research, encouraging behavioural change on farm, encouraging the uptake of *myBMP*¹ and is a means of information access for growers. I welcome any of you to contact me at any time with matters that you may wish to discuss or just for a chat.

Regional On-Farm Trial Roundup

This season like previous ones, there are many on farms trials that are being conducted by industry researchers. A snap shot of some of those trials is below. A full list is available on our website <http://www.cottoninfo.com.au/farm-trials>.

Photo Courtesy Alan Redfern



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Australian Government
Cotton Research and
Development Corporation





Information when you need it



Nutrition (NPK)

Mealy Bugs Management

CSD's Variety & Trait Trials

N Fertiliser & GHG Emissions

Variable Irrigation Application

Pigeon Pea Variety Trials

Planter Depth & Plant Density

Irrigation System Efficiency

Some of these trials have been on-going now for a number of years on the Downs and in surrounding Valleys.

Date Claimer

Thursday 3rd March - Darling Downs Cotton Grower of the Year Field Day

Grower Survey

There is currently a PhD survey being conducted on the Motivations of Cotton Growers.

Geraldine Wunsch, a doctoral Candidate at the School of Linguistics, Adult and Specialist Education Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts said;

"It is designed around a model looking at who a cotton grower is: both the personality traits and characteristic adaptations of growers, as well as their self-efficacy, values, job satisfaction and work engagement, leading to attraction and retention of growers to our industry".

If you would like to participate in this survey, please click on the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MotivationalFactorsofCottonGrowersREVISED>

Finally I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2016. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the New Year.

Seasons Wishes

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