



TRAVEL, CONFERENCE or SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE REPORT 2017

Part 1 - Summary Details

Please use your TAB key to complete Parts 1 & 2.

CRDC Project Number: CCA1801

Project Title: Travel: Participate in the 2017 Australian Cotton Research
Conference, Canberra ACT

Project Commencement Date: 18/08/2017 **Project Completion Date:** 08/09/2017

CRDC Research Program: 4 People

Part 2 – Contact Details

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Signature of Research Provider Representative:

Date Submitted:

____25 October 2017____

Part 3 – Travel, Conference or Scientific Exchange Report

(Maximum two pages)

1. A brief description of the purpose of the travel.

Two agronomists/crop consultants participate in the 2017 Australian Cotton Research Conference, Canberra, ACT.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

b) other highlights

Knowledge and information was gained on an extensive range of topics, delivered by many researchers (including presentations from overseas representatives) that the agronomist/crop consultancy network has not previously been exposed to. The reports prepared by the CCA delegates have been distributed to members via the newsletter and the CCA Board to share insights and relevant information as well as guide the CCA Seminar Planning Team in selecting new and relevant speakers and presentations for the CCA Cropping Solutions Seminar program for 2018.

Through the CCA Expression of Interest (EOI) process to select its representatives to attend the Conference, awareness of cotton research programs was increased. 15 CCA members downloaded the event program and another 11 people went to the Research Conference website.

Despite the EOI being released at very short notice, CCA received a total of five (5) applications by the due date with another one (1) received after the closing date. At the suggestion of CRDC, two newer CCA members were selected.

The Conference Report was distributed to 227 CCA Members and other key stakeholders via the CCA Consultants Catchup e-newsletter. The Conference reports are tracking as the most clicked items in that edition of the e-newsletter which highlights the value that consultants place on the opinions and perspectives of their peers and how it is important to encourage members to share information with each other.

3. Detail the persons and institutions visited, giving full title, position details, location, duration of visit and purpose of visit to these people/places. (NB:- Please provide full names of institutions, not just acronyms.)

The 2017 Australian Cotton Research Conference was held in Canberra at the CSIRO Discovery Centre from 5-7 September 2017. CCA's participants attended a diversity of research presentations/sessions as outlined in their conference reports (attached).

4. a) Are there any potential areas worth following up as a result of the travel?

b) Any relevance or possible impact on the Australian Cotton Industry?

The CCA Board recognise the value of strengthening the relationship between researchers/scientists and the agronomic network. As such, CCA is going to focus some efforts on investigating options to address this. One such option may include looking at ways to encourage more CCA members to attend research focused events in the future such as the Australian Cotton Research Conference.

In the future it may be necessary to release the EOI before confirmation of CRDC funding is confirmed as delegates experienced difficulty finding accommodation and booking flights so close to the event. As a result the delegates incurred significant higher costs to attend the event which they covered from their own funds.

5. How do you intend to share the knowledge you have gained with other people in the cotton industry?

Reports prepared by both participants were distributed direct to 227 people via the CCA Consultants Catchup e-newsletter on 20th October 2017. Readership statistics recorded to date indicate that these reports are currently tracking as the #1 and #3 most popular items in that edition of the newsletter. The reports have also be distributed direct to the CCA Board and CCA Seminar Planning Team and will be referred to during the planning of CCA's professional development events in 2018.

Please email your report 30 days after travel/conference to: research@crdc.com.au