



Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE

Final Report

Part 1 - Summary Details

Cotton Catchment Communities CRC Project Number:

Project Title: Travel to WCRC5 in Mumbai, India

Project Commencement Date: November, 2011

Project Completion Date: November 2011

Research Program:

Rapid tests for safer use of pesticides in cotton growing.

- (i) Presentation of a paper at WCRC5 (*Cotton pesticides and reducing environmental risk*).
- (ii) Visit relevant centres regarding cotton pesticides in Hyderabad.

Part 2 – Contact Details

Administrator: Luda Kuchieva

Organisation: University of Sydney

**Postal Address: G02 Jane Fossell Building,
University of Sydney NSW 2006**

Ph: 02 8627 8106 Fx:n 02 8627 E-mail: luda.kuchieva@sydney.edu.au

Principal Researcher: Ivan R. Kennedy

Organisation: University of Sydney

**PostalAddress: Biomedical Building,
1 Central Avenue, Eveleigh, NSW
2006**

Ph: 02 8627 1046 Fx: 02 8627 1099 E-mail: ivan.kennedy@sydney.edu.au

Researcher 2: Not applicable

**Other Staff & Collaborators – Please list, Angus Crossan, Mitchell Burns
and Michael Rose**

Signature of Research Provider Representative:

Part 3 - Travel Report

The points below are to be used as a guideline when completing your final report.

1. What were the:

a) Major findings, outcomes and highlights.

WCRC5 was attended in Mumbai Nov 6-11 and a paper was presented regarding management of risk from pesticides used in cotton production. In particular, attention to the advantages of retaining endosulfan for resistance management for Bt genes in cotton was emphasised, as well as the results of Cotton CRC project 2.03.09 *Rapid herbicide tests and sustainability indicators*. An invitation to visit Excel Cro Care Ltd in Mumbai was accepted and a positive interaction regarding managing environmental risk ensued.

2. Detail the persons and institutions visited, giving full title, position details, location, duration of visit and purpose of visit to these people/places.

In Hyderabad in visits subsequent to WCRC5 (Nov 13-15), links were made to (i) AMar Immunodiagnosics, a company involved in ELISA tests for Bt toxin in cotton (ii) the Indian chemical industry (Indian Chemical Council, S. Ganesan);(Makhteshim-Agan Pvt. Ltd. Dr N. Pullaiah, Dr Arpita Roy) (iii) with ICRISAT, where possibilities for developing mycotoxin quick tests were examined.

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

Yes. Contact has already been made with some of the participants and a follow-up visit regarding the endosulfan case and Quick Tests is envisaged.

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

Yes, regarding future risk management for pesticides and the retention of chemicals possibly facing de-registration.

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

It is anticipated this will be achieved by Quick Test Technologies, a company being set up as a spin-off from project 2.03.09 of the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC. QTT will aim to promote the application of Quick Tests, to provide information of water quality, both on-farm and on nearby primary streams.

5. Executive summary. Provide a one paragraph summary of the scientific exchange, suitable for posting on the Cotton CRC web site.

A scientific exchange grant to attend World Cotton Research Conference 5 in Mumbai India provided an opportunity to present research information on risk management of cotton pesticides (regarding CRC project 2.03.09 Rapid tests for herbicides and to make contact with several Indian companies of potential relevance in future promotion of the outcomes of this project. These companies included Excel Crop Care, Makhteshim-Agan and ICRISAT. It is anticipated that these will be useful contacts in future marketing by the CRC spin-off company Quick Test Technologies and at last one the sites visited may yield new products, allowing testing for mycotoxins in cotton seed, for quality assurance purposes.