

Part 3 – Travel Report

(Maximum two pages)

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

The purpose of the travel was to attend the 14th Australian Cotton Conference: New Beginnings - Cotton in a Climate of Change to participate in the Hands-On research session on “Crop Rotations and Productivity”.

Also to be available for the presentation by James Holden – Irrigated Maize in Cotton Systems Research and Development, which included data from my research.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

The major outcome of attending this conference was the opportunity to share my knowledge of crop rotations in cotton based cropping systems through both the Hands-On research session and the Irrigated Maize in Cotton Systems Research and Development presentation by James Holden.

The Hands-On research session was an excellent opportunity to gain experience in a different style of presenting (informal) and to interact with growers and conference attendees while discussing crop rotations.

This was also an invaluable opportunity to learn more about what is currently happening in terms of research and new experimental techniques in cotton research.

b) other highlights

Other highlights from attending this conference include the opportunity to meet other researchers in cotton including plant disease scientists and other researchers in crop rotations; and the opportunity to demonstrate the involvement of The University of Queensland and particularly the School of Land Crop and Food Sciences in tropical agriculture research.

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.)

14th Australian Cotton Conference

13.08.08

PRESENTATIONS ATTENDED

Efficiency & Optimization of Fertilisers – Dr Ian Rochester, CSIRO Plant Industry/Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

Novel Ideas for Nutrition Presentation – Mr Damien Erbacher, Dawson Valley Cotton Grower; Mr Jono Phelps, Grower of the Year 2007; Mr Rob Tuck, Macquarie Valley Cotton Grower

Irrigated Farming Systems Forum Cotton & Irrigated Wheat Crop Rotation – Ms Tracey Farrell, NSW DPI/Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

Irrigated Maize in Cotton Systems R & D – Mr James Holden, Pioneer Hi-Bred Australia
14.08.08

PRESENTATIONS ATTENDED

Cotton Australia Update – Ms Joanne Grainger, Cotton Australia

Health Impacts of Biotech Cotton – Ms Helen Dugdale, Cotton Research and Development Corporation

Commercial Trait Development for Drought Management & Water Use Efficiency – Dr John Purcell, Monsanto Ltd

Selecting Cotton Types for Hotter Temperature – Ms Nicola Cottee, The University of Sydney/Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

**Start of
Project**
(normally
1st July)

Irrigation Scheduling & Cotton Productivity During the Drought – Mr Stephen Yeates,
CSIRO/Cotton Catchment Communities CRC

Responding to Drought – Industry Growth Regions Expansion in Southern NSW and a Move
North in the Burdekin – Mr Roger Commins, Whitton Cotton Grower & Mr Andrew Keeley,
Burdekin Cotton Grower

Biosecurity in a Changing Climate – Critical for our future – Mr Rodney Turner, Plant Health
Australia

HANDS ON RESEARCH SESSION PRESENTATION

Hands-On Research Session - Crop Rotations and Productivity

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

No.

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

As most talks and demonstrations were from the Australian Cotton Industry, they were
directly relevant to our cotton industry.

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

**A number of key Australian cotton industry people were present in the conference, and
the knowledge was shared during the conference. I have gained new knowledge which is
used to improve my thesis project work. It is hoped that this will be reflected in
improved quality of my thesis and papers which can then be shared with other people
in the cotton industry.**