

TRAVEL, CONFERENCE or SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE REPORT 2015

Part 1 - Summary Details

Please use your TAB key to complete Parts 1 & 2. **CRDC Project Number: CRDC1709** Project Title: "Travel: Farrer High School attendance at the 18th Australian Cotton Conference 2016" **Project Completion Date: 5//8/16 Project Commencement Date:** 1/8/16 **CRDC Research Program:** Choose an item. Part 2 - Contact Details **Administrator:** (Name & position of officer responsible for all correspondence.) **Organisation:** (Organisation administering the research project.) Postal Address: Ph: E-mail: Fax: **Principal Researcher:** John Drenkhahn **Organisation:** Farrer memorial Agricultural High School **Postal Address:** 585 Calala Lane, Tamworth NSW, 2340 **Ph:** 67648600 **Fax:** 67648669 E-mail: john.drenkhahn@det.nsw.edu.au **Supervisor:** Martin Peeters Farrer memorial Agricultural High School **Organisation: Postal Address:** 585 Calala Lane, Tamworth NSW, 2340 **Ph:** 67648600 **Fax:** 67648669 **E-mail:** martin.peeters@det.nsw.edu.au Signature of Research Provider Representative: **Date Submitted:** 30/6/16___

Part 3 – Travel, Conference or Scientific Exchange Report

(Maximum two pages)

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

To escort students attending the Cotton Conference on the Gold Coast.

The students were exposed to the latest developments in the industry thus assisting with their studies in agriculture and Primary Industries. The event also highlighted the number and variety of careers available to graduates in Agriculture particularly in the Cotton industry.

This was also a key professional development and networking opportunity for the Agriculture teacher accompanying the students to the conference. It will in turn enhance the Agriculture programs delivered at Farrer.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

The Cotton conference is a stimulus to the outcomes of the curriculum delivered in the study of agriculture at Farrer. It encourages a focus on the industry with the view to highlighting the jobs and research available as careers.

The conference allowed access to cotton growers for the students and teacher, permitting valuable insights into the implementation of research and advances being made in the management of the industry. This knowledge has been disseminated to the agriculture faculty at Farrer to help develop a specialist cotton unit of study in stage 5.

b) other highlights

The students gained a lot out of the conference from a careers viewpoint and the exposure to so many exhibitors and experts enabled them to make decisions about their futures. As a direct result of the conference, the students have left school for full time employment.

The teacher was able to network with colleagues from other schools and discuss opportunities and the direction of education in agriculture. Also the opportunity to establish contacts within the industry will prove valuable in the future.

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 purpose of the travel was to attend the cotton conference. The students attended many sessions including the IGEN session 2b which they found relevant in particular.

Of particular interest was session 3c Precision Technologies Workshop and the uses of things like drones in agriculture. Farrer now has students doing drones as a HSC course.

Also session 7a and the talk by Erin Ashford was significant as she gave the students valuable information about how to apply for employment, which proved to be an important catalyst in the direction these students took after the conference.

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

From Farrer's perspective, the conference turned out to be successful. The exposure to so many varied industry representatives allowed the teacher to update his industry currency about the advances and technology used in the cotton business.

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

Would it be possible to make the conference even more accessible to school students cost wise? Farrer is able to attend due to the generous support from the CRDC especially in regards to the distance travelled to get to the conference.

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

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6. Please list expenditure incurred. (Double click inside the table to enter the data)

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