

Fast Facts



17:1

The benefit-cost ratio from a \$1.8 million CRDC investment over three years in the *Strengthening the Central Highlands cotton production system* project with QLD DAF (page 7).

2

The number of years it took Wee Waa High School student Montana Jones to complete a school-based traineeship, a Certificate II in Agriculture and gain entry to university with help from CRDC (page 29).



70

researchers, including PhD, post doctorate, research and technician positions are working on the Rural R&D for Profit Programme's More Profit from Nitrogen projects, led by CRDC (page 20).

350

RD&E projects were invested in by CRDC across five key program areas in 2016-17, working collaboratively with 122 researcher partners and growers (page 31).



Pictured at the AgriFutures Rural Women's Award dinner are cotton's 2017 young farming champions Jess Lehmann and Nellie Evans, Federal Member for Maranoa David Littleproud MP, CRDC director Kathryn Adams, CRDC team members Di Purcell and Jane Trindall, 2017 ADAMA Chris Lehmann Trust young cotton achiever Fiona Norrie, 2017 ABARES Science and Innovation Award recipient Dr Priscilla Johnston, CottonInfo's regional extension officer for the Gwydir Janelle Montgomery, and cotton grower and Cotton Australia director Barb Grey.

Rural women inspiring country kids

IN support of women in agriculture, a cotton industry contingent attended the AgriFutures Australia Rural Women's Award at Parliament House in September.

CRDC has long been a supporter of projects and initiatives designed to support rural women, such as the Rural Women's Award. This year it was women who inspire the ambition of country kids who took out the top awards. Winner Tanya Dupagne was chosen for her work in supporting the wellbeing of young rural Australians through her role as director of Camp Kulin in WA's wheatbelt region. Runner-up was Simone Kain, recognised for her work in educating children about farming and encouraging them to consider a career in agricultural industries through her 'George the Farmer' and soon to launch 'Dr Ruby' characters.

"CRDC continues to support the award, as it recognises, inspires and connects women in our agricultural industries," CRDC Executive Director Bruce Finney said.

"Along with the many personal development programs we support, our new *Cotton Industry On-Farm Workforce Development Strategy* has further committed to supporting women through business skills planning courses, including business planning, business performance, risk management (including climate), human resources and WHS."

Applications for the 2018 AgriFutures Rural Women's Award opened in September.

For more

www.agrifutures.com.au