

FINAL REPORT - DAN 135C

Cotton Research and Development Corporation Plain English Summary 1999/2000

Responsible Director: Dave Anthony

Project Title: Promotion of SoilPAC - Production of Video.

Project Number: DAN135C

Commence Date: 1 Mar 1999

Cease Date: 30 Aug 2000

Research Organisation: New South Wales Agriculture

Chief Researcher: Mr Gus Shaw

Phone N^o: 02 67 429 240

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Plain English Summary:

SOILpak represents the primary decision support system for the promotion of sustainable soil management. Production of version three of SOILpak was recently completed and will form the basis of BMP guidelines for soil management for the cotton industry.

The objective of the CRDC project DAN 135C was to produce a ten to fifteen minute video to promote adoption of the decision support system SOILpak, demonstrating how SOILpak can be used to improve overall soil management and economic returns.

Implementation of SOILpak has involved district soil workshops targeting mainly consultants. However to assist its promotion and implementation, a SOILpak video was produced for distribution to farmers to assist in the on-farm adoption and implementation of the SOILpak manual and for use by the Cotton Extension Team.

The project commenced in March 1999 and the video was to be completed and ready for distribution in August of that year. Delays resulted in a completion date of early August 2000.

By supporting and promoting the decision support system SOILPAK, third edition, the video assists in forming the basis of BMP guidelines for soil management in cotton production and thus the sustainability of this natural resource, which in turn enhances the profitability and competitiveness of the Australian cotton farmer internationally.

Both existing and new footage was used in the production of the video. In the process, between ten and twelve cotton farmers were interviewed and videoed together with detailed footage of all major aspects of soil management covered the SOILpak manual. This footage was then edited by Dr David McKenzie and script prepared to support the video.

Distribution to farmers and the Cotton Extension Team has commenced and has been well received.

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