

Cotton Research and Development Corporation

Final Report

Corporation's Code: DAN 64C

Responsible Director:.....

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Project Title: **Soil management training**

Field of Research: Technology transfer **Field code:** 6.1

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Abstract:

This project followed on from the production of the SOILpak manual (A soil management package for cracking clays). It is essential to be able to recognise features of soil structure in order to be able to use the SOILpak manual effectively. The "Soil Management Training" project addressed this issue. It trained cotton consultants, extension personnel, farmers and agronomists, in the skills required to diagnose soil structural condition. The trainees now use these skills to make, or help cotton growers to make, informed soil tillage decisions.

Decision support materials in the form of videos, stereoscopic images and field guides were produced as part of the project. These materials are now available for use by the trainees to train others.

Increasing the skill level in soil diagnosis has allowed those making tillage and other soil management decisions to see the results of their management and soil trafficking policies. On farm decision making has been improved as a result.