



## REPORTS

### *Part 1 - Summary Details*

Please use your TAB key to complete Parts 1 & 2.

**CRDC Project Number:** UA15  
**Annual Report:**  Due 30-September  
**Progress Report:**  Due 31-January  
**Final Report:**  Due 30-September  
(or within 3 months of completion of project)

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**Project Title:** Identification and analysis of genes involved in cotton fibre initiation

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**Project Commencement Date:** 18/3/02      **Project Completion Date:** 18/9/05  
**Research Program:** 5 Breeding and Biotechnology

### *Part 2 – Contact Details*

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## ***TRAVEL REPORTS***

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

The purpose of the travel was to present a seminar, at the 2005 Genetics Society of Australasia (GSA) conference in Auckland, on the results obtained from CRDC project UA12C to an international audience, and to gain information from other research undertaken in the field.

### **2. What were the:**

#### **a) major findings and outcomes**

I presented a talk entitled "Analysis of genes involved in cotton fibre initiation". The major benefit for my research was the experience of presenting my work to an audience with similar interests, and to receive feedback and ideas for further research. I received advice on testing for levels of gene expression in various plant tissues, and also the use of controls in this experiment. Hearing other researchers' experiences in molecular techniques such as yeast two-hybrid analysis and *Agrobacterium*-mediated transformation in *Arabidopsis* also proved useful.

#### **b) other highlights**

The visit to the University of Auckland (detailed below) was of interest in viewing how research in another country compares to that in Australia, and to see the various research facilities. Another benefit to arise from my attendance at the conference was the development of several contacts with whom I have discussed my experimental procedures.

### **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 University of Auckland was visited the day following the conference (June 24) to view the research taking place. Of particular interest was the plant growth facilities containing *Arabidopsis*, a species our lab uses as a model system for cotton, and have had some problems in growing during the course of my PhD.

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

For my research, I have received feedback on several areas of my results presented, which has guided my research in the testing gene expression levels in various plant tissues (RT-PCR), and also in adjusting my bait plasmid in the yeast two-hybrid assay.

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

As this was a general genetics conference, there was nothing that appeared to have a great impact specifically on the Australian Cotton Industry.

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

As stated in 4b), given the nature of the conference, the knowledge gained from the conference is not necessarily relevant to the wider cotton industry, however feedback and ideas on experimental procedures gained from the conference have been presented and discussed to the lab and genetics department at Adelaide University.