



Australian Government

Cotton Research and
Development Corporation

TRAVEL, CONFERENCE or SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE REPORT 2016

Part 1 - Summary Details

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

CRDC Project Number: US1603

Project Title: Travel to the World Cotton Research
Conference 6 – Goiania Brazil 2016

Project Start Date: 30/04/2016 **Project Completion Date:** 09/05/2016

Research Program: 2. Industry

Part 2 – Contact Details

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Date submitted: 30/05/2016

Part 3 – Travel, Conference or Scientific Exchange Report

(Maximum two pages)

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

I travelled to Goiania, Brazil, to attend the 6th World Cotton Research Conference. At this conference I presented some of the work we are doing in regards to monitoring the state of soil in the Australian cotton industry to cotton researchers from various continents of the world. As well as giving a presentation, I was also there to network with international researchers and learn of the various international cotton industries, and their similarities and differences in challenges and production systems to that of Australia.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

While the conference did not consist of too many posters and presentations that were in my scientific field, I still gained some valuable information from the conference. Some of the major things I took away from the conference were:

- Our cotton production systems are often starkly different to other countries. It was amazing to see how cotton is grown so traditionally, and at such a small scale in in most of Asia, Africa, South America, and Europe.
- It was made clear that there is a huge potential to improve cotton production in developing countries
- The Australian cotton industry is a world leader in not only production, but also in communication, education, and we have a great link between producers and research, which is lacking in many other nations.
- Despite the success of the Australian cotton industry, the way we produce and how the industry is run is often not applicable or suitable to other countries
- Seeing the production of cotton in Brazil in a tropical region highlighted that there may be some great potential to expand production into the tropical regions of Australia. It showed that there may be much that we can learn from tropical Brazilian cotton systems, as they are not too dissimilar to our own.

b) other highlights

- It was a nice change to go to a cotton-specific conference, and learn of the many aspects in the cotton industry, from genomics to agronomy to crop protection.
- Visiting the farm was a great experience. The luxury soil pit was a definite highlight for me (see the pic on the next page)



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.)

- **SLC Agricola – Fazenda Pamplona, Brazil** – We visited this cotton farm for a day trip/excursion. We saw Brazilian cotton production in action, and the similarities and differences between Australian cotton growing environments, how farms are run, and management practices.

4. a) Are there any potential areas worth following up as a result of the travel?
b) Any relevance or possible impact on the Australian Cotton Industry?

Upon visiting the farm, and attending the conference, I developed a few ideas about different techniques of monitoring soil properties and condition. These ideas would be easily applicable to the Australian cotton industry, and largely involve the utilisation of soil data that already exists, rather than further collection of information.

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

The knowledge I have gained on this trip will not be directly shared with others in the cotton industry, but the ideas and information gained on this trip will assist me in the completion of my PhD, which will be disseminated into the Australian cotton industry.

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