

Expression of Interest EOI 2019-20

Part 1 - General Details

		EOI ID	EOI - 0203
EOI Title: (max 80 char)	Improved management of weeds in cotton and grains farming systems		
Type of Research	Applied		
Proposed Start Date:	01 July 2019	Proposed Cease Date:	30 June 2022
<i>Please refer to CRDC's Strategic R&D Plan 2013-2018 for the following.</i>			
CRDC Goal	1. Increase productivity and profitability on cotton farms		
CRDC Key Focus Area	1.3 Protection from biotic threats and environmental stresses		
CRDC Activities	1.3.2 Improved identification, surveillance and management systems for pests, diseases and weeds, and environmental stresses		
<i>Please identify the relevant Measure of Success as outlined in the CRDC Strategic R&D Plan.</i>			
CRDC Measure of Success:	New management practices and systems are available for growers, consultants and industry		
Rural and R&D Priorities	Biosecurity		
Strategic Research Priorities	3a. Optimise food and fibre production using our land and marine resources		
CRDC NSRP	1.3.3 - Food - Enhanced production through enhanced biosecurity.		
R&D Manager:	Susan Maas	EOI Due Date:	12 October 2018

Part 2 –Expression of Interest Requirements

<p>Issue: While historically the Australian cotton industry has had a strong integrated weed management system, the extensive use of herbicide tolerant (HT) cotton varieties and the spread of weeds across the landscape has seen resistant and hard to control weeds emerge. The need for knowledge of weeds and management tactics will need to remain contemporary, particularly as the industry continues to change, with expansion into new regions and farming systems, particularly rain grown systems and the launch of the third generation of herbicide tolerant traits, enabling over the top of the crop use of dicamba and glufosinate as well as glyphosate.</p> <p>Outcomes: Industry has clear guidelines about how to sustainably manage weeds in cotton farming system and tactics to reduce reliance on glyphosate can be adopted.</p> <p>Project description: This program will develop clear guidelines about how to sustainably manage weeds in cotton farming system including improved management of resistant and difficult to control weeds based on: - Research on non glyphosate tactics, including residual herbicides & non-chemical strategies, in context of farming system and triple stack cotton, including a focus on dryland systems; and - Developing advice on new/emerging risks including strategic surveillance for emerging weeds and resistance (covering all regions at least once over the three years); - In addition, weed science capacity in this project will support a separate proposed project that will be delivering a number of regional cover cropping trials. This research will inform the Herbicide Resistance Management Strategy and best practice for weed management. It will include adoption support through a CottonInfo Tech lead for weeds. This is a program of works that may be delivered through multiple projects that are complementary and collaborative. Cross commodity collaboration is encouraged.</p> <p>Expected Project and Communication Outputs: CottonInfo communication outputs as per tech lead role description. Industry survey results presented to Herbicide tech panel annually to inform HRMS. Draft HRMS.</p>

Project Investment:				
Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	TOTAL
Indicative budget (up to)	\$480,000	\$490,000	\$500,000	\$1,470,000

Part 3 – Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria will be used by the CRDC to assess the full research proposals (FRPs) received for each Expression of Interest.

1. A sound understanding of the nature and importance of the outcome to the Australian cotton industry:

The research applicant must address the Issue, Outcome and Project Description in terms of the CRDC Strategic Plan and demonstrate understanding of the impact on the Australian cotton industry.

2. Soundness and clarity of the proposed R&D methods to address project deliverable outcomes:

The research applicant must describe how the research methodology employed will enable the project outcomes to be delivered.

3. Demonstrated capacity of the nominated researcher/s to provide project coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation for the timely delivery of high quality outputs:

The research applicant must describe the research team's project management skills and experience and may include a recent example of a completed project. They must detail the monitoring and evaluation strategy which should include any steering committees to co-ordinate collaborative research, links with CottonInfo, CGAs, Cotton Australia, etc and any additional reporting outside the 6 monthly Progress Reports.

4. Demonstrated track record, technical knowledge and experience of all key personnel in the research area:

The research applicant must describe the project research team's technical skill and experience relevant to the project and methodologies proposed.

5. A demonstrated capacity to effectively communicate project outcomes to diverse stakeholders within the Australian cotton industry:

The research applicant must describe the communication skills and existing communication channels that the research team use to communicate project outcomes to the Australian cotton industry. The new applicants to the cotton industry should provide an example of industry communication from a recent project.

6. Demonstrated ability of the project team to form productive networks and links to build on national and international research already undertaken in related areas:

The research applicant must describe existing networks that the research team use for collaboration with other researchers and an ability to develop new networks as research knowledge increases.

7. The cost effectiveness of this project including cash and in-kind commitments from the applicants and leverage through domestic or international linkages that are useful if not essential to progress the project:

The research applicant should demonstrate market value and market fairness for the proposed budget and comment on the leverage achieved through collaboration and in-kind support.

8. Project demonstrates collaboration between organisations or research groups:

The research applicant must describe the existing or proposed collaboration with other researchers, research groups or committees and the Australian cotton industry.

For information on how to apply, please refer to: www.crdc.com.au/for-researchers

Please note that while the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) has released these expressions of interest, due to ongoing drought conditions and the potential impact on CRDCs forward budget, the Corporation may not be in a position to fully support all of the proposals advertised. CRDC has released the full range of EOIs in an endeavour to remain as flexible and opportunistic as possible. Where CRDC may not be in a position to fully support proposals received, we will work with our valued research partners to identify alternative investment options.