

THE AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY IN 2017-18:

4.6 million bales
produced by the Australian cotton industry



500,000 hectares planted into irrigated and dryland cotton, just shy of the 2016-17 crop, which was the largest crop in five years.

\$2.92 billion gross value of cotton production.
(Source: ABARES Ag Commodities Report, June 2018)

CRDC'S INVESTMENT IN 2017-18:

\$25.1 million – CRDC's investment in cotton RD&E on behalf of cotton growers and the Australian Government

318
RD&E projects

118
research partners

5
key program areas

farmers, industry, customers, people and performance



CRDC'S IMPACT IN 2017-18:

3%↑ in yield per hectare over the five years from 2013: **achieving our Strategic Plan goal.**




130 The number of events the CottonInfo team attended or hosted in 2017-18, engaging with some 4200 industry personnel, including growers, consultants, agribusinesses, supply chain representatives, government and natural resource bodies.


3000
The number of copies published of the industry's flagship publications, the Australian Cotton Production Manual, and the Cotton Pest Management Guide, co-published by CRDC and CottonInfo.

\$1.1 million
The investment by the National Landcare Program Smart Farming Partnerships in new technologies to improve natural resources and biodiversity on Australian cotton farms project, led by CRDC.

9.1:1
the benefit-cost ratio of CRDC's investment in the collaborative industry myBMP program: \$9.10 in benefit to growers for every \$1 invested by growers and the government through CRDC into this RD&E.



2.5:1
the benefit-cost ratio of CRDC's investment in the industry sustainability RD&E: \$2.50 in benefit to growers for every \$1 invested by growers and the government through CRDC into this RD&E.



33 innovative projects
– invested in by CRDC under the 'blue sky' Cotton Futures theme in 2017-18, including innovations in gin trash, polymers, new technologies to measure water stress and technologies enabled by robotics to improve weed control.




\$20.3 BILLION
– the amount by which the gross value of all agricultural production could increase through the implementation of digital agriculture across all Australian production sectors – a 25 per cent increase on 2014 – a key finding of the Accelerating Precision to Decision Agriculture project.

3 NEW PRODUCTS
– successfully commercialised in 2017-18 with CSIRO: Cottonspec, cotton contamination detection sensors for gins, and algorithms for stress-time thresholds (for on-farm canopy temperature sensors).


3 MAJOR COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS
– driven by CRDC under the Rural R&D for Profit program: Smarter Irrigation for Profit, More Profit from Nitrogen, and Accelerating Precision Agriculture to Decision Agriculture.

78% the number of growers participating in myBMP.


58%
of presenters at the Association of Australian Cotton Scientists' Australian Cotton Research Conference in August 2017 represented CRDC's investments in RD&E.




40%
The percentage of CRDC research that is in cross-sectoral RD&E.



77%
The number of growers who noted opportunities to improve irrigation efficiency, nitrogen application or irrigation management to improve their nitrogen-use efficiency, as a result of attending the CottonInfo optimising irrigation and nitrogen researchers tour.



863,000
The number of collective views that the 152 CRDC-supported best practice videos have amassed on the CottonInfo YouTube channel as at June 2018.



781,000 times
One video, on starting a siphon pipe, has been viewed

