

Cotton Innovation Network

Meeting Communiqué - 8 November 2016

Attendees: C Rogan (Chair), B Grey (Co Chair), B Finney (CRDC), P Graham (CSD), L Copeland & J Pratley (ACDA), J Manners & M Peoples (CSIRO), N Pope (DAWR), G Fullelove (QDAF), M Bullen & A Bowman (NSW DPI).

Key outcomes:

1. Information Sharing

Members shared industry and organisational information including:

- NSW DPI - New Entomological and Pathology position. Eric Koetz - Lead Weeds R&D.
- CSD – Seed Sales indicate 400,000 ha Irr. 120,000 Dryland. Extend-Flex release 2020.
- ACDA – Three Universities have commenced new agriculture courses.
- CSIRO - New appointments expected in GxExM research & digital agriculture.
- DAWR- New regulation of seed cotton levy collection being progressed.
- QDAF- Commercial interest in Flinders River irrigation development.
- CRDC- Richard Haire New Chair CRDC. Development of next 5-year Strategic R&D Plan

2. Strategic Discussion

The members engaged with invited guests on strategic issues to identify areas for collaboration and improvements to cotton RD&E.

Andrew Ash of CSIRO presented on agricultural development in Northern Australia:

- 16M ha suited to irrigation but realistically sufficient water to irrigate 1.5M ha.
- Comparative land development & approval costs very high but water inexpensive.

Mark Lettfuss of RIRDC presented on the Climate Change Research Strategies for Primary Industries (CCRSPI):

- Three key areas i) Production systems adaptation ii) Lower greenhouse gas emissions and iii) Responding to policy. In 2015 about 50 per cent of \$945M in climate research investment was in adaptation.
- The current CCRSPI arrangements are due to finish in 2017 and new arrangements are currently being formulated.

Andrew Moore of CSIRO presented on opportunities to realise greater value from research data:

- To make use/reuse/re-interrogate open data it requires being stored, recoverable in open data bases with common formats generated under formal codes of practice.
- Will require the management of privacy, permission for access to data & commercial in confidence circumstances.

Research Capability Workshop - the members considered the outcomes of a Network workshop and noted the shared focus on capability for the future.

3. Upcoming Events

- Cotton Innovation Network meeting – 24 February 2017, Sydney
- Cotton Innovation Network meeting – 24 May 2017, Brisbane
- Cotton Innovation Network meeting – 23 August 2017, Narrabri