

THE AUSTRALIAN COTTON INDUSTRY IN 2016-17:

4.2 million bales 
produced by the Australian cotton industry

500,000 hectares planted into irrigated and dryland cotton, the largest crop in five years.

\$2.48 billion gross value of cotton production.

\$3159 per hectare profit – the indicative average profit achieved by the top 20 per cent of cotton growers.

CRDC'S INVESTMENT IN 2016-17:

\$24.1 million – CRDC's investment in cotton RD&E on behalf of cotton growers and the Australian Government

350
RD&E projects



122
research partners



5
key program areas

farmers, industry, customers, people and performance.



CRDC'S IMPACT IN 2016-17:

3.1% average ↑ growth in yield per hectare – the estimated increase in productivity each year since 2013. **CRDC's goal is 3 per cent per hectare per annum.**

99.6% – the number of cotton growers who are aware of CRDC. 88 per cent of growers are supportive of our RD&E investments, and 74 per cent have had input into our RD&E.

100% 
of those who provided feedback at the CRDC, CottonInfo and ICAN regional weed management workshops said the information learned would help with decisions in the field.

75%  of participants in the 2016 CRDC-CottonInfo IPM workshop series reported higher levels of confidence about growing high-yielding crops using IPM after the workshop. 80% recorded higher levels of confidence in their ability to conserve beneficial insects. 

17.1:1
the benefit-cost ratio of CRDC's early-planting research in the QLD Central Highlands: \$17.10 in benefit to growers for every \$1 invested by growers and the Government through CRDC into this RD&E.

8.29:1
the benefit-cost ratio of CRDC's investment in water-use efficiency RD&E: \$8.29 in benefit to growers for every \$1 invested by growers and the Government through CRDC into this RD&E.

5.4:1
the benefit-cost ratio of CRDC's investment in nutrition RD&E: \$5.40 in benefit to growers for every \$1 invested by growers and the Government through CRDC into this RD&E.

BYGUM *the BarnYard Grass Understanding and Management (BYGUM) model: a new tool for growers to help minimise the impact of herbicide-resistant weeds.*

93% of participants in the 2016 *Smarter Irrigation Technology Tour* said they would do something differently on their farm as a result of the tour.

A research collaboration with GRDC 
to specifically address the issue of spray drift by better understanding – and reporting – surface temperature inversions.

\$14.7 million
– the amount of vocational training funds allocated by the NSW Government to the NSW cotton and grains industries through Cotton Australia, underpinned by the industry's first Workforce Development Strategy developed by CRDC and Cotton Australia.

2 research projects
– to specifically address needs of dryland growers and those in southern NSW.

3 major collaborative projects 
– driven by CRDC under the Rural R&D for Profit programme: *Smarter irrigation for profit, More profit from nitrogen, and Accelerating precision agriculture to decision agriculture.* Accelerating precision agriculture is the first fully cross-sectoral collaborative research project, involving all 15 RDCs.

1 CRDC-supported innovation commercialised: Sero X.

New partnerships with start-up companies 
Pollenizer and X.Lab to encourage cotton industry disruptors and entrepreneurs.

35% 
the number of growers who hosted a research trial on their farm in 2015-16.
 These growers contributed an average of 19 hours and \$5500 towards these trials.

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

52% 
of presenters at the 18th Cotton Conference in 2016 represented CRDC's investments in RD&E.

86% of growers and **100%** of consultants **believe CottonInfo has helped to improve practices**

70% of growers: estimated to now be participating in *myBMP*.