

A photograph of several cotton bolls on a reddish-brown branch, set against a light-colored, textured wooden background. The bolls are white and fluffy, with some showing the brown, dried husks. The branch runs diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right.

VISION FOR COTTON RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & EXTENSION (RD&E) CAPABILITY

Exceptional research
capability - integral to
the future of Australian
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THE COTTON INNOVATION NETWORK

The Cotton Innovation Network's role is to improve the coordination between the bodies implementing the Cotton Sector RD&E Strategy, developed as part of the National Primary Industries RD&E Framework.

The Network coordinates the cotton industry's RD&E activities to ensure a collaborative and cohesive approach to achieving our industry's long term goals. We work together to help our industry establish the research capability needed now and in the future.

Formed in 2012, the Network includes representatives from Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Cotton Australia, Cotton Seed Distributors, CSIRO, the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the NSW Department of Primary Industries and Universities, through the Australian Council of the Deans of Agriculture.

DEVELOPING THE VISION

This Vision for Cotton RD&E Capability is the result of extensive work undertaken by the Network, its members and our stakeholders.

We examined where the Australian cotton industry is now and where we want it to be in the long term, the trends and expectations for changes to the workforce and the skills required for the future.

Through this process, the Network imagined Australian cotton's preferred future and the research capability the industry is going to need to achieve it.



VISION FOR COTTON RD&E CAPABILITY

Exceptional research capability - integral to the future of Australian cotton and society.

Our Vision is to grow the exceptional research capability, integral to the future of Australian cotton and society.

This Vision is both a statement of the Cotton Innovation Network's long term ambitions, and provides a clear and cohesive framework to focus our strategic planning, decisions and actions.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Vision is to provide a motivating and unifying focus for on-going coordination of cotton RD&E capability by the Network members and others, and to inform Network members' own strategies and plans.





DELIVERING THE VISION

Working together to ensure Australian cotton has the exceptional research capability needed for the present and in the future.

To deliver this Vision, the Network will prioritise the following six interlinked research capabilities, which were identified through the Vision development process as integral to the future of Australian cotton and society.

EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH CAPABILITY - INTEGRAL TO THE FUTURE OF AUSTRALIAN COTTON AND SOCIETY

Talented people – the heart of everything we do

In contemplating the future of cotton RD&E, we are committed to building on the remarkable people that have brought us here.

The first cotton researchers, through their exceptional leadership, quality of ideas and talent, had a profound influence on the future of Australian cotton.

Talented people will continue to be at the heart of everything we do.

The Network will work together to attract, develop, engage and retain the right diversity of global talent with the key capabilities to enable the industry to thrive and meet the emerging research challenges.

Highly connected – strong networks and collaboration

Being highly connected and collaborating across networks is integral to the future of cotton.

Effective collaboration with individuals and organisations in Australia and internationally has enabled our Network to build resilient interdisciplinary research links and deliver impact to support the world's best cotton.

The Network will prioritise the growth of strong networks to ensure we remain highly connected and continue to create impact through exemplary leadership.

Leading in technology use – expanding horizons and opportunities

Australian cotton, like all industries, is impacted by new technologies.

Maximising the opportunities provided by emerging technologies, in research practice and through application on-farm, is imperative.

Together the Network will lead the use of technologies by keeping ahead of the technology curve and developing and deploying new transformative technologies.

This commitment will expand our horizons and allow Australian cotton to take advantage of future opportunities, both in research and across the cotton value-chain.

Evolving systems – new ideas, diversity, agility and skills

Continual improvement and innovation is essential to delivering on Australian cotton's aspiration to be the world's best.

Fully engaging with the research and innovation system, including with new businesses and the private sector, provides the new ideas, diversity, resources, agility and skills necessary for innovation.

The Network will further expand our work within the evolving innovation system to grow the global leading research that underpins the world's best cotton.

Well supported – positive culture, planning and resources

Australian cotton has benefited significantly from the solid foundations of a positive and well-supported RD&E operating environment.

A well-supported progressive culture, with the right recruitment, career development and succession planning, provides the professional and personal support that our science leaders need to excel.

The Network will continue to invest in supporting our people through operational excellence to guarantee we have the high-performance leadership needed to be global research leaders into the future.

Creating impact – making a positive impact

By continuously working to bridge the gap between research and impact, Australian cotton researchers create demonstrable positive impacts locally, nationally and globally.

Capability to understand objectives, define problems, create solutions, and measure research outcomes is essential to creating impact.

The Network will work together to help ensure the Australian cotton industry has the cutting-edge research and innovation capability to create positive impact and adaptability to meet future challenges.

THE NETWORK



Australian
Council of Deans
of Agriculture



Department of
Primary Industries

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