



Macquarie bale up

AUGUST 2022

It's been a wet August on top of a wet end to the cotton season. Burrendong dam currently sits at 135% with minor to major flooding in place across the valley.

Location	Height of River (m)	Tendency	Date/Time of Observation
Molong Creek at Downstream Borenore Creek	0.75	Steady	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Bell River at Neurea	1.04	Rising	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Bell River at Wellington	1.71	Steady	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Wellington Bridge	4.48	Falling	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Dubbo	2.78	Falling	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Baroona	4.71	Falling	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Gin Gin Weir	8.32	Falling	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Warren Town	8.74	Steady	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22
Macquarie River at Carlinda	3.43	Steady	09:00 AM TUE 30/08/22

Fig 1: River Heights Macquarie Valley 30.8.22: Source <http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/warnings/flood/macquarieriver.shtml>

SOIL PETS MIGHT BE LURKING

With wetter conditions in most areas as we head towards planting for the 22/23 season, soil pests may be more abundant compared to recent years.

The difficulty with soil pests is that little can be done to control them after sowing other than wait for the crop to outgrow the pests – hopefully, quick enough to prevent the loss of the plant stand. Post-sowing, insecticide application (to either the plant line or soil surface) or baiting with insecticide treated cracked grain will be ineffective.

Soil insect damage can be insidious, accruing over several weeks. It can be patchy, causing additional complications for re-planting decisions due to lost time and difficulty in targeting field areas for re-sowing.

The first step is to accurately determine if you have a problem and to assess for soil insect activity **4-6 weeks prior to planting** so that decisions on appropriate control measures can be made. Bait sampling (using soaked grain or a potato) is the only reliable method for assessing in-field soil pest populations. Older potatoes that have begun to sprout eyes work better than freshly dug crisp potatoes.

Earwigs and wireworms can decimate plant stands early in the life of the crop, during germination and following emergence until the crop surpasses 5-6 nodes. These pests affect establishment by feeding on the root tip during germination, or after emergence through chewing damage to the tap root or hypocotyl under the soil surface.



Fig 2: Wireworm. Photo: L Wilson.

While there are no specific thresholds in cotton for wireworm or earwigs, thresholds developed for summer grains suggest one or more wireworms or 2-3 earwigs per bait are likely to be damaging.

If soil insects are abundant, reliance on proprietary seed dressings alone may not offer sufficient protection.

Consider also implementing an in-furrow application of registered insecticide during the planting operation to provide an additional level of protection when faced with high soil pest numbers.

<https://us9.campaign-archive.com/?u=48d1c0404d4f8dbd74944aba3&id=5eba2fbcdb>

[How to bait your soil](#)

MAJOR PEST RESISTANCE UPDATE

As many of you would know from my emails from the 21/22 season, I was out and about looking for pest populations to send to our researchers for resistance monitoring. With more and more barriers to travel, one of the best ways we can ensure our populations are included in the CRDC research resistance monitoring is to give me a call to come and do a collection on any pest populations you may observe during the season.

Results summary of insecticide resistance testing in cotton aphids, two-spotted mites, green mirids and *Helicoverpa armigera* 2020-21 – Dr Lisa Bird

Cotton Aphids

- No resistance detected to sulfoxaflor (Transform®).

- Very low resistance detected to thiamethoxam (Actara®), clothianidin (Shield®) and diafenthiuron (e.g., Pegasus®, Receptor®, Aphinox®).
- Very low resistance detected to Group 1 insecticides (pirimicarb or dimethoate) in central and southern growing regions.
- High resistance to Group 1 insecticides in northern regions (north Qld and northern WA).

Two-Spotted Mites

- High resistance to abamectin (e.g., Vertimec®, Abachem®, Vantal®) in northern NSW.
- Low resistance to abamectin (e.g., Vertimec®, Abachem®, Vantal®) in southern NSW.
- Very low resistance detected to propargite (e.g., Comite®, Treble®, Dyna-Mite®).

Green Mirids

- No resistance detected to fipronil (Regent®), sulfoxaflor (Transform®), clothianidin (Shield®) or dinotefuran (Starkle®).

Helicoverpa armigera

- No resistance detected to emamectin benzoate (e.g., Affirm®).
- No resistance detected to chlorantraniliprole (e.g., Altacor®).
- Overall, indoxacarb resistance increased slightly compared to last year.
 - Indoxacarb resistance in central Qld (CQ) and north Qld (NQ) was similar to last year with variation between regions. The highest levels were recorded in the Burdekin but were still

- significantly lower than in 2018-19 where it peaked at about 17%.
- Indoxacarb resistance increased significantly in central western NSW. This represents the highest level recorded in NSW to date and was a significant increase from 2017, when resistance levels were between 2 and 4% in the Macquarie region.
 - There were also minor increases detected in southern Qld and northern NSW, which contributed to an overall increase in average indoxacarb resistance in the southern growing regions from 4.2% in 2019-20 to 7.4% in 2020-21.

For more information, please contact Amanda Thomas or Dr Lisa Bird.

PLANTER WORKSHOPS: NEXT WEEK



As part of the FastStart™ Cotton Program, Cotton Seed Distributors and Syngenta are hosting a series of free cotton planter workshops with Hutcheon and Pearce for growers, consultants, and machinery operators.

WARREN

WEDNESDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 3PM

[REGISTER NOW](#) click here

Peter Thomas' Shed (between Vets & Three Rivers Machinery) Zora St Warren, NSW

NARROMINE

THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER, 3PM

[REGISTER NOW](#) click here

'Karamea', 4172 Warren Road Gin Gin, NSW

Topics covered will include:

- The FastStart™ 10 steps to establishment success
- Planter maintenance tips from industry experts (Hutcheon & Pearce-John Deere)
- Grower or farm consultant experiences - what they do to achieve a good plant stand

Both events will be followed up by a BBQ and refreshments. Call Craig McDonald or Amanda Thomas with any questions.

GRDC SPRAY DAYS

Technology and social licence are changing how we spray fallow and field crops. Come to a GRDC Spray Day in September in [Narromine](#) and [Temora](#) to discuss the latest spray technology innovations and stewardship with industry experts.

Spray Days will assist growers to make more informed decisions on spray equipment investment and how to use technology for optimum benefit.

In the afternoon trade display session, growers can focus on the technologies they are most interested in, with direct access to leading industry technology providers.

Click on the location name for more information and to register:

NARROMINE – Monday 12 September 2022:

Narromine Aero Club, Tom Perry Dr,
Narromine NSW 2821

TEMORA – Tuesday 13 September 2022

Temora Agricultural Innovation Centre
(Farmlink), 361 Trungley Hall Road Temora
NSW 2666

Morning topics:

- Social licence, drift, MRL's and trade. *Speaker TBC*
 - Inversion towers – a network of sensors to identify the presence of hazardous temperature inversions. Benefits for on-farm decision-making. *Gordon Cumming (GRDC)*
 - Changes to 2,4-D use – what's changed and implications for users? *Gordon Cumming (GRDC)*
 - Matching spray capacity to the farm and optimising efficiency to improve capacity. *Greg Rummery (Outlook Ag)*
 - Reducing drift risk – boom speed and height, nozzles, droplet size and water volume. *Harry Pickering (Adama) and Andrew Hewitt (UQ)*
 - Optimising glyphosate efficacy. *Mark Congreve (ICAN) and Maurie Street (GOA)*
 - Green on brown and green on green sprayers – the technologies and capability now and in the future. *Guy Coleman (USyd)*
- Corteva: Colex-D® Herbicide, a new 2,4-D formulation you can apply with confidence. *Dan Cornally*
 - Hardi: GeoSelect®, a new spraying solution designed to save farmers money, time, and create greater efficiency. *Mark Armstrong*
 - Hutcheon & Pearce: Camera spray technology, where to from here? *Hamish Ross*
 - McIntosh Distribution: New precision application technologies for self-propelled sprayers including IntelliSpray®, WeedSeeker® 2 spot spraying system and Bilberry® intelligent spot spraying (available on Miller® Nitro). *Scott Jameson*
 - SpraySMART: Technology and the changing face of spray accreditation training delivery. *Dan Austin*
 - Single Agriculture: Know what's there before or after you spray and spot spray with your existing sprayer. Map weeds at 200ha per hour. *Ben Single*.

MCGA TRANGIE GOLF DAY

31 July 2022

The 2022 Inland Petroleum Trangie Golf Day was in one word – fun!

However, thanks to some amazing sponsorship and two committees that worked very hard together, it was also a beneficial day for our communities. The MCGA now splits the overall proceeds between the three golf clubs in Warren, Narromine, and Trangie.

This year was the first time Trangie has hosted, and they did not disappoint. We had 160 golfers take to the course and the day ran very smoothly. The sponsors provided a great

Afternoon trade display presentations:

- FMC: Spraying effectively with as few fines as possible. *David Johnson*

prize pool, worth well over \$5K, which is pretty big deal for these parts.

This day continues to grow and be supported by the growers and the industry. And most importantly, it puts much-needed funds back into the golf clubs.

Hosting clubs can make over \$12K, and we will be giving cash donations of \$2K to each of these clubs in the near future. The local charities who helped provide us with the awesome food also benefit, so it has a really strong flow on effect around the towns.

The next day will be in Warren, so hopefully, we will put on just as good a show as Trangie did. Here is a shot of some of the precision golf that went on around the course.



Fig 3: Pro Golfer Ben Thomas tees off on Sinclair Steele.

Thanks for hanging in there for a long overdue edition of the bale up – here are fingers crossed for some dry skies and being able get a bit done soon.

Amanda Thomas