



Information when you need it



the **cotton tale**

END OF SEASON SURVEY ANALYSIS

Running a bit late with this due to the late season, but some key messages to consider as we head into a new season. Have a look at the attachment, Cotton survey 2022 Southern NSW.

There is a lot of detail to take in, but it is worthwhile time spent as a refresher.

Some key points.

- Planting timing and the planting operation is critical to get right.
- Timely irrigation scheduling with rain/temperature forecasts.
- Know the N status in the soil at the start. Adjust N budgets looking for season signals in early December.
- Best crops in the survey were sown 6th -12th October.
- Returns well above average.
- Best WUE figures since survey started in 2014.
- Success of this crop – Early field preparation, longer rotations, level fields, canopy management- never got out of control.

Cotton conference videos

Sam Lee - Well sown is half grown

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DpjszEu8JE4>

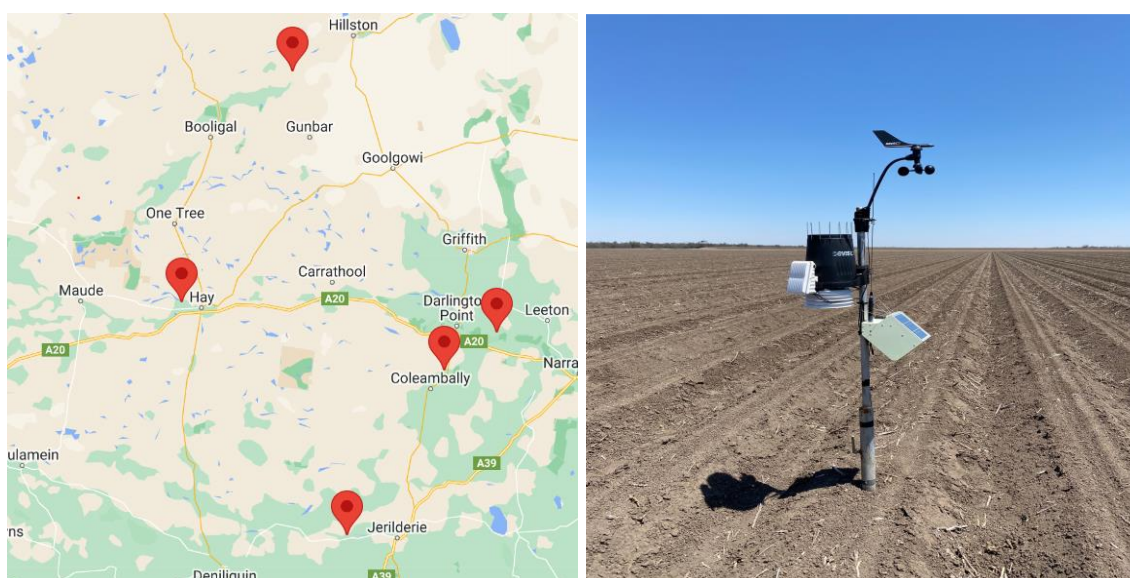


Getting a good start

It is likely that we are going to have a similar challenging start to the season, like last season, with some cooler and wetter weather predicted in October.

Timing of the planting operation will be critical to get a uniform plant stand. Look for 10 cm depth soil temperatures (as close as possible) to 14 °C at 9 am and temperatures for the next 7 days on a rising plane.

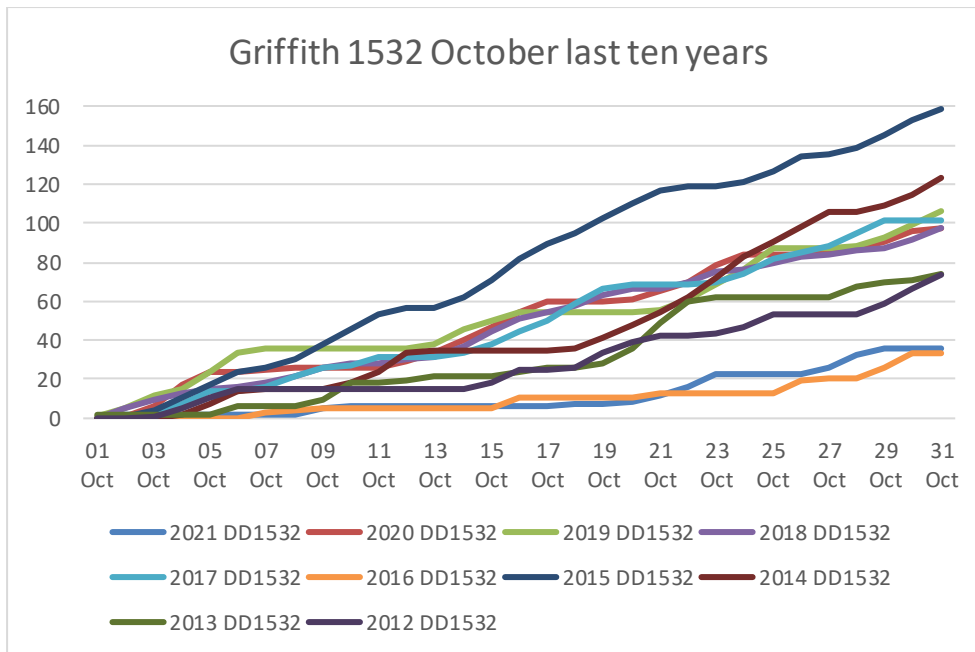
Refer to the [CSD Soil Temperature Network](https://csd.net.au) to see what soil temperatures are doing in the district. You will need to be a CSD member to access the weather stations. Membership costs \$20/year and you'll get it back just by using the weather network, let alone the other tools and resources on the website. You can join here: <https://csd.net.au/membership>



Looking at the day degree accumulation for the last 10 years, 7 out of 10 years follow a very similar pattern (see Graph 1). 2015 was a standout start with warm conditions while last season and 2016 were well below the average for day degrees in October.

Predicted temperatures for October indicate at least average 1532 Day degrees, but rain events could make the planting operation tricky.

[Overview—Outlook video - Climate Outlooks \(bom.gov.au\)](https://www.bom.gov.au)



Graph 1. Griffith 1532 Cumulative October day degrees 2012-2021

NRM survey

CRDC are currently completing their 4th Environmental Assessment Grower Survey – they have only two responses!! **PLEASE help** out here and click on the following link

<https://forms.office.com/r/xxWNjyxNMn> to provide essential data to complete the Assessment

The Australian cotton industry has a 30-year commitment to monitoring and improving its environmental performance via the completion of 10-yearly independent performance reviews. GHD Pty Ltd has been engaged by the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) to complete the Fourth Environmental Assessment of the industry. The recommendations from the assessment will be used by the industry to assist:

- Targeting its investments to deliver improved environmental outcomes, including corrective actions where needed
- Working with growers to continually improve environmental outcomes in cotton production
- Demonstrating responsiveness to community and stakeholder expectations on the impact of the industry on the environment.

This survey is intended to gather insights and perspectives from a wide range of cotton growers to inform the assessment. The information obtained from this survey will be supplemented with

information obtained through targeted stakeholder interviews, a survey of other stakeholders, and on-site visits to a sample of cotton farms across the major growing regions.

Below is a link to the survey which closes mid-September 2022.

<https://forms.office.com/r/xxWNjvxNMn>

If you have any questions about this survey or would like more information about the Fourth Environmental Assessment of the Australian Cotton industry, please contact:

Stacey.vogel@crdc.com.au

NRM LLS

Adaptive Farms for Sustainable Landscapes

Funding opportunities are available through the Adaptive Farms for Sustainable Landscapes Program.

Riverina Local Land Services has launched its 2022/2023 landholder support program, Adaptive Farms for Sustainable Landscapes, with the main goals of improving agricultural productivity and better management of our natural resources.

This year, the program will provide services to improve landholders' skills and knowledge, as well as on ground incentives. Landholders are invited to apply for funding across a variety of projects including:

- Farm planning
- Enhancing farm dams and landscape rehydration for biodiversity
- Establishing shelter belts of native vegetation
- Establishing and protecting paddock trees
- Constructing stock management areas to improve drought resilience
- Protecting and enhancing endangered Box Gum Grassy Woodlands
- Improving landholder knowledge and skills
- Landholder 'champions' to demonstrate best practice in the above activities.

Once you have selected which option/s are of interest, we will contact you to provide details on how to access the online learning and discuss your program.

For eligibility criteria and to submit an expression of interest go to

<https://www.lls.nsw.gov.au/riverina/adaptive-farms-for-sustainable-landscapes>.

For landholders looking for further information on this project please contact Cherie White, Senior Land Services Officer (NRM), 0427 407 126.

EVENTS COMING UP

Grower group wrap-ups Coleambally and Whitton

Date: Tue 20th September

- **Coly Club** Time: 9-11am
- **Whitton Malt House** (Conference room) Time: 2-4pm

After the success of the pilot grower groups held at Whitton and Coleambally last year, this year we are seeking expression of interest from growers looking to form these groups in Hay, Jerilderie, Deniliquin, Carrathool, Hillston. These groups meet five times throughout the season to discuss management at critical decision-making times. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved.

AUGUST answer Where is this? Carrathool



September quiz – Name this bird?

Regards Kieran

Disclaimer:

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