

# World Cotton Research Conference: Just not cricket

The third World Cotton Research Conference (WCRC-3) will be held in Cape Town from March 9 to 13, 2003. This follows on from the previous successful conferences held in Brisbane (1994) and in Athens (1998).

The Conference will bring together cotton researchers from all over the world in one of the most beautiful cities in the world — the 'mother city' of South Africa. And for cricket fans, the conference has an added bonus — it coincides nicely with the World Cricket Cup to be held in South Africa next year.

Over 620 researchers from 46 countries participated in the Athens conference and they presented about 300 papers.

## The venue

The meeting is scheduled to take place at the Holiday Inn Cape Town (formerly the Cape Sun Inter-Continental Hotel).

The hotel has unspoilt views of either

Table Mountain or Table Bay and offers a regular shuttle service to the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront Development in the Cape Town harbour — which attracts the most tourists in South Africa annually.

Cape Town is situated at the heart of what was once described by the famed navigator Sir Francis Drake, as the "fairest cape in the whole circumference of the world."

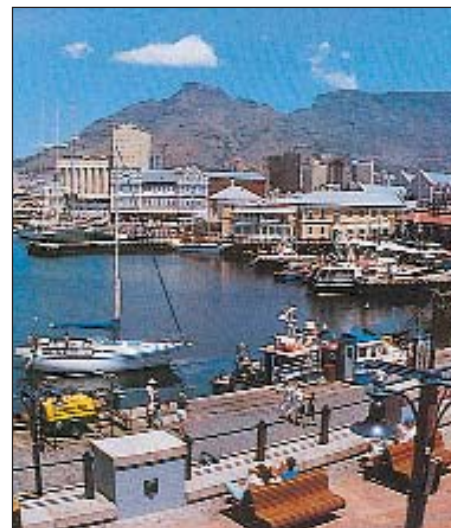
The city, the mountain and its surrounds — the Western Cape — are blessed with an abundance of natural beauty.

## The meeting and theme

The WCRC-3 will be based on the same successful formula as the previous meetings.

The theme will be *Cotton Production for the New Millennium*. All aspects of production research and fibre quality will be addressed.

The Conference will embrace all disciplines and will cover aspects such as seedbed



Cape Town and Table Mountain.

preparation, seed production, growing, irrigation, plant protection, crop management, nutrition, plant physiology, modeling, transgenic cotton, organic cotton, harvesting, contamination, ginning, quality measurements and extension services.

## Social activities

Formal activities will not be the only points on the agenda. A welcome function will be held the night before the conference. A theme evening will be held on the Tuesday night at one of the historic wine estates near Cape Town.

On the Wednesday afternoon (March 12), delegates can choose between a number of relaxing excursions.

On Thursday evening there will be a formal Conference Dinner at a special venue. During the evening entertainment will be supplied by some local artists. This is bound to be one of the highlights of the meeting, and should not be missed.

## Tours

A number of pre and post conference tours and some field trips have been put together by the appointed tour operator. Some of these are purely for holiday and relaxation purposes, but others are of a technical nature, and will focus on various aspects of cotton research and production.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Visas

Australian nationals do not require a visa to enter South Africa.