

Case IH Cotton Club back with launch of Module Express

Case IH will officially launch its cotton module express picker at the 2008 Cotton Conference on the Gold Coast in August, where the company will host the Case IH Cotton Club.

"This will be the first public showing of this product, which turns harvesting and module-building into a one person job. We're excited to officially launch the technology at the Cotton Conference," says Case IH Product Manager Geoff Rendell. "We will also be showcasing our options for controlled traffic farming for planting and crop care and machine integration with Pro 600 for tractor control, planter control and GPS guidance."

There will be Case IH experts on hand to discuss picking and tractor mechanisation and precision agriculture. "We'll also be bringing in an overseas grower and some of our global product managers to talk about where the industry is heading globally," Geoff says. "We're delighted to be offering this great program of events for the conference as well as hosting the Case IH Cotton Club."

The Case IH Cotton Club will be the ideal place for growers to relax, catch up with friends and network. "We're looking forward to extending our hospitality to everyone. The cotton industry has seen some tough times recently so a chance to sit back and relax is well-earned," Geoff says, noting that recent rains in Queensland have brought some optimism back into the market.

Case IH has been at the forefront of the cotton harvesting industry for 65 years. The first commercially successful mechanical cotton picker was introduced to the market by International Harvester, part of the modern Case IH family, in 1943.

"It's fitting that we should launch our Module Express at the Cotton Conference, with its theme New Beginnings. We know this new technology will represent a new beginning and a new approach to harvesting and processing cotton for many in the industry," Geoff says.


"The Case IH Module Express 625 is the industry's first commercial cotton picker able to build modules as it harvests.

"By turning harvesting and module-building into a one person job, the Module Express dramatically reduces labour and equipment costs. The cotton is picked at

the same pace as with a traditional six-row picker, but modules are formed simultaneously."

The machine builds modules 2.44m x 2.44m x 4.87m with an average weight of just over 4,500 kilograms. The modules

are the same height and width as standard modules and require no alterations in the ginning process.

Case IH will have a Module Express 625 shipped specially from the US for display during the Cotton Conference. 



Case IH will officially launch the Module Express 625 at the Cotton Conference in August. The Module Express 625 is the first commercial cotton picker that can build modules as it harvests.

An invitation from cotton's peak bodies

JOANNE GRAINGER

Chairperson Cotton Australia (CA)

As part of the DAFF *Managing the Drought* project, Cotton Australia identified the conference as an opportunity to support both the cotton industry and cotton growers by providing a day free to growers and their staff. We hope to encourage them to attend and even register for the whole program at a time when most are watching where every dollar goes.

The day will provide information and support for growers contributing to their capacity to recover from drought and enabling them to set future directions for their enterprises. It's all about developing resilience and managing challenging issues, whether it is drought or any other risk.

As a result, growers will be able to review their cotton growing enterprises and adapt their practices to manage a changing business.

Above all Cotton Australia hopes to provide a positive outlook for continuing to produce cotton as the industry progresses.

MIKE LOGAN

Chair Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC)

This year's cotton conference is shaping up to be very important.

We are forever in a state of being challenged, but now the challenges are all new. The competition for available land and water is becoming intense and the cotton industry needs to be prepared.

We now have the opportunity to focus on the quality of our product that will allow sustainable access to markets for years to come.

The relationships and understanding along the cotton supply and processing chains are sufficiently strong for us to work collaboratively to improve our cotton products.

This conference will highlight the strengths of these relationships and identify opportunities throughout every aspect of the industry.

I commend the conference to you as something we all need to be a part of.