

Changing climate for cotton consultants

Consultants and farm managers who want to offer the most up to date service to their clients cannot afford to miss this year's Australian Cotton Conference on the Gold Coast from August 12-14.

Titled "Cotton in a Climate of Change", the most broad-ranging speaker list ever assembled will offer everything growers need move into a new era of cotton farming in terms of resistance management, water use efficiency, advancements in nutrition technology and meeting the demands of changing markets.

"With rising fertiliser and diesel costs,

limited water availability and advancements in farming systems, growers are consistently looking for ways to decrease input costs while improving yield and natural resource management," says Cotton Consultants Australia president Jamie Street of St George.

The Conference is an opportunity to network with other consultants, growers and leaders of industry research who can outline proven methods of more efficient use and optimisation of fertilisers and alternative methods of increasing and retaining nitrogen in the soil.

The latest rotation options and what the

research is saying in regard to row spacing and irrigation methods to conserve soil nitrogen and moisture are high on the agenda.

Hands-on discussion sessions on Thursday of the Conference (free for growers and staff) will give the opportunity to ask questions and talk about real life scenarios and issues and how to overcome or improve them.

The Cotton Trade Display forms part of the program, and will showcase the latest innovations and technology on offer to the industry. There has never been a better opportunity to network with representatives from along the entire production chain to add an invaluable tool to any consultant's ability to better serve their clients.

"In order to better serve the consumers' needs, the information needs of growers have become more broad-ranging to cover the whole production chain, so consultants' information must also continue to be broad ranging," Jamie said.

"With so many advancements in research relating to varietal development, optimised farming systems, resistance management along with the need to reduce input costs, consultants are increasingly being called on by their clients to provide this type of information to improve operations."



Cotton Consultants Australia president Jamie Street.



Australian Government

**Cotton Research and
Development Corporation**

NON EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS Seven Appointments

The Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) is a joint industry/Australian Government funded Statutory Authority. The corporate mission is to invest and provide leadership in research, innovation, knowledge creation and transfer for the Australian cotton industry.

Applications are sought for seven part-time non-executive directors of the CRDC Board. To be considered for these positions, ideally applicants should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Australian cotton industry, and be experienced in one or more of the following fields:

- Commodity production, processing and marketing;
- Conservation/management of natural resources;
- Environmental and ecological matters;
- Science and Technology, and technology transfer;
- Administration of research and development;
- Economics;
- Finance and business management;
- Sociology; and
- Public administration.

Terms of appointment are up to 3 years. Director remuneration is determined by the Australian Government Remuneration Tribunal (currently \$18,220 per annum). Applicants are requested to provide career and personal details (not more than three pages), noting those areas from the above list in which they have particular skills and experience.

Applications should be forwarded by 5pm, 8 August 2008 to:

**The Presiding Member, Dr P A McMichael
CRDC Selection Committee
Email: srhs@srhs.com.au**

If you are unable to forward your application by email please contact the Presiding Member on (08) 8373 2488

For further information concerning CRDC, refer to Website: www.crdc.com.au

The conference gives the opportunity to talk with leaders in research, ginning, shipping, spinning and financial experts to find out how to help growers become more competitive in a climate of change for the industry, as consumer demands evolve and the industry evolves to maintain a leading edge.

“Viability is number one for growers, and consultants are usually the first port of call when they want to know what is new or what is working — we need to be able

to deliver this information,” Jamie said.

“This year’s conference will give consultants information on winning back markets and consumer demands, which traditionally may have been considered outside our knowledge set.

“This gives them the ability to advise growers through their agronomic advice to make sure they are meeting those needs.”

Consultants can get all the information under one roof and take it home on a con-

venient flash drive — no reams of paperwork and pamphlets to sort through when they get back to work.

The flash drive will be picked up at the conference, with information from the sessions already downloaded onto it.

It will also provide an access key to an ongoing, consistently updated database of knowledge.

To register for the conference:
www.australiancottonconference.com.au



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