

SECTION 7  
RESEARCH &  
EXTENSION

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# Cotton industry identity retires

**A**fter 37 years in the cotton industry, including 22 years as secretary of the Australian Cotton Growers Research Association (ACGRA), and organiser of 12 of the past 14 biennial Australian Cotton Conferences, David Swallow has retired.

David joined Cotton Seed Distributors Ltd (CSD) in 1970 as Quality Control Officer oversee-

ing and supervising pure seed production, processing and laboratory testing.

He was appointed Assistant General Manager of CSD in 1980, and General Manager from November 1993 to December 1997. In November 1994 he became a Director and Secretary of Cotton Seed International Pty. Ltd. (CSI), serving on the CSI board until December 1997.

He became secretary of ACGRA in June 1985, also sharing responsibility for organising and implementing several ACGRA Cotton Conferences. He also helped coordinate the International Cotton Advisory Committee's 59th Plenary Meeting in Cairns in November 2000.

He was a key member of the Blight Investigation Group (BIG) that within three years facilitated a reduction in the level of Bacterial Blight in cotton planting seed to less than 0.3 per cent, which was a precursor to the introduction of varieties resistant to Bacterial Blight.

David and his wife Judy, who has operated as chief of staff, head cook and bottle washer and jack of all trades at many recent cotton conferences, will enjoy retirement in the cooler climes of Orange in the central west of NSW, where apples, grapes and other horticultural delicacies rather than cotton dominate the landscape.



(L to R): Former ACGRA chairman Hamish Millar, David Swallow, and new ACGRA chair, Ben Stephens, at a presentation to mark David's retirement.

# Winner of Round Table education award

**A**prestigious national Award for 'Best Collaboration with a Regional Focus' has been taken out by the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC (Cotton CRC) "Summer Scholarship Program".

Lisa Paul, Secretary of the Department of Education, Science and Training, presented the Business/Higher Education Round Table (BHERT)



Lisa Paul presents the award to Peter Gregg.

Award to Cotton CRC Chief Scientist, Professor Peter Gregg, during a gala awards ceremony in Sydney. This BHERT award reflects recognition by the chief executives of major Australian corporations, research organisations and the Vice Chancellors of Australian Universities.

The Cotton CRC "Summer Scholarship Program" provides new dimensions and opportunities for undergraduate students studying agriculture or related sciences at University. Students gain eight weeks paid work during their summer holidays, combining experience in a regional location and collaboration with a "real" scientist. This enables scientists to expand their current projects by investigating smaller yet novel aspects of their science

Professor Gregg said that since the course began in 2000, 45 scholarships have been provided to motivated university students to conduct pilot projects.

This innovative education program has helped overcome the major problem of attracting future graduates as employees and postgraduate students to study in regional locations.