

## New soil resource

**N**SW Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, released a new scientific resource at the Australian Cotton Trade Show to help the cotton industry manage the soil landscape.

Mr Macdonald launched the high-tech "Soil Database Assistant" containing detailed data on the composition of soil from key cotton growing regions in NSW and south-western Queensland.

"This database is the result of a \$3.7 million, 10-year project involving more than 11 scientists affiliated with the Australian Cotton Co-Operative Research Centre and the University of Sydney," Mr Macdonald said.


"This is an unprecedented scale of soil surveying in Australia.

"It draws on more than 90,000 records covering over 1500 sites from the Namoi, Lachlan, Gwydir and Macintyre valleys, and the Bourke and St. George Irrigation districts.

"With data on soil fertility and the levels of salinity, carbon and sodicity in soils, growers, researchers, agronomists, and catchment authorities can develop better property plans and management strategies.

"Previously, cotton farmers had no reliable information on soil composition to help them manage their land as effectively as possible.

"A sustainable, profitable cotton industry will rely on access to the most sophisticated technology and farming practices."

Copies of the CD-ROM are available free-of-charge from Cotton CRC Technology Reference Centre on 02 67991500. 



NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald.

## Macquarie Cotton kicks off

**M**acquarie Cotton kicked off a campaign to launch its new business at the National Australian Cotton Trade Show.


Macquarie Cotton became a new merchant in the Australian cotton market at the end of last year. Kim Morison and Richard Dalglish head up the team in Sydney and the following local agents have been appointed to cover cotton valleys at the local level:

- Karl Sinclair, Ruth Frater and Lachie Urquhart at AgFarm Marketing in Warren;
- Kevin Schwager, Steve Dalton and Jaqueline Hope at Priag Marketing in Narrabri;
- David and Mardi Orr at David Orr (Agencies) Pty Ltd in Moree with Kellie Mitchell covering the Macintyre, based at Talwood; and,
- Richard and Ann Merson at Link Ag in Toowoomba.

Roger Tomkins and Jamie Seccombe, based in Moree, manage export sales into all the major Australian cotton markets including Indonesia, Thailand, Japan, South Korea, China, Pakistan and India.

Macquarie Cotton is a business unit of Australia's largest investment bank, Macquarie Bank. Macquarie Bank has over 50 business units in specialist industries such as transport, commodities, energy, property development and wealth management. Macquarie Bank is also a front runner in Australia's foreign exchange market. While Kim Morison manages the Macquarie Cotton business, he and his team also have access to the significant resources of Macquarie Bank, including its overseas networks.

With a dedicated team of Aussie traders in New York working the US agricultural commodity markets and its own foreign exchange team in Sydney, Macquarie Cotton has first access to market information including world price and foreign exchange.

For more information, please check out the web at [www.macquarie.com.au/cotton](http://www.macquarie.com.au/cotton) 



The Macquarie Cotton team.