

## **Field to Fabric Course**

***Managing for quality through the production chain.***

***René van der Sluijs***

Following on from the successful presentation of the inaugural Field to Fabric training course in August 2005, which was attended by 30 people, two follow up courses were held in July and August 2006. The first course was held from 25 to 27 July 2006 and was attended by 23 participants. The second course was held from 22 to 24 August 2006 and was attended by 25 participants. (Attached please find lists of participants) Of these 48 participants 5 were international participants from Vietnam, Singapore and the US.

Due to demand from the industry a further course will be presented this year on 28 to 30 November, for which 20 participants have already registered. A further course is planned for 24 to 26 July 2007.

This Field to Fabric training course is part of the Post Harvest Training initiative to make everyone in the cotton production pipeline aware of what their customers need and expect when they process Australian cotton.

The 3 day course, which was presented in Geelong, gives participants an opportunity to interact with leading researchers and industry experts. (Attached please find lists of presenters, a CV of presenters can be found in front of course notes) on all aspects of the cotton production pipeline and includes modules on: global perspective, fibre properties, agronomy, picking, ginning, classing, marketing, yarn formation, fabric formation and dyeing and finishing. A strong emphasis is placed on the impacts of fibre quality on textile processing. Information is presented by way of lectures and practical demonstrations using the modern commercial cotton spinning and processing equipment available at CSIRO Textile and Fibre Technology (CTFT). All participants are issued with a course pack which incorporates;

- Course notes (106 pages) with copies of the PowerPoint slides used by the presenters and comprehensive course notes ,
- CDROM with above information
- Supplementary information

Besides the fact that all participants are presented with a certificate of attendance, an additional benefit of the program is that it has been aligned with several competencies from the national training package for vocational training and education. This allows participants to experience a short course and at the same time, gain a formal qualification

CTFT would like to acknowledge CRDC, the Australian Cotton Catchment and Community CRC, International Fibre Centre, NSW Tafe, Australian Cotton Shippers Association, CSIRO PI, Cotton Classers Association of Australia and National Heritage Trust for their funding and support in the development and presentation of these Field to Fibre training Courses.

## Cotton Field to Fabric Training Course 25th – 27<sup>th</sup> July 06

### List of Participants/Presenters

	<u>Presenters</u>	<u>Company</u>
	Dr Bill Humphries	CSIRO TFT
	Mr Joe Merola	IFC
	Mr Mark Hickman	QDPI & F
	Mr Cliff White	ACSA
	Mr Peter Bunce	CCAA
	Dr Mike Bange	CSIRO PI
	Mr Geoff Dunlop	NSW TAFE
	Dr Stuart Gordon	CSIRO TFT
	Mr René van der Sluijs	CSIRO TFT
	Mr Martin Prins	CSIRO TFT
	Dr David King	CSIRO TFT
	<b>Participants</b>	
1	Ben McClymans	Qld Cotton Corp
2	John Egan	Mr Harris Pastoral Co
3	Mitchell Anderson	Qld Cotton
4	Simon McInnes	ACIC
5	Andrew Jones	CSIRO TFT
6	David Green	Australian Classing Services
7	Van Bic Nguyen	Ecomtrading
8	Steve Tan Tjay Sing	Ecomtrading
9	Steve Dalton	Ecomtrading
10	David Brophy	Ecomtrading
11	Ross Harvie	Ecomtrading
12	Leong Zhi Yong	Ecomtrading
13	Tran Thuy Ha	Ecomtrading
14	Adrian Gallagher	Weil Brothers Cotton ( Aust) P/L
15	Damion Irons	Brighann Ginning
16	Michael Sweeney	Brighann Ginning
17	Richard Egging	Brighann Ginning
18	Keven Dickson	Brighann Ginning
19	Ian Seery	Brighann Ginning
20	Dan Munk	Uni of California
21	Robert Long	CSIRO TFT
22	John Stanley	University of New England
23	Mr Peter Bunce	Australian Classing Services

## Cotton Field to Fabric Training Course 22nd – 24<sup>th</sup> August 06

### List of Participants/Presenters

	<u>Presenters</u>	<u>Company</u>
	Dr Geoff Naylor	CSIRO TFT
	Mr Barry White	IFC
	Phil Ryan	ACSA
	Ms Krista Page	CCAA
	Dr Mike Bange	CSIRO PI
	Dr Stuart Gordon	CSIRO TFT
	Mr Geoff Dunlop	NSW TAFE
	Mr René van der Sluijs	CSIRO TFT
	Mr Martin Prins	CSIRO TFT
	Dr David King	CSIRO TFT
	<b>Participants</b>	
1	Camilla Taylor	Qld Cotton
2	Lauren Wilson	Qld Cotton
3	Damien Erbacher	Dawson Ag Consulting
4	Jane Caton	CSIRO Plant Industry
5	Andrew Vanderstok	Namoi Cotton Co-op Ltd
6	Stephen Mallinson	Namoi Cotton Co-op Ltd
7	Ben Meyers	Weil Brothers Cotton (Aust) PL
8	Krista Page	Weil Brothers Cotton (Aust) PL
9	Darren Van-Dugteran	North West Ginning
10	Michael Robinson	North West Ginning
11	Shane Jett	North West Ginning
12	Mark Swan	North West Ginning
13	Wayne Clissold	North West Ginning
14	Tony Heckendorf	Qld Cotton
15	Steve Gardiner	Qld Cotton
16	Graeme Hollis	Auscott Ltd
17	Tom Galbraith	Independent Commodity Management
18	Anthony Walker	Qld Cotton
19	Steve McNallie	Qld Cotton
20	Ben Keft	Qld Cotton
21	Angus Crossan	University of Sydney
22	Peter Smith	Qld Cotton Corp
23	Andrew Gourlay	Deltapine Aust Pty Ltd
24	Nathan Eulenstein	Deltapine Aust Pty Ltd
25	Mark Freijah	CSIRO TFT

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## Course Feedback

How would you rate the knowledge you have gained from this course

1 = No use

5= Of moderate use

10= Extremely useful

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
				9 %	5%	10 %	24 %	14%	38%

How would you rate the overall course content? *Please Circle one*

<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Below expectation</b>
57 %)	43 %		

How would you rate the delivery by presenters? *Please Circle one*

**Excellent      Good      Average      Below expectation**

- **Excellent-** Well explained, good PowerPoint & slide use, felt the yellow exam was difficult to complete due to action packed program & having to think back to various talks
- **Excellent/ Good-** only issue taking Excel towards good was the leaving of technical explanation until next to the machines where I could not hear anything. Martin's video explanations of weaving- then see the machines was the best by far.
- **Good/ Average-** some presenters spoke for too long without a break. Encourage more interaction. Some presenters need to be more energetic, move around & increase tone of voice.
- **Good-** if possible the presenters should give speech a little bit slower so that foreign attendants (like me) can totally understand. Thank you.
- **Good-** some were excellent. Some could be more detailed like marketing and classing and made a bit easy to understand.
- **Excellent-** little less on history but only because of time limits.
- **Excellent-** after lunch is always hard- make it hands on.

How would you rate the course material supplied? *Please Circle one*

**Excellent      Good      Average      Below expectation**

- **Excellent-** have not opened the CD-ROM
- **Excellent-** need samples to take home to be able to show others at home & spread the messages
- **Good-** HAND OUTS in colour as graphs don't talk well in black & white
- **Average-** the presentation copies given are too small to read some details.
- **Good-** I'm not sure if the given CD contains the videos or not. If yes, that's great.

- **Good**- the printed slides are very small, hard to read.
- **Excellent**- very in depth material that I will utilise all the time.

How would you rate the usefulness of the site tours? *Please Circle one*

**Excellent**      **Good**              **Average**              **Below expectation**

- **Excellent**- found the whole tour fascinating. Very useful.
- **Good**- You need to ensure people can hear. The weaving/ knitting/ non-woven's was great because you could hear. Maybe show video of card/draft – then show the working mill.
- **Excellent**- this worked well as it reinforced the theory.
- **Excellent**- it would be even more excellent if we can see & have some time really work on the classing field.
- **Good**- particularly good for weaving spinning, non-weaver.
- **Excellent**- everything makes more sense when you can see it.
- **Excellent**- smaller groups- sometimes hard to hear.
- **Excellent**- very good to see process in action, this brings the notes and videos into perspective.
- **Excellent**- I couldn't imagine a more suitable site to hold a course like this.

Please provide a sentence on how would you describe the course to your colleagues.

- Do you know what the spinners think of your cotton? This course explains what is important to yarn spinners and fabric manufactures.
- Very informative as to the needs of spinning mills in regards to trash content on contamination
- Very good for learning about all those processing questions we often know nothing about.
- A useful amount of knowledge to create links throughout the industry
- A good overall description about the may faults of cotton production.
- Essential, if you want to intimately understand cotton and what our customers' needs are.
- Very comprehensive. Gives a holistic view of the entire cotton production process.
- Worthwhile
- The course is teaching very broad scope of textile industry, but the time was too short.
- Very informative.
- A very practical & highly informative introduction to the cotton processing chain, with a primary focus on quality issues.
- You get to see all the steps in the textile chart and realise that a lot happens in between ginning and garments manufacture.
- Worth going to Melbourne for the course.
- Very hands on and interesting.

- Very useful in that it gives you a great perspective on how seemingly small or insignificant things can present major problems further down the production line.
- Highly interesting and gives you a lot to think about the little things we do that cause big problems down the line.
- “fills in the gaps”
- Excellent base to the post harvest/ginning process shows visually use there is such importance on quality.
- A great overview of the whole cotton industry and good knowledge to benefit anyone in the industry.
- An unbelievable experience! It truly provides a holistic view of the chain of events from field to fabric, particularly yarn & fabric manufacturing.
- A good opportunity to gain knowledge in all aspects of the cotton chain- particularly the spinning side of things.

**Has this course provided information that will change the way you conduct your work in the future?**

**Yes**

**No**

**If Yes, explain what you expect to implement or change in the future.**

- **Yes-** Will recommend the course to southern growers, many of whom are new to the cotton industry.
- **Yes-** Try changing rate gin is run at so as too eliminate need too use 2 lint cleaners.
- **Yes-** a better perspective of this part of the industry is essential to co-ordinating the cotton course.
- **Yes-** provide me with knowledge to answer inquiries received regarding cotton.
- **Yes-** more educated about the industry
- **Yes-** have a better comprehension of quality requirements discuss this with more authority with customers. Develop more creative marketing options e.g. contract ginning
- **Yes-** allows me to recommend cotton that are useful for our client’s spinning mills.
- **Yes-** be able to relate this better when in talks with clients.
- **Yes-** in providing customer service to spinner.
- **Yes-** I will spend more time studying about cotton and will put more efforts in cotton trading.
- **Yes-** the course has confirmed many of my previous held views about quality- as a grower I am limited in what I can do except choose varieties for quality & manage & harvest the crop for quality. Concentrate on contamination at picking. At the gin we do not get paid to max quality.
- **Yes-** helpful to explain the whole process to others.
- **Yes-** to learn & implement better plant management practises.
- **Yes-** every action I take.

- **Yes-** better understanding
- **Yes-** give better information back to growers in the classing area.
- **Yes-** this will defiantly give me some ideas to put to my fellow works and discuss weather to implement them.
- **Yes-** I'll be more aware of how fibre quality effects the spinning process.
- **Yes-** as a classer I have learned how much emphasis is put on contamination & pepper trash so it has made me think about this when I am classing cotton next time.

### **EXTRA**

#### **Improvements-**

The marketing section could focus less on “history” and more on the current position and about why mills like to buy Australian cotton & others don't.

Well done gentleman.... Great job!