Foreword

By SUSAN MAAS (CRDC)

Welcome to the 2013 Cotton Production Manual. This publication serves as a key document to reference best cotton production practices, and as such, is an important resource for all cotton producers. In response to interest from growers this edition includes an ‘Introduction To The Cotton Plant’, so an understanding of cotton physiology can help to make your agronomic decisions. This edition of the manual has been divided into four sections.

• **Cotton For Profit** – In the quest to continue to maximise profitability, growers need to improve yield while managing input costs. This section outlines some key production issues for the 2013/14 crop, with a particular focus on input efficiencies.

• **Better Farming Future** – Profitability needs to be maintained into the future, and this section outlines key production issues that will not only impact on the current crop, but also on the future of the industry. The chapters in this issue cover the principles of managing long term.

• **Cotton For The Customer** – Australian cotton is viewed worldwide as an excellent fibre. Cotton quality is something that can be influenced throughout the season. This section covers management issues relating to quality, as well as chapters explaining post farm gate issues.

• **The Business Of Cotton** – This business of cotton can be complex. This section identifies issues across a range of topics including economics, marketing, finance, insurance, as well as the safety and management of the human resources involved in cotton.

This publication is one of a series of key products proudly brought to you by the cotton industry’s Development and Delivery Team. This team is a Joint Venture partnership between Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Cotton Australia and Cotton Seed Distributors and is responsible for delivering a high quality research adoption program to the cotton industry to encourage the early and maximum uptake of new research and innovation, leading to higher economic performance with a reduced ecological footprint.

Thanks again to the researchers, industry and the Development and Delivery Team, who have contributed to reviewing and updating the 2013 Cotton Production Manual.

This resource is supported by additional information on best practice at www.myBMP.com.au.

---

**TwinN** – nitrogen fixing microbes

- Increase yields
- Decrease input costs
- Boost mid-season crop vigour

- TwinN microbes fix N from the atmosphere into your crop
- TwinN microbes improve root growth

TwinN@mabiotec.com  07 5445 7151  Techs 0458 989 282  www.mabiotec.com
Thinking about a rain grown cotton crop this summer?

Growing cotton might be the best contributor to your bottom line this summer. Since the 90’s a lot of things have changed, pests are now more manageable, risks are reduced, and yield potential has increased.

But, choosing your input supplier may be the most important decision you make. Cotton Growers Services has been supporting cotton growers for over 30 years with good advice and efficient product supply.

Being cotton specialists, we can help with variety selection, pest or weed control strategies, nutrition and defoliation. So don’t look to your dog food supplier for your cotton crop inputs, your crop is too important.

So give us a call or visit your local CGS Branch to get your “Rain grown cotton pack”. It contains most of the information you will need to get started, or come back to, the cotton industry!

Contact Cotton Growers Services to get your essential information pack.
Head Office phone 02 6795 3100
www.cgs.com.au