



Australian Government
**Cotton Research and
Development Corporation**

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP REPORT: 2014-15 SEASON

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|-----------|--|---|---|
| 1. | Project Title
(Maximum 15 words) | : | CRDC1319 Rotary Youth in Cotton Camp (RYIC) |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 2. | Proposed Start Date | : | 2 nd May 2013 |
| | Proposed Cease Date | : | 5 th May 2013 |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 3. | Activity | : | Rotary Youth in Cotton Camp (RYIC) |
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| 4. | Organisation & Location
for the project | : | RYIC committee (supported by Rotary), Moree |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 5. | Administrative Contact | : | |
| | Telephone | : | |
| | Facsimile | : | |
| | Postal Address | : | |
| | Email | : | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| 6. | Project Supervisor | : | |
| | Position in organisation | : | |
| | Telephone | : | |
| | Facsimile | : | |
| | Email | : | |
| | Postal Address | : | |

Project Collaborators (Name and Organisation):

SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

(Maximum FOUR pages)

1. Executive Summary:

The initiative aims to encourage more young people into the cotton industry by demonstrating the diversity of employment opportunities available within cotton production in Australia. Through the RYIC program, the committee endeavour to strengthen the cotton workforce as one of the predominant and rapidly developing industries of the Moree district.

2. Background:

The Rotary Youth in Cotton camp is an annual event, which has been functioning in the Moree district for several years, as an initiative of Moree & District Rotary Club and the assistance of local volunteers working within the cotton industry. The camp is attended by year 10 and 11 high school students from the north-west region. Participants visit a number of cotton production environments, including farming properties and cotton gins to interact with people in the many and diverse roles within the industry, from agronomy, irrigating, machinery operation and maintenance through to research, extension, marketing and finance.

3. Aims and Objectives:

To educate young people on cotton production in Australia, from research, breeding and varieties to pest, weed and disease management, environmental considerations and harvest and ginning processes. The program aims to encourage attendees to seek employment opportunities within the cotton industry.

4. Materials and Methods:

The camp is held over 4 days in May; harvest/ginning time, each year for up to 20 year 10 and 11 High School Students. The RYIC committee provide subsidies for attendance through funding applications, in return for sponsorship publicity. During the camp, attendees meet local Moree cotton industry professionals including researchers, agronomists, farm managers, machine operators and growers.

5. Results:

13 attendees for the 2013 camp

6. Discussion and Conclusions:

The camp was a successful event, hosting 13 school students; photographs of the group are available to view on the Rotary Youth in Cotton Moree Facebook page.

7. Highlights:

Site visit to Auscott at Moree, visit to AirCair Aviation and the hand gin.

8. Future Research:

The 2014 RYIC camp is scheduled for 1st to 4th May.

9. Presentations and Public Relations:

Facebook page; Rotary Youth in Cotton, Community Organisation

10. Reference List:

N/A

Please email within 30 days after Summer Scholarship to: research@crdc.com.au
