



January, August & Final Reports

REPORTS

Part 1 - Summary Details

Please use your TAB key to complete part 1 & 2.

CRDC Project Number: CRDC167C

January Report: Due 29-Jan-01
August Report: Due 03-Aug-01
Final Report: Due within 3 months of project completion

Project Title: WEEDpak. A weed identification and management guide for the Australian Cotton Industry.

Project Commencement Date: 1/7/2001 **Project Completion Date:** 30/6/2002
Research Program: Diseases Weeds

Part 2 – Contact Details

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Supervisor: (Name & position of senior scientist overseeing the project).

Organisation:
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Researcher 2 (Name & position of additional researcher or supervisor).

Organisation:
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Signature of Research Provider Representative: _____

Part 3 – Final Report Format

The points below are to be used as a guideline when completing your final report.

1. Outline the background to the project.

The need for a comprehensive and integrated weed identification and management guide for the Australian cotton industry has long been recognised. During May 2001, a meeting was held involving the Australian Cotton CRC weeds focus team, a team including both weeds researchers at ACRI and extension personnel from the National Cotton Extension Network, and representatives from the CRDC and ACGRA to discuss the production of WEEDpak.

During the period May 2001 – June 2002 members of the weeds focus team, headed by the co-ordinating editor Dr Stephen Johnson, have worked to produce WEEDpak. The end result is a multi-faceted publication that includes information on the following components that are needed to achieve integrated weed management in Australian cotton farming systems:-

a weed identification guide,
integrated weed management,
herbicide resistance,
herbicides and spray guidelines,
roundup ready,
farm hygiene, controlling volunteer cotton and an examination of the interactions of cotton pathogens and insects with weeds,
best bet management guidelines for weeds,
management of problem weeds,
weed management in rotation crops and
appendices on the regional distribution of weeds, a weed species and further reading list with other supporting documents.

2. List the project objectives and the extent to which these have been achieved.

There was only one objective for the funding period and that was to develop the first version of WEEDpak.

This has been achieved by addressing the following:

1. a weed identification guide that is specific to the Australian cotton industry;
2. management information for weed species specific to cotton farming systems;
and
3. support information on a wide range of other weed-related issues, for example, integrated weed management and weed management in Roundup Ready® cotton.

WEEDpak was officially released at the Australian Cotton Conference in August 2002. WEEDpak was proofed, prepared for printing, printed and compiled for distribution during the period July 2002 - October 2002.

3. How has your research addressed the Corporations three outputs: Sustainability, profitability and international competitiveness, and/or people and community?

The production of WEEDpak will help address all three of the CRDC's outputs: -

1. Sustainability– the development of sustainable control measures for weeds.
2. Profitability and international competitiveness – more cost effective management of weeds.
3. People and communities – improve return on investment by ensuring technology is transferred to industry.

The information contained in WEEDpak will help users of the manual to understand the many aspects involved in integrated weed management in Australian cotton farming systems. For example, using the information contained in WEEDpak will aid in weed identification, help users understand the biology of various weeds, help growers decipher between the range of weed management tools that may be available and provide information as to which of these are the best management options to use for the suite of weeds they encounter. This will result in more sustainable and cost effective control measures for weeds.

The provision and use of WEEDpak by members of the cotton industry will help improve the returns on current investments in weed management. Continued extension of the information contained in WEEDpak by both researchers and extension personnel will ensure that this information is used in the best possible way.

4. **Provide an assessment of the likely impact of the results and conclusions of the research project for the cotton industry. Where possible include a statement of the costs and potential benefits to the Australian cotton industry and future research needs.**
5. **Detail a plan for the activities or other steps that may be taken;**
 - (a) **to further develop or to exploit the project technology.**
 - (b) **for the future presentation and dissemination of the project outcomes.**

Please refer to question three for the likely impact of WEEDpak for the cotton industry. It is not possible to state the costs and benefits of the adoption of information contained in WEEDpak. There are a number of future research and development needs and these have been outlined in the attached letter.

6. List the publications arising from the research project.

WEEDpak is the sole publication arising from this work.

7. Are changes to the Intellectual Property register required?

No, none that I am aware of.

Please note

The remainder of the questions were not relevant to the production of WEEDpak.

Please refer to the WEEDpak folder for more information on any aspect of the WEEDpak publication.

Part 4 – Final Report Plain English Summary

Provide a half to one page Plain English Summary of your research that is not commercial in confidence, and that can be published on the World Wide Web.

The production of WEEDpak is an important step in helping achieve sustainable and cost effective weed control in the Australian cotton industry. WEEDpak has many components including a cotton-specific weeds identification guide, a tailored management guide and support information on a variety of other weed related issues. WEEDpak has been written and compiled by the weeds focus team of the Australian Cotton CRC (weed researchers at ACRI and extension personnel from the National Cotton Extension Network).