

REPORTS

Part 1 - Summary Details

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

CRDC Project Number: CRDC234C

Annual Report: Due 30-September

Progress Report: Due 31-January

Final Report: Due 30-September

(or within 3 months of completion of project)

Project Title: Travel: Amanda Cleary - 2004 Beltwide Cotton Conference

Project Commencement Date: 1/1/04 **Project Completion Date:** 31/1/04

Research Program: 1 People and Knowledge

Part 2 - Contact Details

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TRAVEL REPORTS

1. A brief description of the purpose of the travel.

The CRDC \$2000 to put towards attending the 42nd Beltwide cotton conference in San Antonio, Texas, United States of America. During the conference between the 5th – 9th 2004, I presented my current research “**Soil saving practice reduces disruptive insecticides**” in the PhD student section.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

This was my first international conference and greatly appreciated the opportunity to attend and meet many renowned scientists.

Although I did not win the student competition, my research was well received and many people asked questions during and after the session, which I found extremely rewarding.

Unfortunately the integrated pest management (IPM) section was cancelled. However there were numerous other sessions, which were interesting and applicable to the Australian cotton industry. For example their approach to IPM in precision agriculture, spatial yield distribution in cotton following early season floral bud removal, in addition to the new array of insecticides and herbicides entering the market.

b) other highlights

I watched Rose Roche a fellow Australian PhD student present. Rose’s presentation was very professional and well received.

I made numerous contacts within the cotton industry and I found the conference an excellent opportunity to learn about the potential research jobs that are available in both Australia and America. I also enjoyed learning about the numerous farming techniques used in America and how they undertake integrated pest management.

I found that the Australian contingent were very supportive of Rose and myself, in particular Jonathan Holloway from Bayer Crop Science who allowed me to practice my presentation and gave me feedback.