

## Centre Pivot and Lateral Move Training Course

**MOREE 28- 29 February 2008**

The Co-operative Research Centre for Irrigation Futures is offering a training course for **growers/managers** who are considering purchasing or who have purchased Centre Pivot and Lateral Move irrigation systems.

- **Place:** Moree TAFE – Agricultural Skills Centre
- **Time:** Day 1 28th February 9am – 4:30pm  
Day 2 29th February 8am – 3pm (field trip in the morning)
- **Cost:** \$495 (may vary according to sponsorship)
- Qld growers are eligible for Farmbis – To check eligibility and submit an application for funding contact a farmbis Networker on 132523 or visit the website [www.farmbis.qld.gov.au](http://www.farmbis.qld.gov.au)

### Course Outcomes:

- Knowledge on design, installation and management of systems
- Skills in calculating capacity and scheduling irrigation
- More effective management of water and more efficient crop production

For further information and/or to register please contact: Janelle Montgomery, NSW DPI, Moree. Phone: 67506302 or Mobile: 0428 640990

Alternatively to register and view details of the Moree CP&LM course, logon to the CRCIF web site <http://www.irrigationfutures.org.au/events.asp?ID=138> complete the registration form and fax or email the completed form to 02 67524859 or [janelle.montgomery@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:janelle.montgomery@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

## Leaf Analyses

Monitoring of soil and plant nutrient status is recommended on a field-by-field basis to manage soil fertility and to avoid nutritional stress of cotton crops. Plant tissue analysis can provide feedback on the adequacy of a fertiliser strategy, the impact of unforeseen circumstances or to explain differences in crop performance and can be used as both a strategic and tactical nutrient management tool.

After flowering, leaf blades offer the best means of monitoring crop nutrition. The leaf blade can be used for monitoring all nutrients including micronutrients. Leaf tissue tests can be used for identifying nutrient imbalances, deficiencies and toxicities and can do so more precisely than soil testing and assist in optimising fertiliser programs.

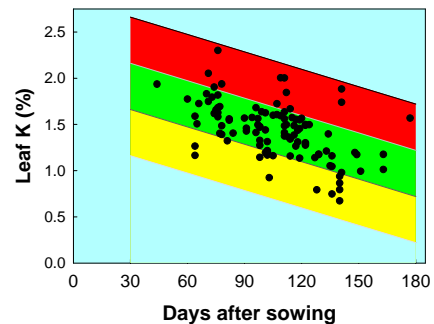
**When do I sample?** Leaf sampling can be done throughout the growing season, but sampling twice (at flowering and cut-out) produces the most useful information.

### Leaf analyses and NutriLOGIC

Plant analyses taken during crop growth can indicate nutrient deficiencies which, if identified early enough, may be rectified by applying the appropriate fertiliser.

The revised NutriLOGIC can assess leaf tissue tests and indicate whether the level is high normal or low, according to the stage of crop development. Research results over a wide range of seasons and experiments (including high yielding crops) have been combined into a number of simple nutrient response curves for major and minor nutrients including nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, calcium, magnesium, and sodium.

For example, graph 1 shows the optimum range used in NutriLOGIC for leaf potassium. The shaded areas indicate high, normal and low concentrations of leaf potassium throughout the season.



Graph 1. High, normal and low concentrations of leaf potassium throughout the season.

NutriLOGIC-on-the-web also interprets soil tests results and petiole nitrate nitrogen analyses to indicate crop N status and suggests fertiliser addition if required. To save time NutriLOGIC automatically retrieves Day Degree data from the weather station selected, based on the crop sowing and sampling dates entered. Growers need only enter the sowing and sampling dates, and the chemical analyses from their laboratory report.

The new NutriLOGIC can be found on the Cotton Catchment Communities CRC web site at <http://tools.cotton.crc.org.au/CottonLOGIC/NutriLOGIC/>

**Looking for more information on nutrition?** NutriLOGIC provides additional information on soil fertility and cotton nutrition through direct links to NUTRIpak and SOILpak.

*Thanks to Dirk Richards, Sandra Deutscher and Ian Rochester, CSIRO and the Cotton CRC for their contribution in developing this information.*

**Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year**

