

**Q & A Farm walk at Benerambah
Rodney and Ben Minato's on the
western end of Brogden Road.
*This Thursday 25th of Oct 8am***

This farm walk is just a low-key gathering of the Murrumbidgee cotton growers and their consultants to look at one of the crops and discuss what to expect in the coming few weeks with its management. Other cottongrowers from outside the MIA & Wah Wah are welcome to come for a look, but be prepared to earn your keep by answering some questions.

If you are not on the industry mailing list for Cotton based information packages, please contact David Larsen at Myall Vale in Narrabri on 02 67991534 or david.larsen@dpi.nsw.gov.au

**Spray Application Workshops
for Cottongrowers.
Delivered by Bill Gordon**

This course is subsidised through a joint GRDC/CRDC project on efficacy and drift management and as a result the price for each attendee is only \$30 (from nearly \$200). Course fees can be paid on the day. BYO lunch. The courses are for one day and will run from 8am til 4pm. Each course is open for 12 to 25 participants. *Please invite any spray contractors that do any of your work as they are more than welcome.*

Topics Covered on the day.

Trends with Labels and New Legal Requirements to Produce Coarse Spray Qualities; Understanding Spray qualities and Nozzle types; Understanding the effect of Weather Conditions on potential losses; Matching Spray Quality to Targets; Matching Spray Quality to Products; The effect of adjuvants and water quality; Practical Issues with Selecting Nozzles to match your setup and requirements; Planning spray Jobs

Hillston, Tuesday the 7th of November

Hillston Ex Services Club

Murrumbidgee, Wednesday the 8th of November

NSW DPI conference room, Murray Rd, Hanwood.

A third course will be run through Griffith Landmark on Thursday the 9th of November.

RSVP to David Williams – 0428 401 988 by Friday the 3rd of November.

Mary Whitehouse (CSIRO Narrabri) who spoke at the Cotton Growers Association in Goolgowi last week is still looking for 4 – 6 more "volunteers" to participate in her survey on Mirid management. Thanks to the two consultants and four growers that signed up for the survey last week. Mary can be contacted on 02 6799 1538 or Mary.Whitehouse@csiro.au

Pesticide Application Management Plans.

This is just a reminder to ensure that your PAMP is in place. Peter Hollingworth and I are available to assist any grower that would like some help

Upcoming IDO activity

I will be in Hillston Tuesday and Wednesday morning this week and Griffith Wednesday afternoon and Thursday. So if you would like me work on any **PAMPs** call me to arrange a time. Next week I will be in Qld for the National Cotton Extension Workshop, where we explore and discuss how we can best serve the industry in each valley. I will then be down for the spray workshops in November on the 7th and 8th.

Early Season Terminology

Retention: This refers to the % of fruit (squares or bolls) that the cotton plant or crop has maintained compared with the number it produce

Cold Shock: occurs when the overnight minimum temp. falls below 11°C impacting on early plant development causing delays and increasing plant disease susceptibility.

Beneficials: Predators and parasitoids of pests.

Area Wide Management (AWM): Growers working together in a region to manage pest populations. AWM is a cotton industry vehicle driving adoption of on-farm IPM.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM): IPM involves using all means of managing pest populations with the aim of reducing insecticide use.

Insect Resistance Management Strategy (IRMS): A voluntary strategy that sets limits on which insecticides can be used and how many times they can be used. This helps prevent the development of insecticide resistance.

Next Cotton Growers Association meeting – Griffith 13th of December 4pm followed by dinner