



Australian Government  
Cotton Research and  
Development Corporation

### Report

## Future Cotton Leader Travel Bursary

June – September 2007

The Cotton Research and Development Corporation has made available up to \$1000 for travel to support your Future Cotton Leader project. The guidelines stipulate that once approved, you can the make your own arrangements for travel. **Within one week of your travel** please send a Tax Invoice with copies of your expenses in line with the amount approved to Helen Dugdale, CRDC, PO Box 282, Narrabri NSW 2390 Telephone: (02) 6792 4088. Up to \$1000 will then be reimbursed. Also include a one page report of your travel including benefits to you, enterprise, industry and whether you would recommend this activity / event to others. Use this report format. Please email a copy of your report to [jo@ruralscope.com](mailto:jo@ruralscope.com) for feedback prior to sending to Helen at CRDC.

#### PART A: PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:

Phone:

Email:

#### PART B: YOUR TRAVEL

1. Provide a short overview of what your bursary achieved. (Include name / aims of travel / course. Location of travel etc)

Travelled to Emerald visited with Nigel Burnett, Craig Bardsley, Graham Volek.

Returned to Wee Wee via Dalby visited Glenn Fresser.

The main aim was to make the R&D committee of the lower Namoi as effective as possible. This committee is established, but without a controversial, threatening issue to tackle, is not very active at the moment.

It was a good opportunity to consolidate networks established through the FCL course and was very successful from that point of view.

**PART C: KEY LEARNINGS**

2a. What are two or three key things that you learned through your travel bursary?

The meeting with Craig Bardsley was very good. Emerald obviously has a dynamic growers association with involved growers and passionate leadership.

The value of an IDO to help drive their direction and development was highlighted.

The way in which their group handled issues and developed solutions. How Craig drove the RoB committee - managed meetings and people.

2b. Is there anything you would improve to gain more from this course / activity / bursary?

I should have had the program more planned. I jammed the trip into a busy time of year for myself and those I visited. I was lucky Craig had rain the night before. Time pressure made it rushed. I could have visited more growers and would have kept learning more.

**PART D: BENEFITS**

3. What benefits have you achieved from your travel bursary?

For you	Renewed network links. Time away to look again at what I do and other growers do. Renewed enthusiasm for the industry and the people. Value of getting off my dung hill to look at wider industry.
For your project, enterprise or job	Don't force the RoB committee to meet if there are no issues to discuss. Involve key people in the RoB committee, even if they are not on LNCA executive. looked at wide row cotton at Glenn Fressers - worth investigating.
For the cotton industry	I was also able to talk the Emerald growers about the flooding and the mental effects of that disaster. The RoB committee for the lower Namoi is established, we should be able to develop that committee so that RoB issues are better fleshed out from a growers point of view before research is requested. Issues from the lower Namoi should be better communicated into the RoB community.

**PART E: RECOMMENDATION**

4. Would you recommend this travel / course to others? Why / Why not?

I would highly recommend others go and visit growers in other regions and see how they are farming, organised and facing their challenges. It gives new perspective. look at own area/enterprise/challenges with new eyes. helps in developing solutions and enthusiasm.