



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 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 for feedback prior to sending to Helen at CRDC.

PART A: PERSONAL DETAILS

Name:

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PART B: YOUR TRAVEL

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

Attendance at Cotton Collective Week (including CCA Cotton Production Seminar 7-8-07, Cotton Grower of the Year Dinner 7-8-07, CA Industry Forum 7-8-07, CCC CRC Science Forum 8 & 9-8-07), Narrabri. I was able to attend the CCA, CA and CRC events to expand my knowledge of issues facing the industry and action being taken by the industry. Also of great interest to myself was how the cotton industry groups (CCA, CA, CRC etc) inform the wider cotton industry as well as managing these issues. These events were a valuable opportunity to network and improve personal and professional links within the cotton industry. Isolation from the wider cotton industry is an ongoing issue for my personal and professional development, it was therefore valuable to attend the Cotton Collective week in Narrabri.

PART C: KEY LEARNINGS

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

The Macquarie Food and Fibre (MFF) purchase of a property within the Macquarie Marshes to improve the image of irrigators and management of the Macquarie Marshes. This demonstrated to me an interesting paradigm shift in approaching issues of natural resource management to growers advantage.

During this drought the opportunity presented by this travel bursary has been valuable by enabling me to refresh my interest and connections to the cotton industry. The bursary has further added to and enhanced my personal and professional development.

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

It is difficult to maintain focus during a long series of information sessions, however overall the sessions were informative and interesting. It is an advantage that networking opportunities are available during the course of the Cotton Collective's events.

PART D: BENEFITS

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

For you	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop networking opportunities• Exposure to latest developments in irrigation and agronomy
For your project, enterprise or job	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mix with and listen to current industry leaders points of view• Improve awareness of activities of industry groups
For the cotton industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maintain industry links during drought• Develop and improve understanding of critical issues facing cotton industry

PART E: RECOMMENDATION

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

I believe that these events should be attended by as many people as possible involved in the cotton industry. It allows gathering and distribution of ideas and information from all ends of the Australian cotton industry. It is evident from these events that there are many similar issues facing people in isolated areas of the industry and collective action is beneficial to all.