

## Part 1 - Summary Project Details

# Final Report

Report Due Date:

29-Sept-00

CRDC Project Number:

CRDC114C

Project Title:  
( < 15 words)

Revisions to Best Management Practices Manual

## Part 2 - Project Contact Details

Admin Contact:

Mr

Allan

Williams

Title (ie Mr/Ms)

First Name

Last Name

Organisation:

A & A Williams Pty Ltd

(Name of organisation that will be administering the funding)

Postal Address:

"Kia-Ora"

PO Box

Street

NARRABRI

NSW

2390

Town

State

Postcode

02 6793 5301

02 6793 5302

allanw@mpx.com.au

Phone

Fax

Email

Principal Researcher:

Mr

Allan & John

Williams

Title (ie Mr/Ms)

First Name

Last Name

Organisation:

A & A Williams Pty Ltd

(Name of organisation that will be administering the funding)

Postal Address:

As above

PO Box

Street

Town

State

Postcode

Phone

Fax

Email

Supervisor:

Mr

Allan

Williams

Title (ie Mr/Ms)

First Name

Last Name

Organisation:

A & A Williams Pty Ltd

(Name of organisation that will be administering the funding)

Postal Address:

As above

PO Box

Street

Town

State

Postcode

Phone

Fax

Email

## Part 3 - Final Report Format

### 1. Outline the background to the project.

The original BMP Manual was published in December 1997. The nature of the document requires that it be updated regularly to ensure that it remains relevant.

### 2. List the project objectives and the extent to which these have been achieved.

The second edition of the BMP Manual now includes new sections on the storage and handling of pesticides, dryland specific issues and farm hygiene. All other sections were comprehensively revised and updated, and the format of the document was also extensively revised to improve its useability. A detailed guide to use was developed to help the transition from the first edition to the second edition, and colour coding has been used to highlight both the different sections and the relevant best practices.

### 3. Detail the methodology and a justification for the methodology used.

Sources of information for the revisions and additions included current legislation, codes of practice, industry documents and consultation with interested groups

### 4. Detail results including the statistical analysis of results

Not applicable

### 5. Discuss the results, and include an analysis of research outcomes compared with objectives.

Not applicable

### 6. Provide an assessment of the likely impact of the results and conclusions of the research project for the cotton industry. Where possible include a statement of the costs and potential benefits to the Australian cotton industry and future research needs.

The Manual provides a comprehensive guide to the safe use of pesticides. The recommendations contained in the Manual have been informed by legislation and government policy, as well as accepted industry best practice and the latest scientific research.

Successful implementation of the practices highlighted in the Manual should result in a number of benefits to both individual cotton growers and the cotton industry as a whole. For example:

- safer and more efficient use of pesticides throughout the industry
- reduced risk of adverse incidents relating to pesticide use
- improved farm management practices
- improved industry/government relations

Although the introduction of changes to farm management practices is likely to result in some additional costs, it is expected that these costs will be mostly short-term, and that the long-term benefits for cotton growers and the industry will outweigh these initial expenses.

In order to ensure the on-going credibility of the BMP program, the scope of the Manual will need to be widened to include other natural resource management issues.

### 7. Describe the project technology (e.g. commercially significant developments, patents applied for or granted, licenses, etc).

Not applicable

### 8. Provide a technical summary of any other information developed as a part of the research project. Include discoveries in methodology, equipment design, etc.

Not applicable

### 9. State the recommendations on the activities or other steps that may be taken to further develop, disseminate, or to exploit the project technology.

Not applicable

### 10. List the publications arising from the research project.

A copy of the Manual is attached

## Part 5 - Plain English Summary

**You must submit a Plain English Summary of your completed research project that is not commercial in confidence, and that can be published by the Cotton Research & Development Corporation in print or on the world wide web. An electronic copy of the plain English summary must also be forwarded by E-mail ([angela@crdc.org.au](mailto:angela@crdc.org.au)).**

The Best Management Practices Manual has been extensively revised and the second edition now includes new sections on the storage and handling of pesticides, dryland farming issues and farm hygiene.

All other sections have been comprehensively revised and updated, and the format of the document was also extensively revised to improve its useability. A detailed introduction and guide to use has been developed to help the transition from the first edition to the second edition, and colour coding has been used to highlight both the different sections and the relevant best practices. Information was gathered from existing industry publications, research publications, publications from other agricultural industries and government departments, codes of practice and relevant Australian Standards.

Feedback received from cotton growers and other industry personnel on the first edition was also taken into account when developing the second edition.

A draft of the second edition of the Manual was provided to the following stakeholders for comment:

- cotton growers through Cotton Australia's Growers Services Managers and Cotton Growers Associations (including a formal presentation at a Cotton Growers Association forum)
- Cotton CRC and specific researchers
- BMP auditors
- BMP Management Committee
- New South Wales Environment Protection Authority
- New South Wales Agriculture
- NSW WorkCover
- New South Wales Department of Land & Water Conservation
- Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
- Queensland Department of Primary Industries
- Queensland Department of Employment, Training and Industrial Relations
- Queensland Department of Natural Resources
- Australian Centre for Agricultural Health & Safety
- various other interested stakeholders (for example, the National Registration Authority and the Grains Council of Australia).

Consultations began in May 2000, and comments were received until the end of August. The final version of the Manual incorporated the majority of the comments received, with the final version being distributed via the Cotton Australia Grower Services Managers in October 2000