



Australian Government
**Cotton Research and
Development Corporation**

TRAVEL & CONFERENCE REPORT

Part 1 - Summary Details

Please use your TAB key to complete Parts 1 & 2.

CRDC Project Number: CRDC313

Project Title: Travel: Support for growers to attend ACSA Conference, Sept 07

Project Commencement Date: 6/08/07 **Project Completion Date:** 7/08/07

Research Program: 6 Value Chain

Part 2 – Contact Details

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Signature of Research Provider Representative: _____

Part 3 – Travel Report

(Maximum two pages)

1. A brief description of the purpose of the travel.

Purpose of travel was to attend the bi-annual Australian Cotton Shippers Association Conference to increase my understanding of ACSA and Value Chain issues.

2. What were the:

a) major findings and outcomes

The challenge for the Australian cotton industry is to adapt to a changing market place. Gone are the days of Australia being the only premium cotton producer. Gone are the days of poor yields in other countries. Gone are the mills in some countries only to be replaced by mills in new countries. Going are the days, that our current cotton fibre attributes and characteristics, will be good enough to sustain us in the future.

The world cotton dynamics are changing and if we are to have a future the Australian cotton industry must adapt to this change.

Adapting to change requires lifting the standard of Australian cotton by producing a fibre that is both in demand and is worthy of a premium. This may be achieved by improving the fibre characteristics and attributes of Australian cotton, by highlighting its environmental credentials, by resolving our fibre problems at the mill or by developing new ways to use Australian cotton.

It is not good enough to be standing still in the world cotton market as it will not be rewarding or allow long-term industry sustainability.

b) other highlights

I would like to thank the CRDC for helping to support my attendance at the recent ACSA Conference.

3. Detail the persons and institutions visited, giving full title, position details, location, duration of visit and purpose of visit to these people/places. (NB:- Please provide full names of institutions, not just acronyms.)

As per conference programme.

4. a) Are there any potential areas worth following up as a result of the travel?

An ACSA Conference certainly gives an international perspective of the Australian cotton industry and for Australian cotton farmers a must do that provides a reality check.

b) Any relevance or possible impact on the Australian Cotton Industry?

In a forum which brings together growers, researchers, merchants, shippers and international spinners, the future for the Australian cotton industry was laid bare for all participants to see. This future could be described as both challenging and rewarding.

5. How do you intend to share the knowledge you have gained with other people in the cotton industry?

Through ACGRA as Breeding and Biotech. Committee chairman and ACGRA member of the ACIC CEAC committee and the Gwydir CGA.