

## SUMMARY

Preparation of the tender documents commenced when funding was committed from Cotton Seed Distributors (CSD), Cotton Research & Development Corporation (CRDC), NSW Agriculture and CSIRO. NSW Agriculture's Building & Engineering Services section engaged, Havenhand & Mather Architects, to provide preliminary diagrams and upon approval detailed plans and specifications. Tenders for the project were called in August and closed in September 1998.

All tenders received were in excess of the funds available. Changes were made to the drawings and specification by NSW Agriculture's Building & Engineering staff and extra funding was committed by CSD & CRDC. The revised plans & specifications were repriced by the building contractors and tenders closed in November 1998.

Dubbo Terrazzo & Concrete Industries were the successful building contractor. Work commenced on the building site on the 18<sup>th</sup> January 1999 and was completed by 29<sup>th</sup> July 1999. Overall project management was carried out by Derek Scott-Robertson with John Lean and Sunil Kammanankada, of NSW Agriculture's Building & Engineering Services Unit, supervising the electrical and mechanical components.

Despite the amount of rain early in the project, construction was undertaken within the time plan specified and within the allocated budget. In addition to the building works other related projects were completed including power upgrade of the site and a gas storage facility.

The official opening of the building is proposed on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1999.