

MEMBERSHIP

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS



CROP CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA (CCA) IS THE PROFESSIONAL NETWORK FOR AGRONOMISTS AND THOSE WITH AN INTEREST IN AGRONOMY

Crop consulting is entering an exciting period as the demand for individuals with agronomic skills & experience is high.

Consequently, it is vital to support those building a career in this field and encourage professionalism.

The industry recognizes that those involved in crop consulting must possess good technical, business and communication skills.

Comprehensive technical knowledge and skills in spray management, product selection, crop nutrition & soils, irrigation practices, variety selection, crop and fallow management and insect, disease and weed management are expected.

Working across dryland and irrigated systems with cotton, grains, pulse and oilseed crops is the norm.

CCA offers members:

- The opportunity to enhance knowledge and credibility through professional development.
- Access to the latest agronomic and business information.
- Networking with agronomists and crop consultants located in other valleys & regions.
- Opportunity to be involved with industry projects, research & best practice initiatives.
- Strong promotion of professionalism in crop consulting.
- Input at important industry forums so consultants and agronomists have a voice as issues arise.

Membership benefits include:

- ◇ Professional Recognition
- ◇ Networking Opportunities
- ◇ Professional Development & Training
- ◇ News & Information
- ◇ On-line Resources
- ◇ Invitations to Industry Events
- ◇ Data Management Program
- ◇ Profile Building
- ◇ Special Discounts

Crop Consultants Australia aims to promote and enhance crop consulting as a profession. This includes facilitating the transfer of knowledge to members and acting as a means of communication between members and other industry groups.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

CCA is recognized as a key player in the cotton & grains industry with members valued by the industry.

'Professional' members have access to a unique logo to include on their business materials to promote their commitment to up-skilling.

NEWS & INFORMATION

The fortnightly Consultants Catchup E-newsletter delivers the latest industry news, events, research and product information direct to members.

DATA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The CCA Data Management Program is available. These integrated, on-line systems record and manage client, paddock and activity data. Provided free to members participating in the Cotton Market Audit, a project with national significance that is coordinated by CCA.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

The CCA event program offers excellent opportunities to network with leading researchers, corporate reps and young agronomists through to the most experienced & respected consultants. Members have access to the contact details of other members and also key scientists to strengthen their own networks.

ON-LINE RESOURCES

Papers & presentations from seminars, plus other reports are provided electronically to members. Other resources are accessible from the members' only section of the CCA website.

PROFILE BUILDING

The CCA Membership Directory is published annually and distributed to members and key people in the cotton & grains industry. CCA is often featured in various media and industry publications and regularly nominates members for industry awards.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

At least two CCA Cropping Solutions Seminars are held either in Queensland or NSW each year. Each event features specialist presentations providing agronomic and research updates, product developments and business management tips.

INDUSTRY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Members are invited to participate in a variety of research projects, provide feedback on industry initiatives and attend special industry events.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS

CCA members receive great discounts to attend Cropping Solutions Seminars.

Members may also have access to training programs for no charge or at a subsidized rate.



MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

CCA membership is open to agronomists and crop consultants including those people with an interest in agronomy and the industry generally.

Use the checklist below to determine the category of membership that is the best match for you.

You should be able to tick all the boxes in the relevant column (unless indicated otherwise)

| INDUSTRY MEMBER | PROFESSIONAL MEMBER | | LIFE MEMBER [^] | STUDENT |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| | Young Professional Consultant [#] | Professional Consultant [#] | | |
| | 50 Up-skilling hours per yr | 30 Up-skilling hours per yr | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You wish to stay up to date with industry information, attend CCA events and receive other member benefits however you ARE NOT required to commit to annual up-skilling requirements. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are starting a crop consulting or agronomy career, have a relevant tertiary qualification* and <u>less</u> than 10 years industry experience. | <input type="checkbox"/> You have an established consulting career, have a relevant tertiary qualification* and <u>more</u> than 10 years industry experience. OR <input type="checkbox"/> You have <u>more</u> than 20 years consulting experience however you do not have a relevant tertiary qualification*. | <input type="checkbox"/> You have demonstrated significant, sustained and high quality leadership and support which has enhanced the reputation and future of the association. | <input type="checkbox"/> You wish to learn about the industry and career options. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> You are employed by an industry organization, research body, government department or product manufacturer / distributor. OR <input type="checkbox"/> You have <u>less</u> than 10 years industry experience as a 'consultant' and you <u>do not</u> have a relevant tertiary qualification.* | <input type="checkbox"/> You are self-employed or work for an independent consultant or a farming enterprise or agribusiness (reseller) with a significant amount of your time dedicated to providing crop consultancy services and agronomic advice. <input type="checkbox"/> You wish to be recognized for professionalism of consulting services by committing to on-going up-skilling requirements. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are self-employed or work for an independent consultant or a farming enterprise or agribusiness (reseller) with a significant amount of your time dedicated to providing crop consultancy services and agronomic advice. <input type="checkbox"/> You wish to be recognized for professionalism of consulting services by committing to on-going up-skilling requirements. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are a current member of the association. | <input type="checkbox"/> You are studying agronomy or a related field on a full time basis. |
| \$350/yr | \$350/yr | \$350/yr | Nil | \$20/yr |

[#] **Definition of 'consultant':** A person who has a significant percentage of their time (averaging a minimum of 30hrs per working week for the year) dedicated to providing agronomic advice.

Should an individual have more than 25 years consulting experience & be averaging less than 30hrs per working week, the CCA Board will give special consideration to continuing their professional membership, providing they are maintaining their up-skilling requirements.

*A person applying for a 'professional' category of membership that does not have relevant tertiary qualifications would require special approval by the CCA Board. The Cotton &/or Grain Production Course is regarded as a tertiary qualification.

Note: All membership categories receive the same level of membership benefits, except students and members who are under the age of 18 years who are not entitled to vote.

[^]The 'Life Membership' category is the highest level of recognition offered by the organization. Nominations are considered by the CCA Board annually and must be received at the CCA Office by 28 February.

CROP CONSULTANTS AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED
PROFESIONAL MEMBERSHIP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



When do up-skilling requirements commence & how do I notify the CCA?

A person will be required to nominate their intention to be a Professional Member and commit to the up-skilling requirements at the time they apply for membership or when membership renewals occur.

Up-skilling Record Sheets are available to download at www.cropconsultants.com.au/membership-information. Record Sheets will also be distributed with membership renewal notices.

Up-skilling will relate to those activities that have been undertaken in the previous 12 month period (commencing from 1 June). It is recommended that the completed Up-skilling Record Sheet is returned to the CCA Office with your membership renewal each year.

Members joining part way through the year will be an 'Industry Member' until such time as they have reached their up-skilling requirement.

What happens if I do not satisfy the up-skilling requirement?

Should a Professional Member not achieve their up-skilling requirements they will immediately revert to 'Industry Member' status.

As an Industry Member, you continue to receive the same membership benefits as a professional member however you will no longer be able to use the 'professional member' logo on your business materials.

How are up-skilling points reviewed by CCA?

Completed Up-skilling Record Sheets will be reviewed by the Executive Officer annually. The CCA Membership Director will consider special circumstances and the CCA Board will review progress.

Member up-skilling requirements must be finalized by 31 August each year, prior to the Membership Directory being published, to ensure that each person is recorded in the relevant section of this valuable publication.

MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNTS & REFUNDS

APPLICABLE TO ALL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

MULTIPLE MEMBER DISCOUNT SCHEME

Any company or business that has more than one financial member of the association is eligible for the following discount for each of their members:

| | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2-3 Members | \$40 discount |
| 4-5 Members | \$50 discount |
| 6-9 Members | \$60 discount |
| 10+ Members | \$75 discount |

Membership refunds: CCA has adopted a no refund membership policy relating to members that leave a business or company partway through the year. It is the responsibility of the employer to put in place their own system for recovery of the CCA membership fee from this individual.