



Cotton Market Audit Participant Guidelines

Guidelines for the supply and management of survey data

1. Summary

The Cotton Market Audit is a quantitative survey performed annually by Crop Consultant Australia (CCA) members and provides data on product usage including seed, seed dressings, herbicides, insecticides, target pests, plant growth regulators and harvest aids. The data provided by individual agronomists is combined into a Cotton Market Audit Report each year.

CCA aims for data coverage of over 50% of Australia's key cotton producing area. This data provides a strong indication of products (type and quantity) used to produce a cotton crop each season.

The Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) contracts CCA to manage the Cotton Market Audit survey as part of the 'Annual qualitative and quantitative surveys for Australian cotton industry' project.

2. Governance

CCA has policies and procedures in place to manage all aspects of the survey project which are overseen by a dedicated Survey Director (Board member) and reviewed by the CCA Board at monthly meetings. The CCA Project Manager is committed to delivering the survey project.

3. Customers

The Cotton Market Audit Report is supplied to CRDC each year. CCA is also able to offer the data for purchase by chemical companies and product manufacturers once a risk assessment is conducted by CRDC and CCA to safeguard the industry from misuse of the data.

4. Data Collection Methods

CCA members are encouraged to submit their data by 30 June each year. The following methods are currently available to collect and supply data for the survey:

- ✉ Excel templates – templates designed for the collection of all, or season summary data. The completed templates are emailed to CCA.
- ✉ CCA Data Management Program – CCA has its own data management program (DMP) available to members at no charge. CCA has direct access to the data entered.
- ✉ Agworld – members (or their clients) subscribed to Agworld can grant permission in writing for Agworld to supply their data to the CCA Cotton Market Audit.

5. Data Collected

The agronomic cotton data collected each season from agronomists includes:

- ☞ Consultant name, business name, contacts, farm name, field name (collected for internal tracking purposes only) *
- ☞ Region, field size, irrigated/dryland, planting date
- ☞ Products applied to field (planting seed, seed treatment, fertiliser, herbicide, insecticide, fungicide, growth regulant, adjuvant, surfactant, harvest aid, defoliant)
- ☞ Area product applied, rate, band width, row configuration, units, target pest, total volume product applied

*Contact and farm identifiers are collected for the specific purpose of tracking source data and conducting queries if required. Only the CCA Project Manager and Executive Officer has access to this data. All reports generated and shared with the CCA Board and the industry do not contain consultant or farm details, and respondents remain anonymous.

A third party, Morgan Rural Tech, is engaged to maintain the CCA Data Management Program that collates the data sets into the final Audit Report. Confidentiality and data management agreements are in place to protect the ownership and access to the data.

6. Participant Annual Action Plan

Timing	Activity	Who
Recording Data		
August	Confirm Survey Team via email/questionnaire	Project Manager Survey Team
August	Survey Team commence recording agronomic data from planting to picking	Survey Team
March	Reminders to Survey Team to enter and check data	Project Manager
May	Reminders to Survey Team to enter and check data	Project Manager
June	Data entry due by 30 June	Survey Team
Reporting Data		
July	Run reports and follow up data queries	Project Manager
August	Follow up data queries and final Audit Report prepared	Project Manager
December	Confirm Survey Team submission of data and entitlement of benefits.	Project Manager Executive Officer

7. Participation Benefit

CCA members who submit full season and detailed data to the Cotton Market Audit are entitled to receive a membership credit per dataset valued at \$350.00 GST inclusive.

CCA members who submit a season summary or limited data are entitled to receive a membership credit valued at \$250.00 GST inclusive.

CCA members who also participate in the Cotton Consultants Survey are entitled to receive a free registration at the next CCA Cropping Solutions Seminar.

Credits are applied to individuals or businesses, depending on the level of contribution and business arrangements. All final decisions are at the discretion of the CCA Board. Membership credits apply to the next year's membership.

8. Permission to use data

On the submission of data to CCA through the various collection methods stated, you are giving CCA permission to access and use your cotton agronomic data for the purposes of the Cotton Market Audit.

Agworld subscribers must give permission in writing for Agworld to generate a report on your behalf and supply to CCA for the purposes of providing data to the Cotton Market Audit.

Contact

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