

# Annex B – Cotton Catchment Communities CRC Goal Summary

## **Program 1 - The Farm**

- 1.1 Reducing pesticide use by 50 per cent through Integrated Pest Management for insects, weeds and diseases
- 1.2 Improving water use efficiency with a 20 per cent increase in cotton yield per megalitre of water supplied to farms
- 1.3 Improving efficiency of utilisation of applied nutrients by up to 15 per cent compared to 2005 levels, with comparable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions
- 1.4 Developing cotton farming systems which have enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity to climate variability or change
- 1.5 Developing and introducing at least two novel products which enhance crop management and profitability

## **Program 2 - The Catchment**

- 2.1 Characterising river health and ecological responses to flow variability in two key floodplain catchments and assisting Catchment bodies to develop science-based riparian health indicators
- 2.2 Benchmarking current groundwater conditions in cotton catchments and improving the reliability of aquifer recharge modelling by at least 10 per cent
- 2.3 Establishing baselines for on-farm water quality and developing remediation processes with the capacity to deliver both farm and Catchment benefits
- 2.4 Developing best practice techniques and guidelines to enable industry and Catchment bodies to better assess, manage and monitor biodiversity and ecosystem services in cotton catchments
- 2.5 Developing a set of farm and Catchment information resources and tools that are consistent with good science, best practice, practical adoption and Catchment goals

## **Program 3 - The Communities**

- 3.1 Documenting the cotton industry's contribution to the economic and social fabric of cotton growing regions
- 3.2 Identifying opportunities for and assisting with the implementation of, strategies for enhancing the flexibility and resilience of cotton communities, including labour and regional business resources
- 3.3 Identifying ways in which the community and industry can address and contribute to future natural resource policy issues collectively in cotton

catchments, including greater knowledge of the impacts that changing water allocations and natural resource management have on socio-economic issues

**Program 4 - The Product**

- 4.1 Developing improved and internationally accepted objective measurement and valuation systems for Australian cotton
- 4.2 Enhancing the spinning and marketing characteristics of Australian cotton
- 4.3 Expanding the use of cotton in current and new applications, including international opportunities
- 4.4 Enhancing Australian cotton as a brand
- 4.5 Investigating and developing value-added products

**Program 5 – Adoption**

- 5.1 Increasing the adoption of research in order to enhance productivity, sustainability and profitability
- 5.2 Providing technical support to enhance development and adoption of the Cotton industry's Best Management Practices (BMP) system
- 5.3 Increasing the adoption of recognised precision farming practices on at least 50 per cent of the annual cotton area
- 5.4 Providing educational opportunities that provide a flexible path for skills and knowledge development at all levels of the industry,