

Expression of Interest EOI

Part 1 – General Details

EOI ID	996
EOI Title	CottonInfo Weeds Technical Lead
Type of Research	Capacity and education
Expected Start Date	02/02/2026
Expected End Date	30/06/2028
CRDC Pillar	2. People
CRDC Theme	2.3 Adoption and Impact
CRDC Outcome	2.3.2 By 2028, uptake of technology is maximised through a diverse range of adoption pathways and commercialisation processes
EOI Close Date	19/01/2026

Part 2 – Expression of Interest Requirements

Issue to be addressed and project description:

CottonInfo is the Australian cotton industry's extension programme that connects growers and consultants with the latest research and supports them to adopt new technologies and best practice.

This investment is for a CottonInfo Weeds Technical Lead with the capacity and initiative to build industry capability to make informed decisions about weed management. Nationally weeds cost grain and cotton producers \$4.4 billion annually, average \$206 per hectare (\$445/ha in cotton crops).

The Weeds Technical Lead will be the industry's main contact point for weed management, providing support to the CottonInfo team, growers and the wider cotton industry with weed-specific information, guidance and advice. Through partnering with weed research programmes and leading growers and agronomists, the Weeds Technical Lead will draw on learnings from other sectors and support demonstrations of integrated weed management strategies across multiple regions. They will also help growers navigate the range of options available, building understanding that different factors—such as herbicide resistance, crop rotations, and cultural practices—will be important depending on the context.

Expected project outputs and outcomes:

Expected Outputs

1. Collaborate with industry stakeholders to coordinate and support adoption of integrated weed management practices and technologies, using appropriate methodology which may include in-field observations, surveys, and collaboration with CottonInfo, growers and agronomists on on-farm trials.
2. Contribute to industry field days and workshops showcasing best practice weed management, emerging tactics, and resistance management strategies.

3. Identify weed RD&E challenges and opportunities through participation in industry forums, surveys, and engagement with growers, consultants, and the CottonInfo team.
4. Review and update current weed management resources and tools, including myBMP, the Australian Cotton Production Manual, the Australian Cotton Pest Management Guide, and CottonInfo outputs.
5. Develop and implement new weed management resources (e.g., online tools, webinars, fact sheets) tailored to cotton systems.
6. Support and guide the development and implementation of the Herbicide Resistance Management Strategy.
7. Identify funding opportunities for regionally tailored weed management trials and technology demonstrations.
8. Build capacity of early-career weed researchers through mentoring and engagement with initiatives such as the GRDC Weeds Management Initiative.
9. Work with CottonInfo to monitor and evaluate the impact of weeds extension.

Expected Outcomes

1. Maintained and enhanced industry capability for integrated weed management, reducing the impact of herbicide resistance and weed pressure.
2. Clear definition of industry weed management challenges and opportunities, with pathways to change supported through extension and demonstration.
3. Improved adoption of best practice weed management strategies across cotton-growing regions.
4. Strengthened collaboration between research, extension, and growers to address emerging weed threats and improve sustainability.

Project Investment:

Year	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	TOTAL
Indicative budget (up to)	\$100,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$400,000.00

Additional guidance:

Part 3 – Selection Criteria

The following selection criteria will be used by the CRDC to assess the full research proposals (FRPs) received for each Expression of Interest.

The rationale of the project, how it will support CRDC's Strategic Plan and the potential impacts for the Australian cotton industry and the Australian community.

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness of the proposal's understanding of the issues, and the extent to which the project outcomes will address the issues and support CRDC to achieve its measures of success.

Project methodology.

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness and clarity of the proposed R&D methods to achieve project deliverables and outcomes.

The skills and capacity of the research team to undertake the project.

This criterion will be assessed on the track record, technical knowledge and experience of all key personnel in the research area and the demonstrated capacity of the nominated researcher/s to provide project coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation for the timely delivery of high quality outputs.

The proposed 'Pathway to Impact'.

This criterion will be assessed on the appropriateness of the proposed 'Pathway to Impact' and the demonstrated capacity of the project personnel to effectively translate research/project outcomes to on ground actions. Please include the target audience and process for extension/ communication/ commercialisation (as appropriate), as well as any collaboration partners and potential risks. Note that successful FRPs may be requested to develop specific milestones for delivery of project outcomes in collaboration with CottonInfo or CRDC Commercialisation Manager at the outset of the project.

Proposed collaborations for the project and / or the collaborative networks of the project team.

This criterion will be assessed on the demonstrated ability of the project personnel to form productive networks to build on national and international research already undertaken in related areas.

How this project is cost effective for the Australian cotton industry, including details of the resources being brought to the project.

This criterion will be assessed on the cost effectiveness of this project including cash and in-kind commitments from the applicants and leverage through domestic or international linkages. Budget including descriptive text will also be assessed as part of this criterion.

To apply, [follow this process](#). For further information, contact the CRDC Innovation Administration team on 02 6792 4088 or via research@crdc.com.au.

This EOI is not a guarantee of funding.