

COTTON

There is no doubt that Australia's cotton industry has changed dramatically over the last 30 years. It is a modern, technology focused, efficient and sustainable industry that underpins many regional communities and produces a high quality product for the world fibre market.

SOWING AND PLANTING

Climatic Requirements: Spring season, plentiful moisture supply and nights warming up 15.0°C

Preferred Soil Type: Well structured well drained, fertile, dark loam.

Optimum Average Soil Temperature Range for Growth: 15.5-18.5°C.

Emergence Time: 7-28 days Optimum 12 days.

Plant Spacing: In-row 8-12 /m²

Planting Depth: < 5cm.

Irrigated

Optimum planting time is mid-September to October. Regional growers have adopted a planting window to cut down the time insects are exposed to chemicals (15 September to 31 October). This reduces the generations that are selected for resistance.

Dryland

Optimum planting time is November to early December. Crops can be planted from late September to late December. Crops planted in September and October reach the critical peak flowering period in December when there is a high risk of hot dry weather which can limit yield and cause early cut out. Crops planted later than mid-January are at a higher risk of frost damage.

FERTILISER

Optimum Soil Test Levels: N = 100-200, P = 35-65, K = 100-200, Mg = 20-30, Ca = 8-15, Na = 1-10.

Base Dressing (kg/ha): N = 100.0, P = 45.0, K = 75.0. Main crops N = 75.0, P = 40.0, K = 75.0.

The base dressing is applied at planting as a banded application to one side and below the seed.

Side Dressing (kg/ha): Early crops N = 100.0. Main crops N = 120.0. Side dressing are applied prior to the final inter row cultivation of the crop. If pre-emergence weed control is used and a full moulding is given soon after planting the side dressing nitrogen should be included with the base dressing.

Foliar Feed: This can be useful for the stimulation of Boll Set and enhanced yield.

Optimum pH Range: 5.0-6.0.

Lime Requirement: Lime is seldom required, As Gypsum is preferred for heavy soil crops.

Safe Fertilisers

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Safe Fertilisers – Crop Info



Cotton Program

Ground preparation:

Apply; 1 tonne/ha Lime or Organic Liquid Lime @ 40lt/ha in 300lt/water
(Optional; 8m³ Feedlot Manure/ ha) Or Alroc Extra Phos @ 200kg/ha

Pre Plant

Apply 200 Kg/Ha Safe Coated Urea

Apply 200 Kg/Ha Alroc15.3.8 Supablend

Apply 10lt /ha Vital Activator (This is to lift the carbon level in soil, the energy)

Apply 20lt/ ha Vital Phos

Liquid Injection: Vital Phos @ 30lt/ha in suitable water application at planting

InCrop Fertiliser requirements:

Nitrogen: This can be split up into 2 applications.

Third/Fifth week, Use 160kg/ha Safe Coated Urea side dress (Or Sulphate of Ammonia)

Fifth Week, application 8lt/ha Vital Phos/ ha

Seventh week 5lt/ha Vital Mix

Before flower 10lt Vital K Blast

Multi Nutrients:

8Lt/Ha Vital Mix.to finish the crop off

This can be folia sprayed

The above mentioned application rates can be adjusted to what is economical. These adjustments may not provide the ideal nutrient ratios but should replace some of the nutrients that are removed by the crop. A Program should always be followed with soil and leaf testing and adjusted to suit your soil

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Disclaimer

The above program will be affected by soil variation, testing errors, seasonal factors and management skills. Any recommendation should be acted upon as part of an ongoing fertiliser program. No responsibility can be accepted for any of the above matters or other matters that are beyond our control.

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