



**CRDC 2023-24
GRASSROOTS GRANTS
GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS**

CRDC Grassroots Grants: 2023-24 guidelines for applicants

Overview

The Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC) Grassroots Grant program is designed to stimulate grower-led projects that build the capacity of industry members and improve the communities in which they operate.

The purpose of this funding is to help build and enhance skills and knowledge, and encourage sustainable financial, environmental and social growth across the cotton industry.

More specifically the grant program seeks projects that:

1. Increase networking between growers, consultants and researchers
2. Grow the skills, knowledge base, social base or economic well-being of cotton growers and their communities
3. Support, upskill and engage with new growers to the industry
4. Strengthen collaboration across communities, across industries and regions
5. Help with ground truthing and testing of research and development findings
6. Help improve the levels of adoption of research and development outcomes
7. Help improve the levels of adoption of *myBMP*.

Projects that involve the broader community (such as partnering with schools etc) and those where growers learn from other growers are encouraged.

Projects providing training workshops for existing staff, where there is a regulatory requirement for this training, may be supported for the running costs of the training (venue, catering etc) but will not receive a subsidy for the training component.

Projects that have a financial (or in-kind) contribution from partners are looked upon favourably.

Since the Grassroots Grants program commenced in 2011, CRDC has invested over \$790,000 in 91 projects across the cotton growing valleys – from weather stations to crop nutrition workshops.

Eligible applicants

Grassroots Grants funding is available to Cotton Grower Associations (CGAs). Cotton growers are unable to apply as individuals: instead, they are encouraged to discuss their idea with their local CGA.

Eligible projects

A broad range of projects are encouraged, and a list of previously successful projects can be found at the end of this document. This list is intended to provide an indication of the types of projects that are supported. You are encouraged to discuss your potential project with a CRDC Innovation Broker (formerly R&D Manager) prior to submitting your application.

Funding levels

The maximum level of funding available is \$10,000, however projects that demonstrate collaboration with more than one partner or that cover a wider geographical area may be considered for higher levels of funding.

GST

The GST on funding applications will be held as follows:

If your CGA is registered for GST:

If approved, funding will be provided from CRDC to cover costs but not to cover any GST.

How this works: the CGA pays the full amount on an invoice (including the GST). The CGA then claims the GST amount paid back from the ATO. Funds from CRDC will have covered the balance remaining on the invoice.

If your CGA is NOT registered for GST:

If approved, funding will be provided from CRDC for the full invoice value.

How this works: if an invoice is received with a GST amount included in the total, CRDC will have covered the full cost and CRDC will claim the GST amount back from the ATO.

Timing

Applications for the 2023-24 financial year will be accepted between **1 July and 31 December 2023**. If approved, the projects are expected to be implemented during the second half of the financial year.

During the 2023-24 financial year there is a limited pool of funding available, so applicants are encouraged to apply as early in the funding period as possible. Projects may not be funded if: they do not meet the eligibility criteria; the funds have been exhausted for the year; or at the discretion of CRDC.

Reporting

Below is a table indicating the standard reporting process:

<i>Action</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>
Submit grant application.	Between 1 July and 31 December 2023
CRDC reviews grant application and notifies applicant if successful.	Within three weeks of submitting the application.
CRDC provides successful applicants with the Grassroots Grant funding agreement. The agreement must be signed and returned to CRDC by the applicant, along with a tax invoice to CRDC for payment #1 (as outlined in contract).	Within three weeks of submitting the application.
Applicant receives funding agreed under payment #1.	Within three weeks of returning the agreement signed and tax invoice.
Project to be completed.	By 30 June 2024.
Applicant to provide a final report and financial report	On completion of the milestones agreed to in the contract (preferably before 30 June 2024). Please note: if you have any issue in meeting the reporting due date, please contact CRDC to request an extension.
Applicant to issue a final tax invoice to CRDC for the remaining agreed funding (payment #2, as outlined in contract).	On approval of the final report by CRDC.

Previously funded projects

A list of all previously funded projects is available over the page.

How to apply?

Follow the steps outlined in the *CRDC User Guide: Submitting a Grassroots Grant application using Fluxx* (see pages 6-7 of this document).

For more information:

For more, please contact CRDC via 02 6792 4088 or research@crdc.com.au.



CRDC Grassroots Grants

2011-2012 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$90,000)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1201	Capacity Building via small projects for St George CGA members and community	Ed Willis	St George	30/06/13	\$10,000
CGA1202	Pushing the boundaries	Nigel Corish	Macintyre Valley	30/06/12	\$10,000
CGA1203	Biomass burner at Tandou	David McClure	Menindee & Lower Darling	30/06/12	\$10,000
CGA1204	Gwydir growers	Zara Farrell	Gwydir Valley	30/06/12	\$10,000
CGA1206	Macquarie welcome back	Sharanne Turnbull	Macquarie	28/02/12	\$10,000
CGA1207	Walgett Measurement tools	Lori Nemec	Walgett	31/12/11	\$10,000
CGA1208	Upskilling growers in chem use and nurture teens	Marie Louise Offner	Darling Downs	31/01/13	\$10,000
CGA1209	Engaging growers in My BMP	Marie Louise Offner	Darling Downs	30/06/13	\$10,000
CGA1210	Extension officer for Upper Namoi CGA and Agvance	Rod Smith	Upper Namoi	1/09/12	\$10,000
2012-2013 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$57,570)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1302	Macquarie Cotton Growers Momentum Continues	Claire Jenkins	Macquarie	31/05/13	\$9,400
CGA1303	Field to Fabric Course Sponsorship	Bron Christensen	Dawson Valley	30/06/13	\$6,600
CGA1304	Capacity Building at the Cotton Fibre Expo	Mel Elms	Lower Namoi	30/06/13	\$2,500
CGA1305	Irrigation History Book	Tracey Geddes	Central Highlands CG&IA	31/08/14	\$10,000
CGA1306	An Afternoon Of Cotton	Kieran O'Keeffe	Lachlan Murrumbidgee	30/11/13	\$9,650
CGA1307	Travel: Presenting at APEN International Conference in NZ	Mike and Debbie Austin	Dawson Valley	28/09/13	\$3,870
CGA1308	Future Leaders Industry Excursion	Geoff Hunter	Lower Namoi & Walgett	30/06/14	\$15,550
2013-2014 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$61,650)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1404	Relationship building with high school for future industry workforce	Alex Roughley	Menindee and Lower Darling	31/12/14	\$10,000
CGA1402	Celebrating the Season	Claire Jenkins	Macquarie	31/12/13	\$3,000
CGA1403	Cotton Picking Women's Picnic	Chantal Corish	Macintyre Valley	30/06/14	\$10,000
CGA1405	Understanding soil and plant nutrition for cotton growers	Nigel Corish	Macintyre Valley	30/06/14	\$6,250
CGA1406	Cotton Communities Heath Empowerment	Kelly Foran	Dirranbandi	30/06/14	\$9,800
CGA1407	Great Northern Bus Tour	Claire Jenkins	Macquarie	30/06/14	\$6,100
CGA1408	Understanding the Weather	Geoff Hunter	Walgett	30/06/14	\$10,000
CGA1409	Grower Workplace H&S Capacity Building	Mary O'Brien	Darling Downs	30/09/14	\$6,500
2014-2015 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$74,560)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1501	Cotton Planter Development	Geoff Hunter	Lower Namoi	31/12/14	\$10,000
CGA1503	Weather Station project	Emma McCullough	Central Highlands CG&IA	7/05/15	\$10,000
CGA1502	Teachers Feild to Fabric	Bron Christensen	Dawson Valley	24/09/14	\$2,200

CGA1505	Grower investigation of tools to manage soil compaction	Lou Gall	Gwydir Valley	30/06/15	\$10,000
CGA1506	Addressing the burning questions	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	30/06/15	\$12,900
CGA1508	Cotton nutrition workshop	Kate O'Callaghan	Southern Valleys	30/06/15	\$9,460
CGA1507	Education and development of the cotton industry	Emma Ayliffe	Menindee and Lower Darling	30/06/15	\$10,000
CGA1509	Weather station network & Darling Downs grower of the year field day	Mary O'Brien	Darling Downs	30/06/15	\$10,000
2015-16 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$91,600)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1601	In-field trials: dryland cotton vs sorghum on various row configurations	Jo Weier	Mungindi Water Users'	30/06/16	\$10,000
CGA1602	Gwydir Valley dryland planting date row configuration trial	Ben Dawson	Gwydir Valley	31/12/16	\$10,000
CGA1603	Optimised irrigation row configuration	Jake Cutcliffe	Gwydir Valley	30/06/16	\$10,000
CGA1604	Local weather dataaccess	Damien Erbacher	Dawson Valley	30/06/16	\$10,000
CGA1605	Binnia Valley Growers Group: In-field trials to address local barriers	Jon Welsh	Upper Namoi	30/01/17	\$10,000
CGA1606	Upgrade to weather station network and chemical application days	Chris Bary	Darling Downs	30/09/16	\$10,000
CGA1607	Irrigation scheduling training using canopy sensors	Geoff Hunter & Steve Madden	Lower Namoi	30/06/16	\$5,000
CGA1608	Strengthening CGA policy and procedures	Emma McCullagh	Central Highlands CG&IA	30/06/16	\$10,000
CGA1609	Seasonal benchmarking with canopy temperature sensors	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	1/08/15	\$6,400
CGA1611	Weigh trailer for Southern NSW cotton trials	Kate O'Callaghan	Southern Valleys	30/06/16	\$10,000
CGA1610	Stickybeak farm tour	Bronwyn Christensen	Dawson Valley	29/02/16	\$200
2016-17 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$85,000)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1701	Weather station project	Brent Scott	Dirranbandi	31/10/16	\$10,000
CGA1702	In-field trials: dryland cotton vs sorghum on various row configurations	Jo Weier	Mungindi Water Users'	30/06/17	\$10,000
CGA1703	Capital Item: Planter bar and trailer	Ian Gourley	Dryland Cotton Research Assoc.	30/06/17	\$20,000
CGA1704	Weather station access to minimise the spray drift in the Macquarie	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	1/05/17	\$9,000
CGA1705	Weather station project	Jack Harris	Walgett	31/05/17	\$10,000
CGA1706	Counteract high sodium uptake & N efficiency via soil health	Craig Estens	Gwydir Valley	1/05/17	\$10,000
CGA1707	Assessing the benefits: transitioning to controlled traffic for compaction	Emma Ayliffe	Southern Valleys	30/06/17	\$6,000
CGA1708	Upgrade to Darling Downs weather station network	Adam McVeigh	Darling Downs	1/09/17	\$10,000
2017-18 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$82,232)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1801	Weather stations network	Jeff Hamblin	Lower Namoi	30/06/18	\$8,000
CGA1802	In-field trials: dryland cotton vs sorghum on various row configurations	Joanna Weier	Mungindi Water Users'	30/06/18	\$10,000
CGA1803	Implementing innovative irrigation - Central QLD style	Aaron Kiely	Central Highlands CG&IA	9/11/17	\$2,716
CGA1804	Implementing innovative irrigation and 2018 sticky beak tour	Simon Green	Dawson Valley	30/01/18	\$3,500
CGA1805	Spreader Workshop	Andrew Watson	Upper Namoi	30/06/18	\$7,800
CGA1806	Silverleaf whitefly and mealybug meetings	Janelle Montgomery	Gwydir Valley	1/03/18	\$20,000
CGA1807	Grower development and extension programs	Emma Ayliffe	Southern Valleys	28/02/18	\$10,000
CGA1808	Local weather data access	Bron Christensen	Dawson Valley	30/03/18	\$6,000
CGA1809	Weather station network and upgrades	Cate Wild	MacIntyre Valley	24/06/18	\$7,496
CGA1810	Improving skills and capacity of Darling Downs growers	Adam McVeigh	Darling Downs	30/06/18	\$6,720
2018-19 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$93,755)					
Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA1901	Investigating efficiency and productivity of on-farm irrigation water use	Alexandra Dalton	Upper Namoi	29/03/19	\$5,000
CGA1902	Field assessment of the impact of late season thrip infestations	Lou Gall	Gwydir Valley	31/05/19	\$10,000

CGA1903	Grower development and extension: off-target spray drift mitigation	John Durham	Southern Valleys	30/09/19	\$10,000
CGA1904	Assessing black root rot treatments in the Lachlan & Murrumbidgee	John Durham	Southern Valleys	31/08/19	\$8,800
CGA1905	Development tour for Northern Australian cotton	Andrew Phillip	NT Farmers Association	3/03/19	\$10,000
CGA1906	Weather station network	Aaron Kiely	Central Highlands CG&IA	1/06/19	\$10,000
CGA1907	Improving drought resilience	Bernie Bierhoff	Walgett	30/04/19	\$10,000
CGA1908	Improving skills and capacity of growers	Georgie Krieg	Darling Downs	30/06/19	\$7,220
CGA1909	Spray drift workshops	Richard Avendano	Upper Namoi	11/12/18	\$1,000
CGA1910	On-farm evaluation of the IoT technologies	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	15/06/19	\$11,735
CGA1911	Additional Support - Fullbright Scholarship to study Verticillium wilt	Karen Kirkby & Jeff Hamblin	Lower Namoi	30/06/20	\$10,000

2019-20 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$44,990)

Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA2001	Weather stations	Jeff Hamblin	Lower Namoi	30/06/20	\$5,980
CGA2002	On-farm evaluation of pumping telemetry	Amanda Thomas	Maquarie	30/06/20	\$7,000
CGA2003	Climate change: Planting times, pests and spray drift	Alex Macintosh	Walgett	30/06/20	\$6,000
CGA2004	Demonstration farm of IoT and LoRaWAN technology	Andrew McKay	St George	15/06/20	\$6,600
CGA2005	Fostering crop RD&E collaboration and leadership in Northern Aust	Debra Pearce	Northern Australia Crop Alliance	30/04/20	\$10,000
CGA2006	Impact of last irrigations on profit and quality in the MIA region	Emma Ayliffe	Southern Valleys	30/08/20	\$9,410

2020-21 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$56,100)

Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA2101	NT industry development - Northern crop production growers guide	Simone Cameron	NT Farmers Association	12/12/21	\$10,000
CGA2102	Digitally enabled cotton farms	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	30/06/22	\$8,100
CGA2103	Digitally ready cotton farmers	Iva Quarisa	Southern Valleys	31/05/21	\$10,000
CGA2104	Central Highlands tour of St George agriculture	Aaron Kiely	Central Highlands CG&IA	30/06/21	\$8,500
CGA2105	Ord & Northern Territory crop development tour	Hollie Gall	Macintyre Valley	30/06/22	\$10,000
CGA2106	Increasing cotton grower skills, and awareness	Georgie Krieg	Darling Downs	31/12/21	\$9,500

2021-22 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$39,590)

Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
CGA2201	Weather station: Cuttabri	Jeff Hamblin	Lower Namoi	30/06/22	\$2,990
CGA2202	Reducing nitrogen losses early season	Peter Birch	Gwydir Valley	30/06/22	\$10,000
CGA2203	The connectivity challenge	Amanda Thomas	Macquarie	1/12/22	\$10,000
CGA2204	Coleambally community demo farm: soil health	James Kanaley	Southern Valleys	1/12/22	\$9,600
CGA2205	Central Highlands weather station network	Danni Ingram	Central Highlands CG&IA	30/04/22	\$7,000

2022-23 Grassroots Grants (TOTAL \$13,300)

Reference	Project Title	Contact	CGA	Completion Date	Amount
NUAG 10440	Young Cotton Grower Tour	Jacob Thujis	Nutrien Ag	2/03/23	\$3,300
FNQS 10534	FNQ Sustainable Cropping Group grower study tour	Sarah Stevens	FNQ Sustainable Cropping Inc	30/06/23	\$10,000

Total:	Number of projects	91
	Investment	\$790,347

CRDC user guide: Submitting a Grassroots Grant application using Fluxx

In September 2022, CRDC transitioned to a new grant management system – Fluxx (crdc.fluxx.io). If you wish to submit an application to CRDC, you will need to utilise the new Fluxx system.

Please note: to complete an application within Fluxx, your organisation and administrator will also need to be registered in the system. All users connected to your organisation in Fluxx will appear in the dropdown options. If they do not appear in the list, please contact them to register for Fluxx.

To Register

1. To register to as a Fluxx user, visit crdc.fluxx.io and select ‘Grantee User Registration’.
2. Review the terms, conditions and privacy policy and if you accept tick ‘Agree’.
3. Complete the registration form and ‘submit request’.

To access the Expressions of Interest (EOIs)

1. Once you have logged into Fluxx, on the left hand side you will find a navigation panel.
2. Under ‘Expressions of Interest’, you will find the EOIs open for funding applications.
3. On the EOI you are interested in, select ‘Apply for Funding’. This will open up the application form for you to complete.

To submit an application

Included in this user guide are the fields that are required to be completed in Fluxx. **Please note: Word document application forms will no longer be accepted by CRDC. The attached form is to help you draft the text for pasting into Fluxx only.**

Where there are system limitations that prevent the ability to include graphs, pictures or background documents, attachments can be uploaded with your application. Please note you must abide by character limits where applicable. Attachments cannot be used as workarounds for the text fields in Fluxx.

Please ensure you select ‘save and continue’ as you progress, as the system does not auto-save.

Grant Application

General Details

The EOI details will prefill in Fluxx.

Your Organisation Reference ID	<i>If required</i>		
Proposed Project Title: (Max 80 characters)			
Funding Start Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.	Funding End Date:	Click or tap to enter a date.
Organisation			
Project Manager			
Administrator			
Project Location	<i>City, suburb, town or postcode where the project is based</i>		
Project Geo Location	<i>Longitude and Latitude of where the project or field trials will be based. To find this, look up the location on Google Maps, right click on the location to show coordinates and left click to copy.</i>		
CRDC Cash Requested	<i>This will autofill on completing the Budget</i>		
Project Summary	<i>For example: what does the project seek to achieve; what issues or problems will it overcome; what innovation will it address; how will the cotton industry benefit?</i>		

Description of Project

Background:	<i>Briefly describe the background to the project.</i>
Project Activities/itinerary:	<i>Outline the activities that are planned and how these activities align CRDC's Strategic Objectives. If travel is involved, provide an itinerary, even if exact dates are not available. If you are attending a conference, please give details.</i>
Project Partners:	<i>List key project participants, including the Contact Person, their relevant experience if applicable (eg. Cotton Australia staff, community organisations, local government, engineering consultant; marketing expert etc.):</i>
Partners' Contributions:	<i>List the cash and/or in-kind (non-cash) contributions committed from each of the partners:</i>
Date CGA Approved the application:	
Describe how the CGA decided to support this project:	

Project Outputs

Outputs are tangible things produced by the project within the project timeframe, for example knowledge, skills, processes, practices, products and/or technologies.

The project outputs will be:	<i>List the proposed publication activities.</i>
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Project Outcomes

Outcomes are economic, environmental, and/or social benefits that the industry or community will receive. In other words, what do you expect success to look like? (Note: Not all projects will have Outcomes in each category.) These outcomes may be longer term than the project period.

The economic benefits will be:	<i>List the proposed publication activities.</i>
The environmental benefits will be:	
The social benefits will be:	

Proposed adoption/communication actions

The results will be communicated/promoted in the cotton industry by means of:	<i>Describe how the results will be communicated to and used by others in the industry.</i>
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Budget

Funder	Details	Amount
Choose an item.		\$
Choose an item.		\$
Choose an item.		\$
Choose an item.		\$
Choose an item.		\$
Choose an item.		\$

Documents

Upload quotes, co-funding support letters, and other documents that support the information provided in this request, can include picture

CRDC user guide: Submitting a Grassroots Grant report using Fluxx

In September 2022, CRDC transitioned to a new grant management system – Fluxx (crdc.fluxx.io). To submit a Report, you will need to utilise the new Fluxx system.

To action the report

1. Log into crdc.fluxx.io
2. On the navigation panel on the left hand side under Reports, it will have a list of all your project reports. Your upcoming report/s will be listed under ‘Due in the next ninety days’. Click on the report and then Edit at the top right of screen.
3. Once you have completed the report, click Save and Close and then click Submit Report to Grantee Admin. Click on refresh and you will see the report status updated.
4. The report will workflow to your administrator for review. They can either return the report to draft for edits or submit to CRDC.

This document is a word version of the fields that are required to be completed in Fluxx. ***This form is to help you draft the text for pasting into Fluxx only.***

Where there are system limitations that prevent the ability to include graphs, pictures or background documents, attachments can be uploaded with your report. Please note you must abide by character limits where applicable. Attachments cannot be used as workarounds for the text fields in Fluxx.

Please ensure you select ‘save and continue’ as you progress, as the system does not auto-save.

If you have any queries, please contact CRDC Project Administration on 02 6792 4088 or research@crdc.com.au.

Extension Requests

If you need to request an extension to the submission date of your report this must be done from the Fluxx portal on the report you are requesting an extension for. Click on the report and select edit. Complete the Extension Request with justification, Save and Close and Submit Extension Request.

Final Report

Project Summary <i>Comment on the purpose of the project and what the project achieved. (Suitable for Public Release by CRDC). Maximum 2,000 characters.</i>
Outcomes & Impact for Industry <i>Describe the project outputs and outcomes including any variation away from the original application plan. Describe the benefits and impact for industry from the project. For capital items describe how they are supporting your research.</i>
M&E Outcomes: Number of outcomes achieved
People Connections

<i>Provide details of the people and organisation the project connected with. Attendees at workshops, conferences, field days, organisations visited. Attach supporting information e.g. feedback forms, attendance lists.</i>
M&E People: Number of connections achieved
Learnings <i>What are the key learnings from the project and feedback from participants? What planned actions will you or your organisation take to follow on from the project? (may include communications with industry, keeping in touch with participants, future projects-next steps)</i>
M&E Learnings: Number of learnings and planned actions from the project
Do you have recommendations for CRDC (eg RD&E gaps)?
Comment on project expenditure, noting any changes from the application budget.

Expenditure incurred

Date	Description of expenditure	Amount Ex-GST	GST	Total
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$
		\$	\$	\$

Documents

Please attach any/all relevant documents to the "Report Attachments" section. Supporting evidence including photos, data, trial reports, etc for each milestone or the project in general.