

2019-20 FASTSTART™ COTTON ESTABLISHMENT AWARDS

DRYLAND COTTON WINNER - BRETT ENKELMANN, BYEE QLD



Pictured: Brett and Kay Enkelmann.

SNAPSHOT

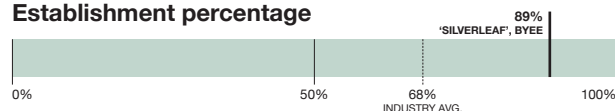
Grower name	Brett Enkelmann, Preema Cotton
Farm and location	'Silverleaf', Byee (South Burnett, QLD)
Farm size	70 ha
Enterprise (crops grown)	Cotton, corn, chickpeas and mungbeans
Cotton production	Dryland
Cotton variety	Sicot 714B3F
Seed treatments	VIBRANCE® COMPLETE + CRUISER® 600FS (V2C)
Soil type	Black alluvial
Summer crop area	70 ha
Cotton crop area	70 ha
Avg. summer rainfall	675 mm
Planting equipment	Norseman Precision Planter
Planting rate	10 seeds/m
Avg. planter speed	9 km/hour
Avg. planting depth	2.5 cm

CROP SUMMARY

Planting date	30 October, 2019
Establishment method	Rainfall
Previous crop	Mungbeans
Plant stand/m	8.9 plants/m (89% est.)
Rainfall	42 mm at planting
Soil applied insecticide	Nil
Nitrogen	20 kg/ha - applied 7 t/ha feedlot manure
Phosphorus	163 kg/ha
Potassium	163 kg/ha

ESTABLISHMENT MEASUREMENTS

Establishment percentage



Planter uniformity index



PREPARATION

Describe your field preparation prior to planting

The crop was planted to standing mungbean stubble.

What weed control tactics do you employ prior to or post planting?

We used a Roundup®/Sharpen® WG mix, followed by Gramoxone® as part of a double knock herbicide system.

What is your fertiliser application strategy? Do you soil test?

Yes, we soil test and follow any recommended applications. Regardless of the soil test results, we apply a rate of 7 t/ha of feedlot manure.

How do you prepare your planter/machinery?

This season, we purchased a new Norseman Precision Planter which was set up with all of the precision planting systems on it.



Above: The Enkelmanns purchased a new Norseman Techni-Plant Precision Planter for the 2019-20 season.



Above: The Norseman Techni-Plant Precision Planter fitted with hydraulic down force and the super trash whippers.

DECISION MAKING

Why did you select your chosen varieties for your farming system?

I believe that Sicot 714B3F is the best variety for seedling vigour to yield, and it suits our area and soil types.

What seed treatments did you use, and why did you select these?

After seeing the benefits of V2C in a Syngenta trial we hosted the season before, when working with CSD, we decided it was very worthwhile.

Do you use a lubricant to assist with seed flow?

Yes, we used Synchrony 746.

TIMING

When did you plant, and how did you make this decision?

We planted after a rain event - there was an opportunity to plant, so we went for it.

FASTSTART SUPPORT

Did the grower use any of the FastStart/CSD online tools?

Yes, we used the websites to help guide all our planting decisions.

If so, how did these assist during the planting operation?

The FastStart™ Cotton Soil Temperature Network, used in conjunction with the Cotton Field Weather Network assisted with determining our planting timeframe; and CSD's seeds per kilo data helped to calculate our planting rates.

How did you find out about FastStart and the FastStart Award Program?

My consultant, Wayne Seiler (Northern AgriServices) and Chris Barry from CSD; along with information in the Cottongrower Magazine.



BRETT'S TOP 5 TIPS FOR ESTABLISHMENT SUCCESS

1. Ensure you start with a full profile with stubble cover and good soil condition.
2. Use a planter with precision planting capabilities, down force for depth control and super trash whippers. Ensure the planter in good condition and set up correctly.
3. Ensure the soil temperature is above 14 degrees and on a rising plane.
4. Plant a variety with a good seedling vigor for your area.
5. VIBRANCE® COMPLETE has given us a better establishment this season.