

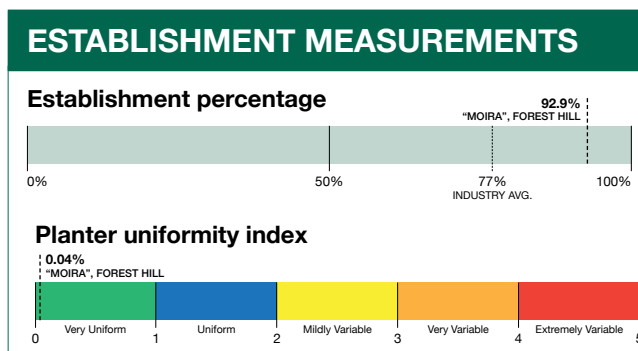


2020-21 FASTSTART™ COTTON ESTABLISHMENT AWARDS

DRYLAND COTTON WINNER - MITCH BRIMBLECOMBE, FOREST HILL QLD

SNAPSHOT	
Grower name	Mitch Brimblecombe
Farm and location	“Moira”, Forest Hill QLD
Farm size	400 ha
Enterprise	Cotton, cereal crops and vegetables
Cotton productions	Dryland and irrigated
Cotton varieties	Sicot 714B3F, Sicot 746B3F and Sicot 748B3F
Seed treatments	VIBRANCE® COMPLETE + CRUISER® 600FS (V2C)
Soil types	Black vertisol
Summer crop area	400 ha
Cotton crop area	Irrigated cotton: 40 ha Dryland cotton: 10 ha
Avg. growing season rainfall	450 mm
Planting equipment	John Deere MaxEmerge planter
Planting rate	9.8 seeds/m
Avg. planter speed	8.6 km/hour
Avg. planting depth	2.5 cm

CROP SUMMARY	
Planting date	14 October, 2020
Establishment method	Rainfall
Previous crop	Short fallow sorghum
Plant stand/m	9.1 plants/m (92.9%)
In-crop irrigations	Nil
Rainfall	97.8 mm
Soil applied insecticide	Nil
Nitrogen	120 kg/ha from soil test, 46 kg/ha applied
Phosphorus	24 kg/ha
Potassium	45 kg/ha
Zinc	0 kg/ha



PREPARATION

Describe your field preparation prior to planting

After sorghum, we ran through the field with a rotary hoe, followed by a cross rip and then a final pass with a power harrow to incorporate fertiliser.

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

No weed control, just used the power harrow before planting

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

We had a soil test conducted by CGS at Dalby, and then fertilised for a 6 bale/ha crop.

How do you prepare your planter/machinery?

Our planting was completed by a contractor from Gatton; however all other machinery goes through a pre season check up before use.



DECISION MAKING

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

We met with Will Lang from CGS and Chris Barry from CSD to choose varieties for a trial and the remaining area of the field.

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

We used VIBRANCE® COMPLETE + CRUISER® 600FS (V2C), as it is the industry standard.

Do you use a lubricant to assist with seed flow?

We used Synchrony 746.

TIMING

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

We planted on 14 October, 2020; which suited the farming business timing along with the correct soil temperature and moisture.

Did you water up or pre-irrigate or establish on rainfall?

We planted on rainfall moisture.

FASTSTART SUPPORT

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

Yes, we used the online tools for all our plantings, with help from Will Lang and Chris Barry.

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

The FastStart™ Cotton Soil Temperature Network is the good one, along with the weather station to assist with our planting timeframe. We also used the CSD seeds per kilogram page for our planting rates.



MITCH'S TOP 5 TIPS FOR ESTABLISHMENT SUCCESS

1. Soil preparation is the key.
2. Ensure the contractor/planter is setup correctly for planting cotton.
3. Ensure the soil moisture profile is ready to plant.
4. Good seed treatments help.
5. Plant during ideal conditions, and monitor planting depth and seed placement during planting.

“ It has been an honour to be involved in the cotton industry and to have received the award. The support from CSD and our agronomists at CGS has been really great. The FastStart™ Cotton Program has been second to none. I think cotton will have a good place in our business portfolio for many years to come. ”

