



COTTON, GRAINS, CATTLE

North Queensland Farming Systems

North Qld - Georgetown, Walkamin, Julia Creek, Kilcummin, Emerald, Rockhampton

Timeline: 2022 to 2026 (4 years) A.2.2122030

The Cotton, Grains, Cattle (CGC) program is an integrated agricultural system, focused on bolstering productivity across the north's cropping and cattle sectors. The aim is to create economically sustainable, place-based integrated farming systems around cotton, grains and cattle to support production of universally marketable cattle from local crops, providing alternative market options.

Enhance economic sustainability of integrated farming for producers.

Create cropping systems suited to tropical climates & less reliant on imports.

Build local capacity to support production, reducing costs & biosecurity risks.

Ensure ethical value, responsible planning & social licence.

Develop agronomy & nutrient management to reduce farming carbon footprint.

Project: North Queensland Farming Systems: values + climate

'North Queensland cotton grains cattle farming systems' is one of six projects in the CGC program. This project aims to co-design scalable diversification options and drought resilience practices for north Queensland cotton, grain and cattle enterprises, and quantify the economic, social and environmental values and risks of these options. Research is on farming systems to examine current farm resources, business performance, and establish information and tools needed for adoption.

research focus

- ➔ Assess the impact of extreme climate events on farm productivity and sustainability, and co-design time sensitive responses to drought and market volatility.
- ➔ Review the level of climate information accuracy, the timeliness required for economic value and the risk of not adopting available climate solutions.
- ➔ Assess economic models of grains/forage cropping systems when used for cattle feed.
- ➔ Review environmental stewardship frameworks relevant to north Queensland mixed farming systems, northern agri-business and local regional development visions.
- ➔ Review stewardship guidelines and self-assessment options to find opportunities in balancing costs, legislation, social license and value chain demands.

expected outcomes

-  Knowledge database to increase drought and market resilience of north Queensland agricultural enterprises.
-  De-risk economic, social, and environmental outcomes from diversification investments decisions.
-  Enhanced social license for agricultural land developments.

project partners:



The University of Queensland
CQUniversity
Qld Dept. Agriculture and Fisheries
Northern Gulf Resource Management
Radicle Seeds
Agrimix

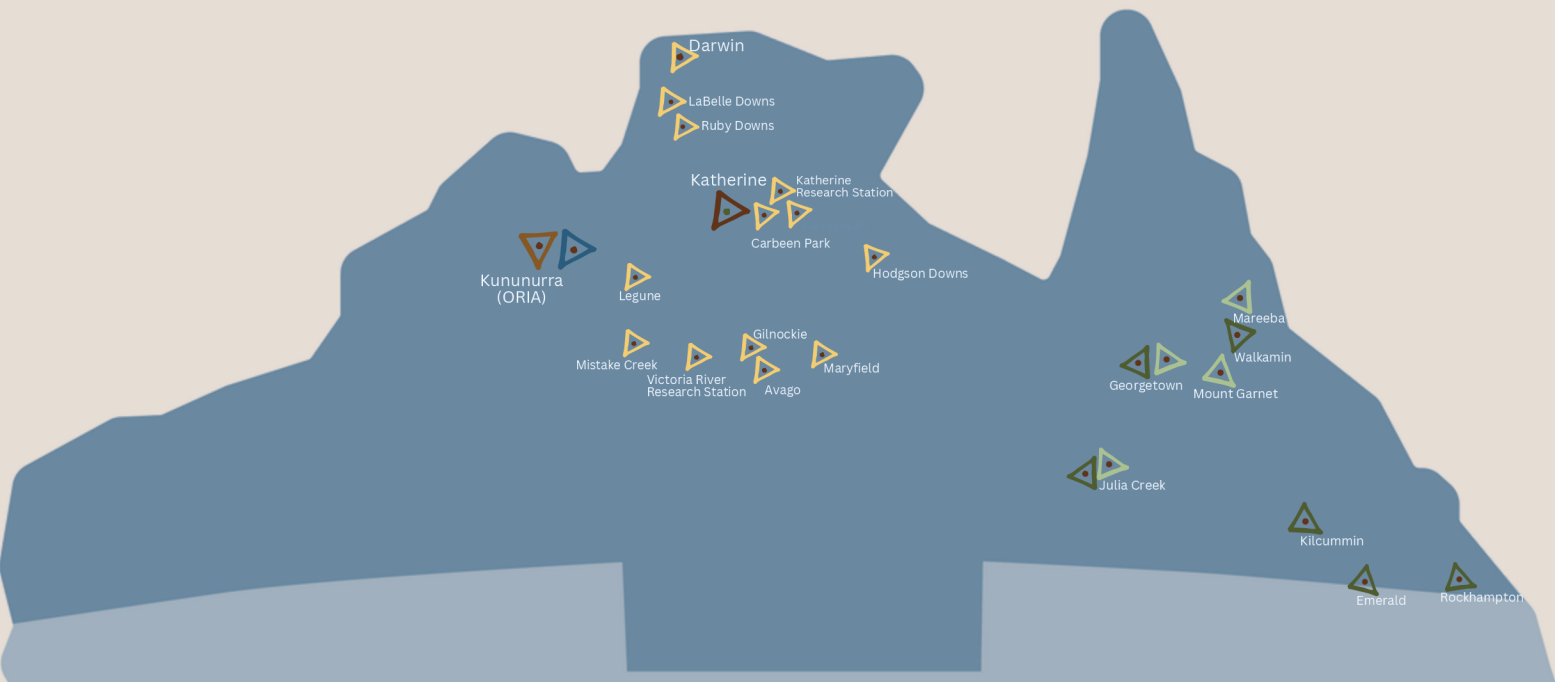


The Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA) is delivering industry-led research and development collaborations to enable the sustainable economic growth of Northern Australia. CRCNA funding helps to de-risk investment through new technologies, products and services which address industry issues specific to the north.

Cotton, Grains, Cattle runs for 4 years, and has over 30 collaborators who are committed to building producer, agronomy and research capacity across Northern Australia.

CRCNA invests in agricultural research and development to support:

- sustainable tropical production
- innovative supply chain solutions
- new technologies, models and systems
- climate resilience and nature positive development.



COTTON, GRAINS, CATTLE Project locations

- Crops for Cattle (NT)
- Fundamentals of cropping systems (NT)
- Sustainable systems for crop diversification (ORIA)
- Cropping enabled cattle production (WA)
- Extension capacity of cropping-systems (NQ)
- CGC farming systems (NQ)

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