



*2009 Finalist
AgriRisk Innovative Grower of the Year*

Jamie Grant: “Kielli” Jimbour, QLD

Jamie Grant runs a 1862 hectare dryland cotton operation in Jimbour where cotton makes up a third of his farming operation, with the other two thirds left fallow and planted with a millet cover crop at the start of each summer. Jamie and his team undertake a comprehensive nutrient test before planting each crop to determine their fertiliser program, and being a zero-til farming operation for over fifteen years, they have also developed an effective weed control strategy. Jamie believes that growing quality cotton is paramount, and uses sixty inch solid row spacings to allow moisture to be metered to the plant, encourage even plant growth, and help the plant receive maximum heat and light units.

Jamie uses crop rotations that produce quality cotton at a lower cost, and facilitates this by modifying machinery to perform more efficiently and economically, and using optimised row spacing based on yield. Jamie has been able to improve the productivity of the soil on his farm by eliminating compaction with controlled traffic, maintaining nutrient levels with ground cover, and improving organics matter with zero-til and cover crops. Jamie feels that dryland cotton will eventually play a bigger role due to the new production systems that are evolving that allow quality cotton to be grown in more marginal conditions.

Jamie implements many best management practices on his property, and encourages his staff to adhere to sensible OH&S policies. He contributes to the industry by regularly opening his farm up to growers, researchers and engineers from Australia and overseas so he can share his knowledge with the cotton community and keep the industry innovative and vibrant.