

Australia's innovation catalyst

CSIRO Overview, agriculture & food, and global connections

Enli Wang June 2018, CAAS, Beijing

CSIRO AGRICULTURE AND FOOD www.csiro.au



Australia's national science agency CSIRO – Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation





Big ideas start here





CSIRO's Structure



Enterprise Infrastructure

CSIRO Agriculture and Food

John Manners, Director, CSIRO Agriculture and Food



www.csiro.au



CSIRO Agriculture and Food

- 1. Australia's leading Ag & Food R&D organisation (top 10 globally)
- 2. >1000 staff, national footprint (27 locations) & key Ag & Food facilities
- 3. Links CSIRO's capabilities into agri-food
- 4. Market facing with >75% R&D funds from outside CSIRO

Integrated research across the value chain





A hungrier world

Population growth will drive global demand for food and fibre

Mega-trends in Agriculture and Food

A bumpier ride

Globalisation, climate change and enviromental change will reshape the risk profile for agriculture

A wealthier world

A new middle income class will increase food consumption, diversify diets and eat more protein

Transformative technologies

Advances in digital technology, genetic science and synthetics will change the way food and fiber products are made and transported

Choosy customers

Information empowered consumers of the future will have expectations for health, provenance, sustainability and ethics



RURAL INDUSTRIES

Research & Development Corporation

Research focus areas – 9 programmes



CSIRO is at the forefront of innovation, providing solutions for cropping, livestock production, aquaculture, horticulture and the food industry.

- 1. Breakthrough genetic technologies
- 2. Breeding higher value food crops
- 3. Crop improvement for novel plant products
- 4. Productive and adaptive livestock systems
- 5. Integrated agricultural systems
- 6. Sustainable aquaculture production
- 7. Sustaining agricultural soil and landscape
- 8. Agriculture and global change
- 9. Food manufacturing and processing



CSIRO Agriculture & Food – core capabilities

- **1.** *Plant and animal breeding* - (e.g. Cotton varieties)
- **2. Efficient farming systems** – (e.g. Yield Prophet app)
- **3. Aquaculture** – (e.g. Novacq bioactive)
- **4. Global agriculture** – (e.g. ARISA project outcomes)
- 5. Food science

- (e.g. BARLEYmax[™], High pressure













Today all Australian cotton, half the dryland cotton in the United States and about one-third of the cotton in Brazil, Turkey and Greece benefits from CSIRO-bred varieties.

CASE STUDY Transforming the cotton industry

THE CHALLENGE

Australian farmers need pest and disease resistant cotton varieties bred for Australian conditions.

HOW CSIRO WORKED WITH CLIENT

CSIRO worked with Monsanto using its expertise in molecular biology and plant breeding to introduce insect resistant traits into our cotton varieties.

SOLUTION

This research revolutionised disease and pest resistance, yield and fibre quality. The result was top quality cotton that is highly sought after in the global market.





Today more and more farmers in all states of Australia are using Yield Prophet[®] to assist decision-making on their farms, benefiting from CSIRO's modelling-based approach.

Yield Prophet[®] is funded by the BCG (the Birchip Cropping Group), with added support from CSIRO, the Grains Research & Development Corporation and the national Managing Climate Variability program.

CASE STUDY Yield Prophet[®] to match crop inputs to attainable yields

THE CHALLENGE

Australian farmers need to make decision to sow crop and match inputs to attainable yields under highly variable climate conditions.

HOW CSIRO WORKED WITH CLIENT

CSIRO worked with farming groups using its expertise in farming systems modelling and climate forecasts to help on-farm decision making.

THE RESULTS

This research revolutionised farm management decision making, leading to increased benefits and reduced risk, with a net benefit up to A\$20,000 per farm per year.



CASE STUDY NovacqTM prawn feed – increasing productivity

THE CHALLENGE

Prawn farmers needed a solution to increase productivity while reducing reliance on wild fish stocks.

CSIRO RESPONSE

CSIRO developed an entirely natural food source produced by marine microbes.

THE RESULTS

Prawns fed with Novacq[™] grow on average 20-30 per cent faster and are healthier. The production of Novacq[™] commenced under licence in Australia, China and Vietnam, and since early 2017 – the rest of the world.



CSIRO's prawn breeding and prawn breed research is expected to deliver net benefits, in terms of increased productivity of prawn production, equal to \$882.8 million over the period 2004/5 to 2023/24.





CASE STUDY BARLEYmax™

THE CHALLENGE

Increased wholegrain intake, including barley, has been shown to reduce the risk of certain cancers, heart disease, diabetes, stroke and even help with weight control.

CSIRO RESPONSE

CSIRO developed BARLEYmax[™], a wholegrain with superior health benefits that help combat cardiovascular disease, Type 2 diabetes and colorectal cancer.

THE RESULTS

A joint venture with Australian Capital Ventures Ltd saw CSIRO breed the new BARLEYmax[™] grain and work with food manufacturers to create products containing it, including breakfast cereals, food wraps, rice mixes and bread. Consumers have enjoyed the benefits of BARLEYmax[™] since August 2009. BARLEYmax[™] is now licensed to a CSIRO spin-off company, The Healthy Grain.



CSIRO's capabilities

CSIRO Agriculture research is cited in the top 1% of publications

CSIRO makes a significant contribution to Australian research, and its research is of a high standard internationally. **CSIRO** produces

19%

of Australia's output in agricultural sciences



500+ partners and collaborators including:





Digiscape Future Science Platform

Harnessing the digital revolution for Australian farmers and land managers





CSIRO and China

- **532** CSIRO staff speak Chinese
- 484 CSIRO staff were born in China
- 3736 papers co-authored by CSIRO and Chinese co-authors 1970-2014
- >15 Chinese research organisations/companies are collaborating with CSIRO

CAS-CSIRO priority areas for strategic collaboration (2010-):

- Sustainable agriculture and crop breeding
- Climate science impacts
- Nanotechnology, and new materials
- Health science and technology

CAAS-CSIRO strategic collaboration projects (2016-):

- Scientific benchmarks for sustainable agricultural intensification (IARRP)
- Metabolic differences and trade-offs between high and low oil canola (OCRI)



CSIRO International Collaboration Map (13 countries)





AGRICULTURE AND FOOD



Growing the future

CSIRO Agriculture and Food

Thank you

100 years of scientific excellence 1,000+ staff across 25 sites 500+ partners and collaborators Expertise from the gene to the plate

Building on YieldProphet - Better yield forecasting & decision support



Opportunities for Australian Agri-food



• Novel tastes, smells, textures

