



# Accountability

## IF ITS BMP ITS FAIR DINKUM

### On the Rack

The BMP cotton swing-tag on your shirt, is your guarantee that you are purchasing the genuine article. The Australian Cotton industry's licensing program targets all participants in apparel supply chains from spinners, weavers and knitters to manufacturers, consumer brands and retailers.

The Australian BMP Cotton trademark is not transferable. This allows us to identify, verify and safeguard the quality and integrity of products (both unfinished and finished) that use the trademark).

### On the Farm

The Australian cotton industry's BMP programme is voluntary - and has achieved widespread uptake as farmers seek to ensure the sustainability of their farms:

In order to become BMP Certified, growers must undergo a 3 step audit, and comply with the necessary regulations:

- Step 1: Pre-certification assessment - this ensures that basic requirements of BMP have been identified & a system adopted for implementation on the farm. The assessment checks that the current BMP manual & modules are in place, farm practices are accurately reflected in self assessment sheets, & action plans have been developed.
- Step 2: Certification audit - focuses on farm improvements since the "pre-assessment audit" & assessing a farm's compliance to certification standards.
- Step 3: Surveillance audits—reviews the farm's BMP management system to ensure ongoing continual commitment to BMP certification standards.

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"Annual self assessment" and "random audits" ensure there is ongoing compliance to BMP.

The following are examples of documentation and procedure required by BMP cotton producers:

*PAMP (Pesticide Application Management Plan)* considers neighbouring areas for sensitivities when applying pesticides. This considers such things as bee hives, farm houses, livestock and watercourses. Wind directions must be recorded, and buffer zones implemented where necessary

### Sensitivity/Hazards

Sensitivity and/or hazards are considered and recorded when selecting chemicals for application

### Farm Map

A detailed farm map must be provided to spray operators - including outlikes of boundaries, houses & buildings, hazards and sensitive areas. Contact details for neighbours and relevant employees are also provided

### Neighbour Notification for Chemical Applications

All cotton growers must negotiate how they will inform their neighbours of chemical applications during the season. This is a requirement by law, however some neighbours may choose to waive this requirement. Relevant paperwork must be completed and signed by all neighbours before EACH season. Any agreed consent may be withdrawn at any time by giving a written notice of withdrawal of consent to the cotton grower.

Of course, there is much more to the BMP programme than listed above, and more detailed information can be found at **[www.cottonaustralia.com.au/environment](http://www.cottonaustralia.com.au/environment)**

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