



PLANTING WINDOWS IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

QUICK GUIDE



Bollgard[®]3

PLANTING WINDOWS IN NORTHERN AUSTRALIA: QUICK GUIDE

What is a planting window?

A planting window is a resistance management technique that restricts the period in which planting can occur, with the aim of restricting the number of generations of *Helicoverpa* spp. exposed to Bollgard 3 crops each season. Planting windows are an important part of the Bollgard® 3 Resistance Management Plan (RMP), regulated by the Australian Pesticides & Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA).

How do planting windows work?

Planting within a window reduces the length of time that Bollgard 3 will be in the ground and thus limits the number of generations of *Helicoverpa* spp. exposed to Bt proteins during this time.

The greater the number of generations exposed to the Bt proteins, the greater the opportunity for resistance to develop.

Planting window for Northern Australia

The table below outlines region specific planting windows, which requires all Bollgard 3 cotton crops to be watered up or planted into moisture by the designated date, unless otherwise advised by a “Bollgard 3 Planting Window Variation Notice”.

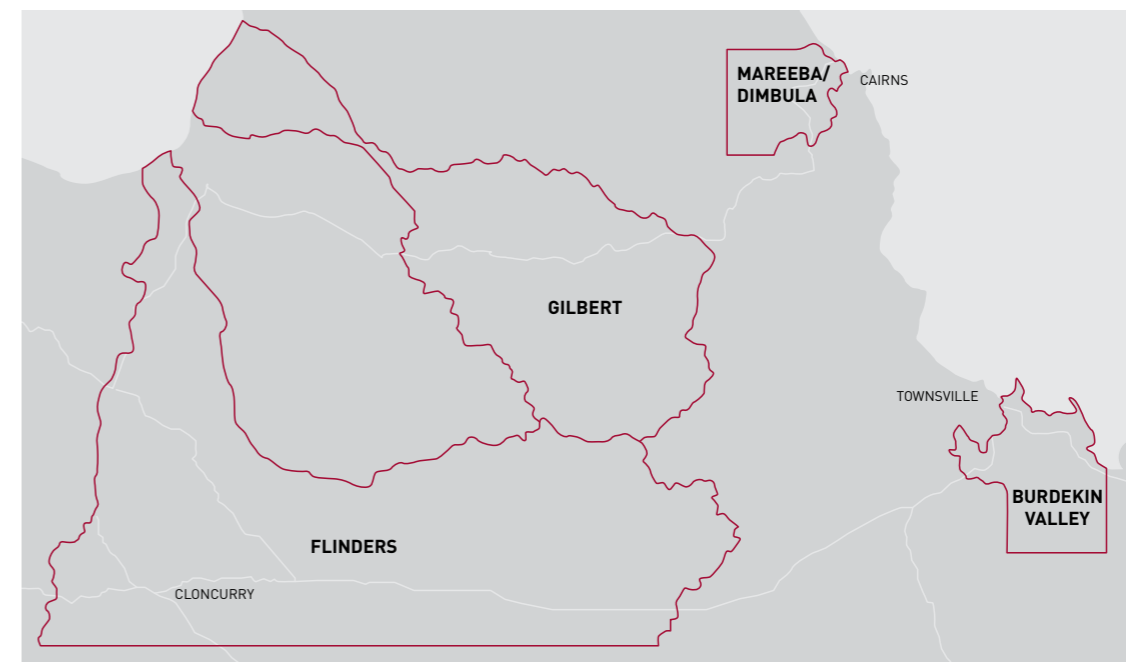
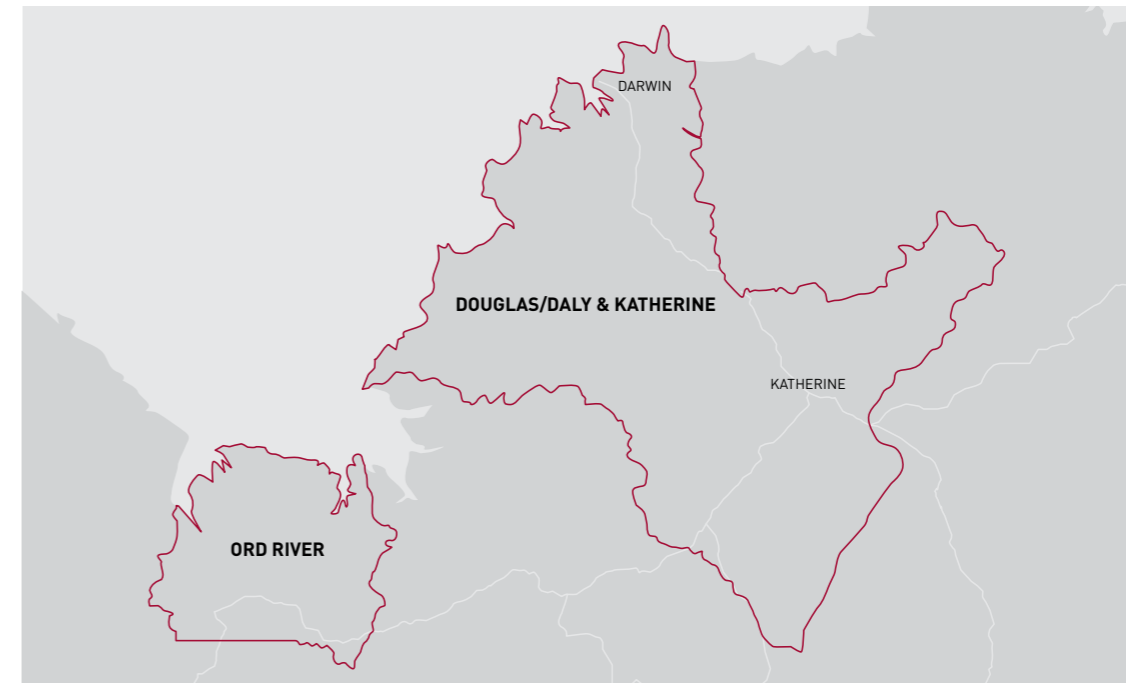
Table 1. RMP specified Planting Windows for Northern Australia

Area	Planting Window
Valleys within Northern Australia	Planted into moisture or watered-up in an 8-week window determined by Bayer and the TIMS Committee, between 1 December and 30 May.

How many windows does Northern Australia have?

Each valley within Northern Australia can have a different planting window. In the 2019/20 cotton season, the Northern Australian valleys will be:

- Ord River
- Douglas/Daly & Katherine
- Mareeba/Dimbula
- Gilbert
- Flinders
- Burdekin



What is the process for setting a Planting Window?

Prior to planting cotton in Northern Australia, growers must check their valley planting window dates. To set planting window dates, the following process should be implemented:

Table 2. The process to set a Planting Window

If there is a Cotton Grower Association in place
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The valley's Cotton Grower Association should determine an 8-week window that best meets the needs of growers. • The CGA should apply to the TIMS Committee via written notice of the desired planting window dates. • If approved, TIMS will notify Bayer. • Bayer will communicate the window to growers and Technology Service Providers (TSPs) via a "Planting Window Notice" specifying dates for that valley. • Growers must comply with this notice.

Table 2. The process to set a Planting Window (continued)

If there is not a Cotton Grower Association in place

- Growers should contact their local TSP or Bayer to notify of preferred planting window dates.
- Bayer will work with local TSPs and TIMS to set a window that meets the needs of the majority of growers.
- Bayer will communicate the window to growers and TSPs via a “Planting Window Notice” specifying dates for that valley.
- Growers must comply with this notice.

Extension/Permits

Extension of a planting window beyond the 8-week period specified in the Planting Window Notice is not generally approved as it places additional resistance risk on the Bt proteins. In exceptional circumstances however, it may be considered by Bayer and the TIMS committee. These exceptional circumstances may include unforeseen environmental conditions that prohibit growers from planting cotton within the window.

If growers within a valley would like to extend a planting window beyond the defined period or would like to move the planting window outside of the dates specified in table 1, a permit will need to be obtained from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) by Bayer. All applications for an extension or variation of planting dates outside those specified in table 1 must be made to Bayer.

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