



# Australian rice growing in one book

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## in a rice hull

- The production of a comprehensive reference book for rice growing in south eastern Australia has been funded through the RIRDC Rice R&D Committee
- The book is based on the experience and knowledge of researchers and growers, and has been produced by the combined effort of 75 people working with and within the rice industry

**All the facts and theories behind growing rice in south eastern Australia will be compiled in one publication, with the imminent release of the final two chapters of *Production of Quality Rice in South Eastern Australia*.**

The project has been a monumental effort in terms of time, resources and energy; and the completion of the project marks a truly cooperative industry effort. The project arose from recognition by rice growers, through the RIRDC Rice R&D Committee, that an updated reference publication was needed on Australian rice production. The previous publication *Rice Growing in New South Wales*, produced in the 1980s, had become out-dated and was also out of print.

## Comprehensive effort

Rice growers, extension personnel, commercial agronomists and researchers have all contributed to the project to produce the publication. In total there have been 75 contributors to the 16 chapters that make up the book.

Each chapter contains the most up-to-date information and science behind each topic. Each has been written by experts in the topic and in many cases co-authored by agronomists and others with an applied expertise. After writing and editing was complete, each chapter has undergone a review process by three practicing rice growers and another technical expert, to ensure the information would be useful to rice growers and other readers wishing to gain a better understanding of rice growing in south eastern Australia.

## Contributors to *Production of Quality Rice in South Eastern Australia*

Warwick Clampett	John Lacy	Graeme Batten	Mark Stevens	Russell Barratt
Lucy Kealey	John Fowler	Bruce Ramsay	John Brickhill	Michael Bayles
Leigh Vial	Peter Beale	Mark Zanatta	Peter Brown	Scott Brindley
Russell Ford	Warren Muirhead	Robyn Neeson	Ric Cother	Marija Orel
Noel Graham	Liz Humphreys	John Angus	Vincent Lanoiselet	Nick Roberts
Mike Hedditch	Alan Brink	Lindsay Campbell	Andrew Watson	Bronwyn Sigmund
Glen McKinnon	Lilian Parker	May Fleming	Reg Hinton	Simon Speirs
Matt Linnegar	Sigrid Tijs	Graham Menzies	Locky Stevenson	Phillip Williams
Laurie Lewin	Arun Tiwari	Don McCaffery	Peter Sheppard	Wayne Preston
Geoff Beecher	Geoff McLeod	Malcolm Taylor	Melissa Fitzgerald	Keith Hutton
Rachael Whitworth	Andrew Glasson	Mary-Anne Lattimore	Jennifer Charleson	Mark Huff
Gabrielle Brunt	Lindsay Evans	Peter Draper	Clive Kirkby	Nigel McGuckian
Rob Williams	Alan Lavis	Rob Hulme	John Thompson	Sally Marsden
Ranjith Subasinghe	Peter Snell	Giles Flower	Robyn Delves	David Marsden
Russell Reinke	Don McDonald	Ragini Flower	Roger Clough	
Shu Fukai	Randall Williams	Elisa Heylin	Ron Burton	



### Principles explained

The publication strives to explain WHY things happen in rice growing, and WHY particular practices are recommended. The publication complements the range of sources of information that explain HOW to grow rice, such as grower experience and advisor recommendations, and publications such as *Ricecheck Recommendations* and the annually updated *Rice Notes*.

Knowledge and understanding gained by research and experience in Australia, and relevant information from overseas has been compiled in one comprehensive document that provides insight into the environment in which rice is grown in Australia, an understanding of how rice grows in the region, and why recommended growing and management practices are what they are.

In addition to written information, chapters such as 'Weed management', 'Pests of rice crops - vertebrates and invertebrates', and 'Maintaining disease-free rice crops' contain photo libraries of weeds, pests and diseases that are found in or potentially could be a serious problem to rice growing in south eastern Australia.

The publication covers a broad range of topics through the chapters:

- Chapter 1, The rice industry of south eastern Australia
- Chapter 2, Rice in the irrigated environment
- Chapter 3, The rice plant
- Chapter 4, Land for rice growing
- Chapter 5, Rice varieties and plant breeding
- Chapter 6, Crop nutrition
- Chapter 7, Crop establishment and management
- Chapter 8, Irrigation and water management
- Chapter 9, Weed management
- Chapter 10, Pests of rice crops - vertebrates and invertebrates
- Chapter 11, Maintaining disease-free rice crops
- Chapter 12, Equipment and machinery
- Chapter 13, Grain quality
- Chapter 14, After the rice crop
- Chapter 15, Rice products - beyond the farm gate
- Chapter 16, The business of rice growing

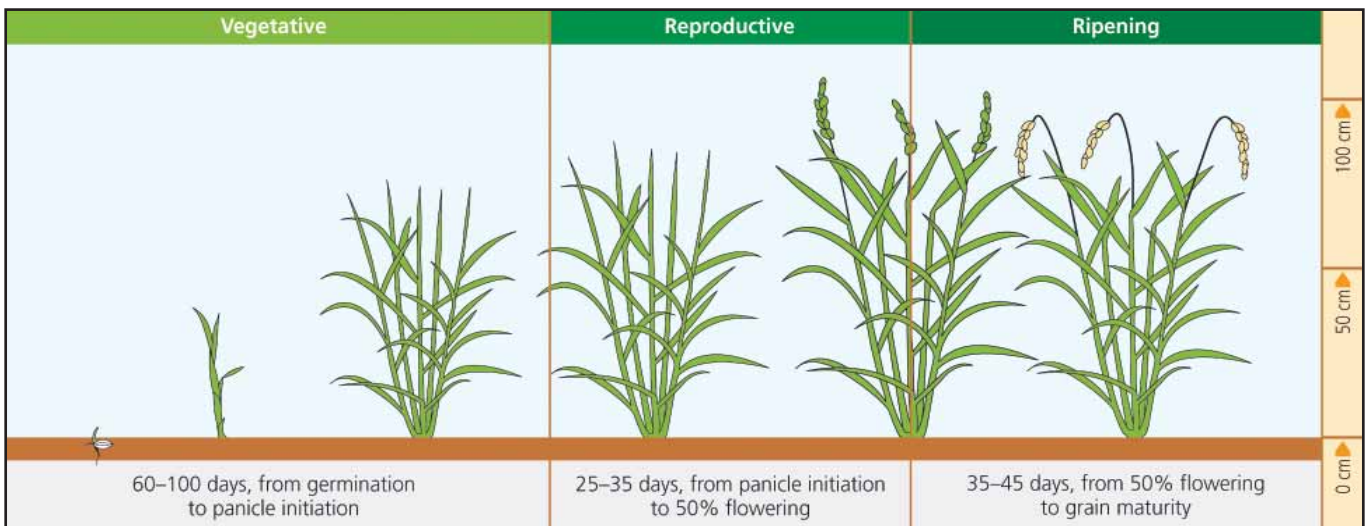


Figure 1: The publication has produced an excellent range of diagrams to assist understanding the rice plant itself and the way it grows.



Figure 2: Each chapter of the publication contains the most up-to-date information and science, and has been written by experts in the topic.



Figure 3: The publication is based on the experience and knowledge of researchers and growers in the Australian rice industry.



## Format

The publication has been produced as a series of booklets, one for each chapter. The booklets have been distributed to readers throughout the life of the project and are housed in a large ring binder, which was distributed to readers at the outset of the project.

The final chapters to be produced are Chapter 6, 'Crop nutrition' and Chapter 7, 'Crop establishment and management'. These chapters should be ready for distribution at the end of 2006.

There are several ways to obtain your copy/additional copy of **Production of Quality Rice in South Eastern Australia**

- Complete and return the order form included with this magazine
- Complete and return the order form on the IREC website [www.irec.org.au](http://www.irec.org.au)
- Contact the IREC office on telephone 02 6960 1550 or email [irec@irec.org.au](mailto:irec@irec.org.au)

The publication costs \$75.00 (including GST and postage)

## Distribution

The publication has been funded through R&D levies administered by the RIRDC Rice R&D Committee. One copy of the publication is given free of charge to each rice growing business, ie each levy paying entity. Additional copies of the publication for rice growers and copies for non rice-growers can be purchased from the office of IREC. 🌾

## Acknowledgements

*Thanks to the RIRDC Rice R&D Committee who supported the development and production of the publication, provided valuable feedback throughout the life of the project, and showed much-appreciated patience with the progress of the project.*

*Thanks to Warwick Clampett who provided guidance, advice and a wealth of experience for the project, particularly in its formative stages.*

*Thanks to all the contributors who made their contribution to the project over and above their regular activities.*

## RIRDC Project IRE-5A

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**Figure 4:** A comprehensive collection of weed, pest and disease photos has been collated for the publication.



**Figure 5:** The publication strives to explain the WHYs of rice growing, complementing the HOW TOs of other publications and extension programs.