

# CHAIR'S WELCOME



Aerial view of the IREC Field Station at Whitton, January 2021. CREDIT: Mark Groat.

**Welcome to another edition of the IREC Farmers' Newsletter. With good winter rains and the promise of more to come, we can work towards a full summer cropping program for 2021–22, which is an exceptional outcome.**

**AT** the IREC Field Station, we are looking to be fully cropped with rice and cotton growing side by side. We are learning a lot through our programs at the field station – even when the results are not so pleasing. Read about and view some of the trials and tribulations of last season on pages 5–8.

IREC has been busy behind the scenes collaborating with partners and industry R&D organisations to make sure our current batch of projects go ahead, despite the challenges delivered by COVID-19 restrictions.

I am excited about new opportunities for members, with IREC signing up to the Southern NSW Drought & Innovation Hub (page 10) and the Cool Soil Initiative (page 22).

IREC is grateful for the support of local, regional and national businesses to produce this online members' magazine. We ask our members to support those who support us.

I hope you enjoy the read and have a trouble-free summer.