



PLANET NATIVE VEGETATION

| benefitting from biodiversity



Biodiversity is complex, and varies dramatically across the landscape.

Biodiversity is the variety of all life forms found in an environment. Biodiversity varies by season. It also varies by region, both naturally and as a result of human changes to the landscape. Measuring and managing this enormous complexity at an industry scale is a challenge for agriculture right around the world.

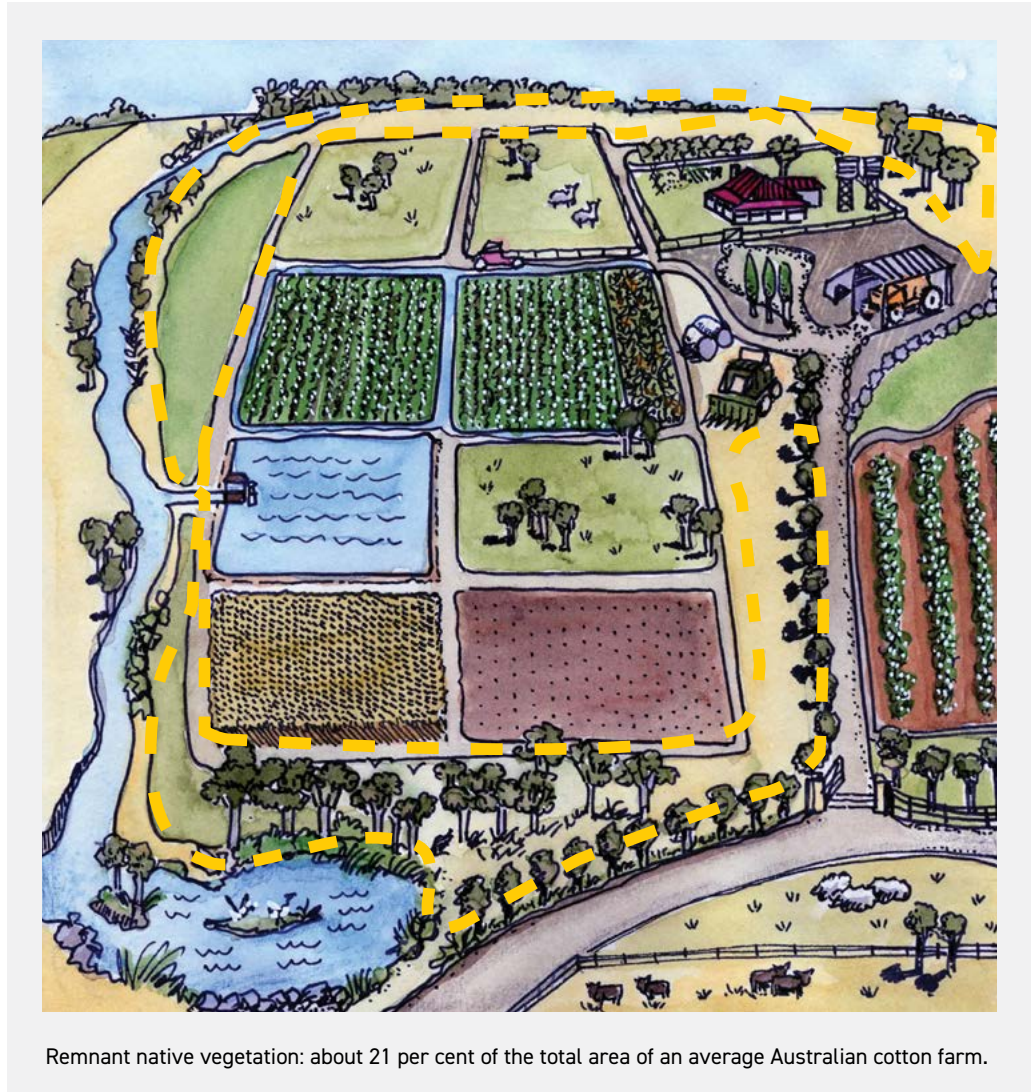
Our biodiversity priority is remnant native vegetation.

The Australian cotton industry's current priority is to measure and enhance the extent and condition of native vegetation on cotton farms.

We think this is the best way to deal with biodiversity's complexity: if we get native vegetation right, the animals, fungi, bacteria and other organisms that rely on that habitat are more likely to be present.

Our native vegetation approach is to collaborate on regionally appropriate actions.

The actions of individual farmers will have much more impact if they are coordinated to contribute to regional priorities. The Australian cotton industry is collaborating with Natural Resource Management (NRM) Regions Australia and other partners to support cotton farms contribute directly to the priorities identified by NRM organisations in each region.



Remnant native vegetation: about 21 per cent of the total area of an average Australian cotton farm.

OUR GOAL

Improve remnant native vegetation condition on cotton farms.

SDG ALIGNMENT



SDG 15.5 Reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and... prevent the extinction of threatened species.

PATHWAY

1. Consistent indicators aligned to global sustainability reporting guidance
2. Cost-effective but robust data collection, aligned to regional priorities
3. Coordinated support for farmers to enhance native vegetation.

KEY FACTS

The total area of an average Australian cotton farm includes:



About **21%** remnant native vegetation including grasslands

About **13%** regulated woody vegetation

About **1%** regionally significant patches of riparian woody vegetation