



# COTTON PLANTING WINDOWS AND KEY RMP TIMINGS FOR NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

*2022/2023 QUICK GUIDE*

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**Bollgard<sup>®</sup>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 of a cotton crop containing Bollgard® 3 insect control technology can occur, with the aim of restricting the number of generations of *Helicoverpa* spp. exposed to Bollgard 3 cotton 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 cotton will be in the ground and thus limits the number of generations of *Helicoverpa* spp. exposed to the Bt proteins produced by Bollgard 3 cotton during this time.

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

## COTTON PLANTING WINDOWS 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".

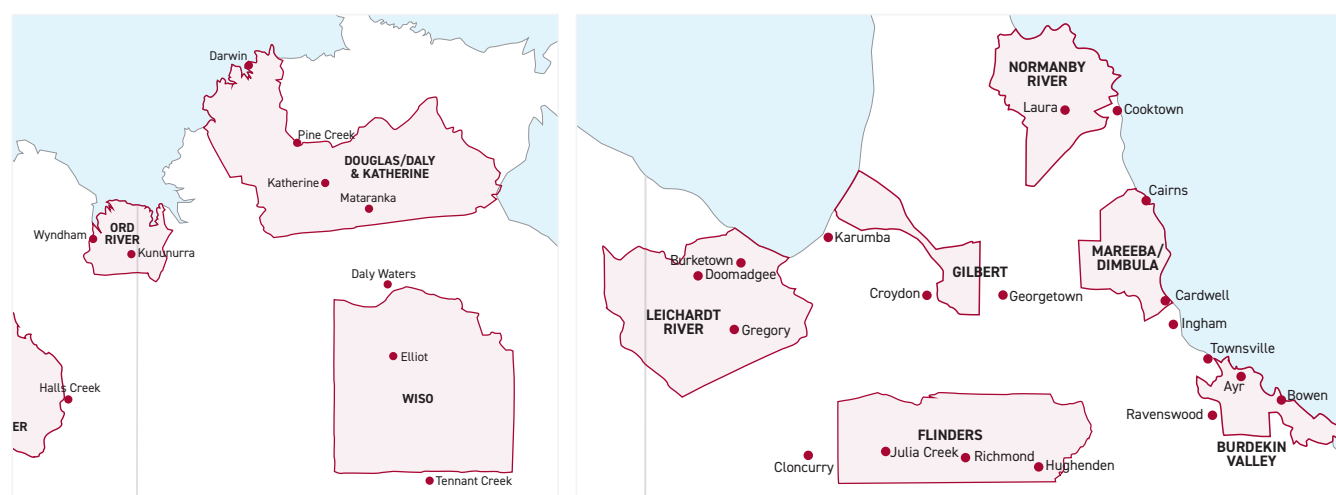
**Table 1. RMP specified planting windows for Northern Australia**

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 PLANTING WINDOWS DOES NORTHERN AUSTRALIA HAVE?

The Northern Australia valleys have been modified for the 2022/23 cotton season, please pay close attention to updated valley boundaries and the addition of new valleys.

- Ord River/Sandy Desert/  
Fitzroy River
- Douglas/Daly & Katherine
- Mareeba/Dimbula
- Gilbert
- Flinders
- Burdekin
- Wiso
- Leichardt River
- Normanby River



## 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"> <li>The valley's Cotton Grower Association should determine an 8-week window that best meets the needs of growers.</li> <li>The CGA should inform Bayer via written notice of the desired planting window dates.</li> <li>Bayer will then seek approval from TIMS.</li> <li>Bayer will communicate the window to growers and Technology Service Providers (TSPs) via a "Planting Window Notice" specifying the dates for that valley.</li> <li>Growers must comply with this notice.</li> </ul>	
If there isn't a Cotton Grower Association in place	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Growers should contact their local TSP or Bayer to notify of preferred planting window dates.</li> <li>Bayer will work with local TSPs and TIMS to set a window that meets the needs of the majority of growers.</li> <li>Bayer will communicate the window to growers and TSPs via a "Planting Window Notice" specifying the dates for that valley.</li> <li>Growers must comply with this notice.</li> </ul>	

## REFUGE AND TRAP CROP AREA REQUIREMENTS

Green Cotton Area	Required Refuge %		Required Trap Crop %		Required Hectares		
	Pigeon Pea	RRF Cotton	Pigeon Pea	RRF Cotton	Refuge ha	Trap ha	
Bollgard 3							
100ha	2.50%	-	-	-	2.5	-	Pigeon Pea doubles as Refuge and Trap Crop. Dryland Pigeon Pea will require approval by Bayer
100ha	-	5%	1%	-	5	1	
Dryland 100ha	-	5%	-	2%	5	2	**2% Trap crop area to be slashed at 13 nodes to 8 nodes

\*\*Trap Crop will be managed under a Resistance Risk Management Plan (RRMP)

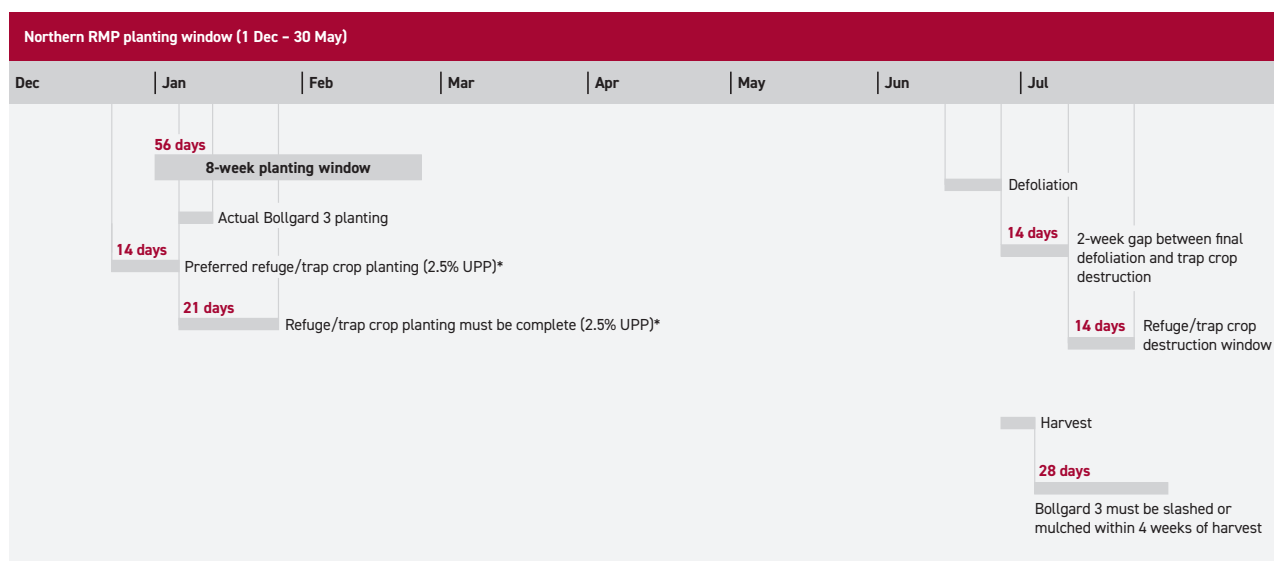
- Dryland Refuge and Trap crop cannot cover irrigated Bollgard 3
- Irrigated Refuge and Trap Crop can cover dryland Bollgard 3
- Minimum refuge requirements apply, please refer to [www.bollgard3.com.au](http://www.bollgard3.com.au)

## KEY RMP TIMINGS

- Refuges must be planted in the same row configuration as Bollgard 3 crops (i.e. solid plant irrigated Bollgard 3 cotton must have an associated irrigated and solid plant refuge crop).
- It is recommended that all refuge is planted within the 2-week period prior to planting Bollgard 3.
- If planting a separate trap crop, it should preferably be planted 4 weeks after the associated Bollgard 3.
- Pigeon pea trap crops must be irrigated\*

### Full unsprayed pigeon pea (UPP) refuge also utilised as trap crop

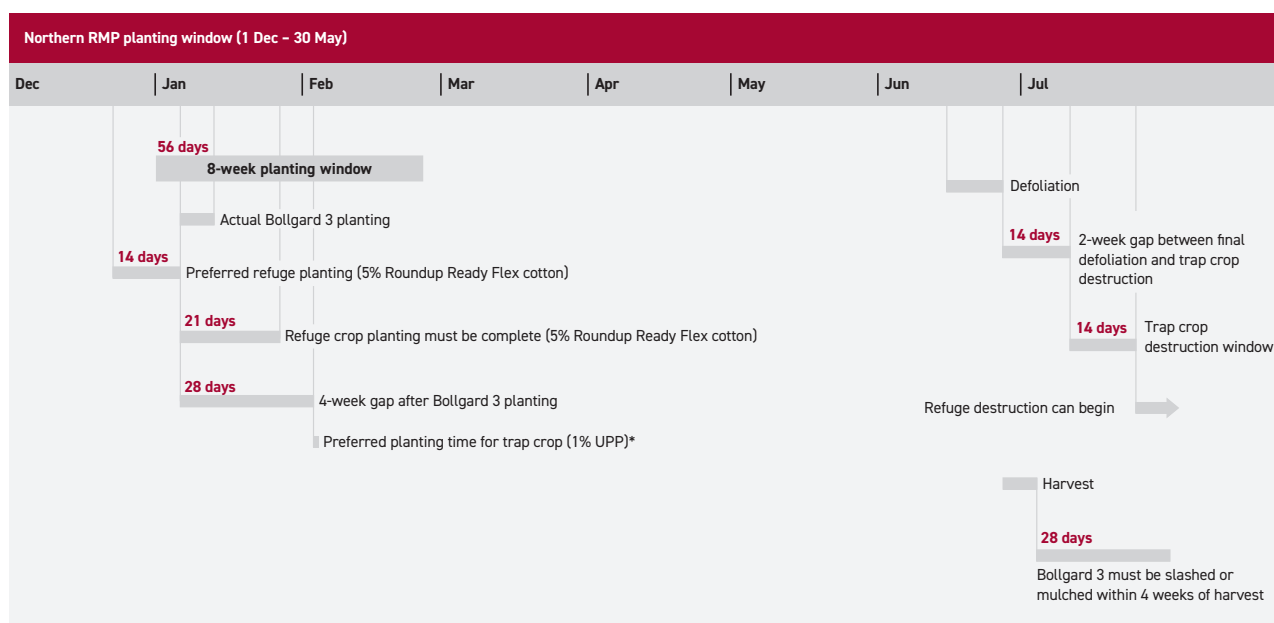
Dates are provided as an example only to demonstrate the relationship between planting/defoliation/harvest operations and RMP requirements.



\*If pigeon pea refuge is dryland, and the grower would like to use this entire refuge as their trap crop as well, they must first seek Bayer approval.

### Unsprayed conventional cotton refuge (Roundup Ready Flex® cotton) & unsprayed pigeon pea trap crop

Dates are provided as an example only to demonstrate the relationship between planting/defoliation/harvest operations and RMP requirements.



\*If grower wishes to plant a dryland pigeon pea trap crop, they must seek Bayer approval first

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