



Rice book almost finished

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The industry-funded publication, *Production of Quality Rice in South Eastern Australia*, is set to be bolstered by another three chapters.

The publication, distributed as a folder to eventually contain 16 chapters, has been produced using all the technical expertise available to the rice industry. Contributors to the publication, as authors or reviewers, number over 50 researchers, advisors and growers. The coordination of such a large number of contributors, over so many chapters (acknowledging that several people have been involved with several chapters) has been a strategic challenge.

Throughout the life of the project, the industry has seen many changes and the harsh effects of the drought. The project period has also seen the retirement of several eminent figures from the industry, a handful of shuffles in positions, and ten new children to project participants. Some of these events have unavoidably delayed progress, although the pending arrival of babies has tended to inspire prompt efforts by the prospective parent.

At the time of writing this report (October 2005), three chapters are at the printers and due to be distributed to growers in December 2005. These are:


- Chapter 3: *The rice plant*

- Chapter 14: *After the rice crop*
- Chapter 15: *Rice products - beyond the farm gate*

Two remaining chapters are currently being edited and prepared for technical review. These are:

- Chapter 6: *Crop nutrition*
- Chapter 7: *Crop establishment and management*

It is hoped these chapters will be ready for distribution in 2006.

The publication has been distributed free of charge to all rice growing businesses. Rice-growing businesses seeking additional copies, and non rice-growers requiring a copy, can obtain the publication, for \$75.00 (including GST and postage), from the office of IREC. 

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RIRDC Project IRE-5A

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