Landcare-led Landscape Resilience

Tools and data for restoration decisions

On-farm Tree Corridor Demo Site

Central Murray Region, NSW

OBJECTIVES

To establish a 2ha native vegetation corridor along a boundary fence to provide habitat for native wildlife, and a windbreak and shade for livestock. This planting is part of a broader on-farm revegetation project that aims to establish connected corridors around and within the property that will connect to an adjoining wetland.

WHAT IS SUCCESS?

A 30-metre wide corridor is established with several layers of native vegetation with diverse species, including but not limited to White Cypress Pine, Yellow Box, Bulloke, Punty Bush, Gold-dust Wattle, Miljee and Cooba. This will provide habitat for native wildlife and bird species, supporting biodiversity on-farm, while maintaining farm productivity by providing shade and a windbreak for livestock. Once established (minimum of 5 years, more if needed), livestock grazing will be incorporated as a management tool to enhance the quality of native vegetation within the site.



Before: the site before fencing and planting



Tour demonstrating learnings from a direct seeding site sown 5 years ago.

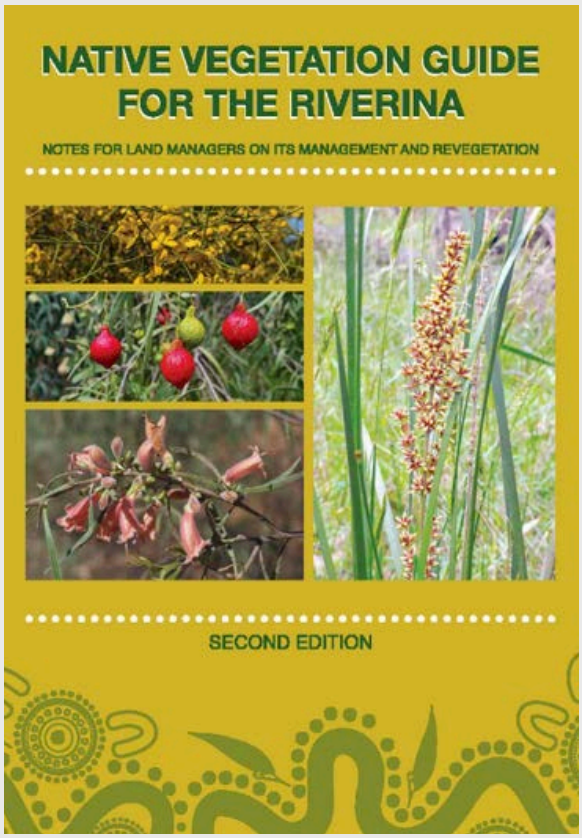
KEY STEPS

- Site planning: location, size, mapping, fencing requirements.
- Refer to local Revegetation Guide, LLS Seed Services team, and Local Landcare Coordinator to confirm suitability for the site for direct seeding, advice on species selection for direct seeding and tube stock, and ground preparation requirements.
- Book direct seeding contractor and seed, and order tube stock and tree guards.
- Prior to direct seeding, graze site and spray weeds after autumn rain. Careful with chemical selection – residual sprays will delay seeding or require a different machine to be used.
- Direct seed a few months after the autumn break (June/July).
- Plant tube stock & install tree guards. Ensure plants offset 5-6m from fence.
- Keep site free of livestock for at least 5 years, longer if more time is needed to establish. Seed can take up to 10 years to germinate.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Plan in advance and know your timeline.

Research. Guides and experts are aplenty - use them!



A LOCAL NETWORK OF DEMONSTRATION SITES ARE BEING ESTABLISHED UTILISING 'BEST PRACTICE' RESTORATION AND REVEGETATION TECHNIQUES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE. THIS IS SHOWCASING OF THE POSITIVE ECONOMIC, PRODUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF NATIVE VEGETATION RESTORATION, AND THE POTENTIAL FOR INCOME STREAMS FOR BUSINESS RESILIENCE.

KEY LEARNINGS FROM EXPERIENCE

- Order tube stock and seed the spring before planting, at the latest, to ensure you have them in time for planting.
- Reach out to your Local Land Services and/or Landcare Coordinator for advice. They may also have (or put you in touch with someone who has) planting tools and equipment you can borrow or rent.
- Discuss chemical use history with the direct seeding contractor. If a residual herbicide has recently been used the sowing method and depth may need to be altered, or delayed, to maximise chance of germination.
- Seed gemination and growth rates are much higher when the plants aren't competing with other plants, and when their roots can easily penetrate the soil.

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- Fencing – materials and labour
- Site preparation – chemical, machinery and labour
- Direct seeding – seed and contractor
- Site maintenance – pest and weed control, fence repairs

Some species have better survival rates when direct seeded, and others when planted as seedlings.

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Australian Government
Future Drought Fund
MURRUMBIDGEE Landcare INCORPORATED
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