Landcare-led Landscape Resilience

Tools and data for restoration decisions

Replanting failed plantings

OBJECTIVES

Mostly farmers are able to use grazing as a way to reduce the biomass (grassy bulk) of an area that you are preparing to revegetate.
Reducing the biomass is important to:

- make it physically easier to rip
- create fresh growth for knockdown re-spraying - improves chemical uptake and effectiveness

A decision needs to be made whether to try and replant and keep the survivors, or just start again. This is mostly a cost benefit (see overleaf). At less than 30% survival a total replant is usually the best option.

OPTIONS

	PROS	CONS
Grazing	Often most convenient	Likely damage to survivors
Slashing	Can slash around survivors	Time and machinery required
Burning	Option if no stock available	Likely damage to survivors Hotter burn may be needed to get rid of thick perennials - soil impacts
Spot spray/or scalp individual plant holes	Low disturbance	Not practical for large sites with a lot of plantings



The planting in this site failed with only a few isolated trees surviving. The surrounding paddock is crop and grazing it wasn't an option.

The landholder burnt the site and re-ripped offset from the original riplines and replanted in the new riplines.

The survivors were spared!

KEY LEARNINGS FROM EXPERIENCE

Burn needs to be hot enough to remove most of the biomass, but not have too high an impact on the survivors or compromise soil health



Here the burn was very cool and has not compromised the ground litter and soil health. However it didnt rain and there was very little green growth to spray before planting.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

- Think about whether the site really is a failure - even 50% survival may be enough to get an outcome on some sites (eg. tree connectivity). It may be better to let the trees establish and come back in later with shrubs.
- Every season and site is different - have to assess the individual site as to what is appropriate for the site and the seasonal conditions



Its important to prepare the site for replanting & protect the survivors from past plantings.

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.

www.revegetation.org.au

Australian Government | Future Drought Fund | Murrumbidgee Landcare Incorporated | Holbrook Landcare Network