Landcare-led Landscape Resilience

Tools and data for restoration decisions

Planting erosion sites - Augering vs ripping vs handplanting

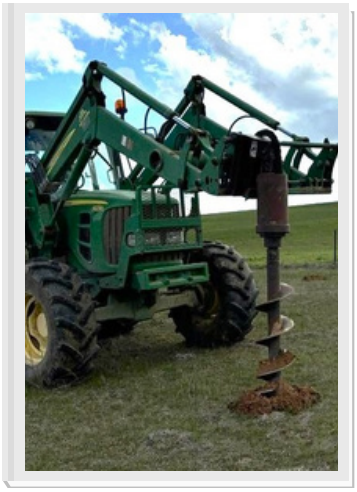
OBJECTIVES

Erosion sites may need low impact site preparation to avoid disturbance and making erosion worse

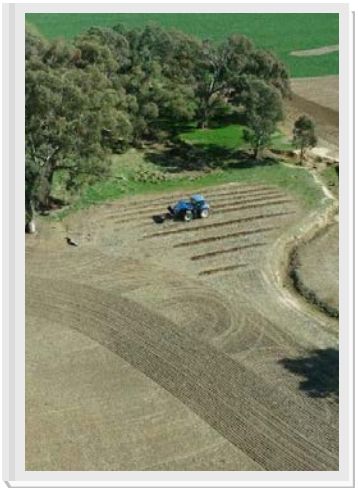
WHAT IS SUCCESS?

This demonstration site used multiple techniques in the same site to compare:

- Augering with a tractor auger
- Standard ripping where it was low risk
- Hand planting with no weed control in sensitive areas



Tractor augering



Tractor ripping

Erosion sites may need low impact site preparation to avoid disturbance and making erosion worse.

Ripping should leave a buffer of at least 1.5m between the end of the rip-line and any channel edge

IF the site slopes, consider ripping perpendicular to the creek (as pictured) rather than parallel as water can run down rip-lines and cause further erosion.



Photo of what we would expect it to look like - a success in 30 years

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

- Deep ripping to 30-40cm gives the best result in most soil types, as long as it is done when it is dry
- At this point, the auger holes are doing just as well as ripping on this site but time will tell!
- Hand planting has been hit and miss - probably because they didn't get watered as they were hard to find



KEY LEARNINGS FROM EXPERIENCE

- This site was watered once due to an exceptionally dry Spring and rip-lines are far easier to find and monitor success.
- The auger holes did not need spraying, but with the tractor auger you need to kick the dirt back into the hole before planting.
- Both auger holes and hand planting are harder to find to water and monitor once the grass gets going

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- The average cost of ripping and spraying straight forward sites is about $150/ha
- Mixing up the methods costs more but cost of fixing new erosion caused by flow through riplines is also more.

Erosion sites may need low impact site preparation to avoid disturbance and making erosion worse. The method used for site preparation will depend on the suitability for the site

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.

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