

Eastern Oil Mallee Project



Seedlings racing away at Dustyn Fry's farm

Congratulations to all the Oil Mallee growers this year

What a great effort in this region, with 33 farmers getting involved and planting over 700,000 seedlings altogether.

Our field inspections have shown most sites to have survival rates of between 80 to 99% survival rate. Well done to Warren Carslake for topping the survival list with 99% success rate. It turned out to be a great year to plant trees and its great to see the achievements after some past disappointments during the drought years.

Don't forget to sign up for more plantings in the next round of incentives if you wish to continue the good work.



Environmental Community Grant update

The first stage of the Jibberding revegetation project is underway. We received a grant from the Department of Environment & Conservation in late September as part of the State Government's Environmental Community Grants Program and we have been busy getting the project started.

With the help of Donna Rayner (Revegetation Officer for NACC) and Kylie Payne (Biodiversity officer with DEC) all the seed has been collected for the project and delivered to the nursery. For a novice seed collector it was a real learning experience to find that a large bag of uncleaned seed, resulted in one teaspoon of usable seed!

A large range of groundcovers, shrubs and trees have been collected from nearby remnant vegetation sites. The next stage of the project is to prepare the site for planting, which will involve some weed control and ripping. We will be planting the site in late June/early July and there are still plenty of opportunities for volunteers to get involved.



Donna Rayner (above) and Kylie Payne (below) show off their seed collecting skills



Incentives available to target Wind Erosion - register your interest now

We are still seeking expressions of interest for the Caring for Our Country, Wind Erosion Incentives. Available through NACC. The incentives will be available on a first in first served basis - plus there are certain eligibility criteria that must be satisfied. To register please contact the office and we can email or fax an expression of interest form to you. There are 4 incentives available throughout the Northern Agricultural region:

Farm Forestry - Oil Mallees

- Oil Mallee establishment - \$0.10/seedling
- Industry membership to the Oil Mallee association
- Max incentive per site of \$3,360

Fodder Shrub Establishment (saltbush)

- Fencing - \$2,300/km for mesh fencing, \$1,150/km for plain wire fencing
- Fodder shrub establishment - \$0.20/stem
- Industry Membership to Saltland Pastures Association
- Max incentive per site of \$4,550

If you are farming west of Carnamah and Three Springs, the incentives available are different:

Strategic Revegetation

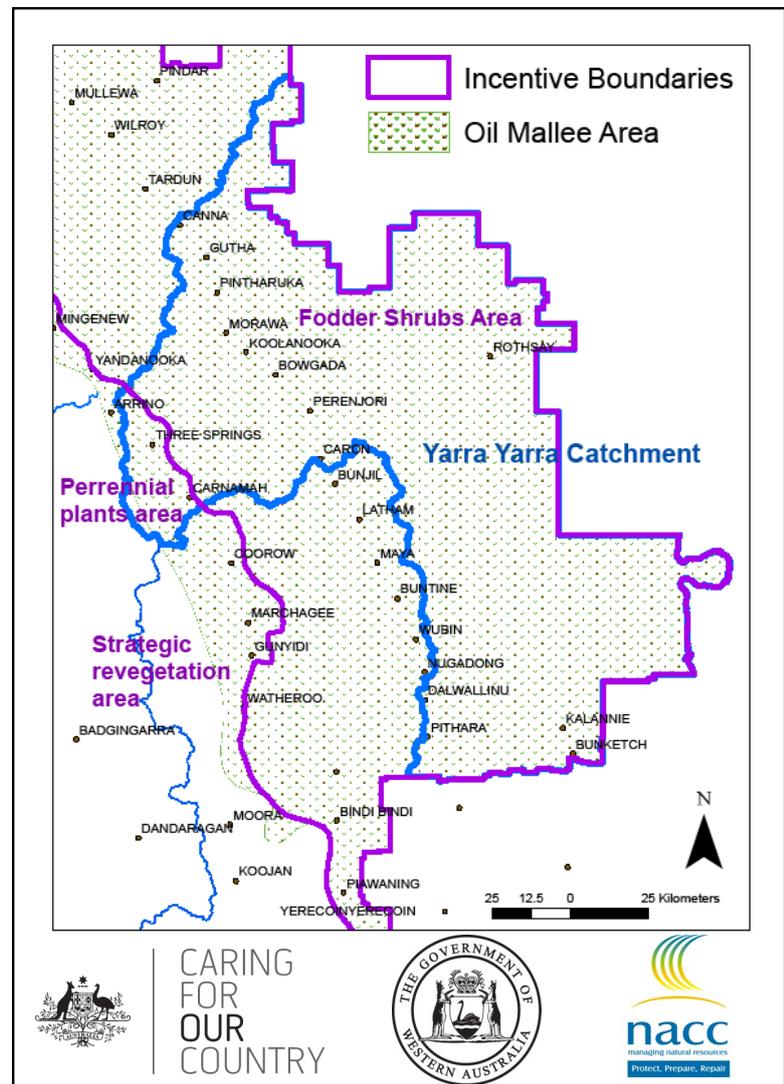
- Fencing - various depending on size of the site and whether plain or mesh fencing is used
- Revegetation - sites <10 ha \$750/ha, sites >=10ha \$1000/ha
- Limited funds for weed and pest control
- Max incentive per site \$16,000

Perennial Pastures

- Fencing - \$1,725/km for mesh fencing, \$1,150/km for plain wire fencing, \$575/km for electric fence
- Pasture establishment - \$85/ha for perennial pastures, \$140/ha if tagasaste & perennials at same site
- Watering Point - \$1,000/point (one per 80 ha)
- Max incentive per site: \$10,600

If you would like to know which of the incentives you are eligible for, please contact us at the office and Dene or Lizzie will be able to discuss this with you

Tel: 9973 1425 or email yycmg_lizzie@westnet.com.au



Sandalwood - a new "old" option for farming in the region

The Yarra Yarra Catchment Management Group have been successful in our application for a Woolworths Sustainable Farming grant, and will be using it to promote options for sandalwood in the region.

Woolworths work with Landcare Australia to give these grants, the purpose of them is to provide opportunities to farmers to trial and explore new farming systems, particularly in the face of a changing climate, with Woolworths committing funds to help develop a sustainable future for agriculture.

With the funds Yarra Yarra receive, we will be providing opportunities for farmers in the region to hear from industry professionals all about sandalwood, its benefits and how it can fit into a farming system. Over the next six months we will be holding two workshops (one in Dalwallinu and one in Morawa) and a field trip to look at existing plantations and we will be setting up a demonstration site to look at the suitability of local host species for growing sandalwood.

For the first 60 interested farmers, we are also able to offer a 50% subsidy for one years membership to the Australian Sandalwood Network (ASN). The ASN are able to offer advice on all aspects of growing sandalwood and they have a great peer mentoring system in place.

Growing sandalwood can have a number of benefits on the farm:



1. Can be strategically planted to reduce wind erosion
2. Provide options for reducing the spread of secondary salinity and reducing groundwater recharge
3. Increase biodiversity on the farm, through mixed host plantings, using provenance seedlings
4. Diversify farm income in the short term (selling sandalwood nuts) and the long term (harvesting the wood) and make productive use of less productive cropping land
5. Will increase resilience within the farming system to climate change and potential reduced rainfall

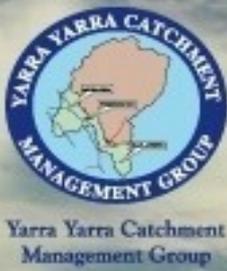
Please contact us if you would like to find out more about this grant, or if you would like to register for the workshops, or put your name down for the subsidised membership to the ASN (first come first served).

Contact Lizzie King on 9973 1451



Woolworths
the fresh food people





Yarra Yarra News



State NRM Community Grants Announced

The State Government has allocated \$5million for a community grants component of the State NRM Program. Eligible non-government groups can apply for grants of between \$5,000 and \$250,000 to take action to help protect and conserve priority assets in Western Australia.

To be eligible, projects must address at least one of the State Government's priorities of biodiversity, biosecurity, water quality, NRM interaction with planning, climate change adaptation or community engagement.

Applications must be received by 5pm on Friday 29th January 2010

For further information or to download the application form and guidelines go to www.nrm.wa.gov.au or contact Barbara Morrell on 08 368 3177 or by email barbara.morrell@agric.wa.gov.au



Dates for your Diary - 2010

Friday 29th January: Closing date for the State NRM community grants

Thursday 4th February: YYCMG meeting, 2.30pm at the Kalannie office

Late Feb/Early March (dates tbc): Benefits of Growing Sandalwood workshops, Morawa & Dalwallinu



For more details about any of these events please contact us at the Perenjori office on 9973 1425

Staff news

At the AGM of the Yarra Yarra Catchment Management group in October, it was voted that we change the number of meetings per year from 5 to 4. The next meeting will be on the 4th February 2010, at the Kalannie office

All the staff at Yarra Yarra would like to wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!



If you would like to join our mailing list, please send an email to yycmg_lizzie@westnet.com.au

Contact Details: Perenjori : PO Box 124, Perenjori, 6620, Tel: 99731425, Fax: 99731421

Kalannie: Po Box 14, Kalannie. 6468, Tel: 96662140, Fax: 96662130