

Drought Proofing the North Eastern Wheatbelt



Project Number: 05N116-06

Project Start Date: 1/1/2008

Project Completion Date: 31/12/2008

Project Description

A succession of dry seasons has severely knocked both the confidence and financial viability of farmers in the North Eastern Agricultural area. This project aims to build on the past success of the Oil Mallee Project in this area and rekindle interest in this project with an allocation of free seedlings for farmers. It is envisaged that this will kick start a biomass industry based on these deep-rooted perennials. It is possible that these trees will provide another income stream for farmers in the future, through either a biomass industry or carbon credits, as well as provide many NRM benefits such as permanent soil cover, amelioration of salinity, and a reduction in potential for soil erosion through the establishment of some permanent soil cover in the short term. There are other components in the pipeline of this project of the Midwest Oil Mallee Association from Midwest Development Commission, and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Agfund.

With the ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by Australia and the announcement that a domestic "cap and trade" will be implemented in Australia in 2009 the issues of Carbon trading and energy security for Australia come to the front of peoples minds. for commercial potential and ability to meet specific technical market requirements.

Delivery Organisation: Midwest Oil Mallee Association Inc

Total IP2 Funding: \$250,000

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