



**‘Farming Landscapes for the Future’**  
– creating sustainable production systems,  
resilient to climate change



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



Wheatbelt Brushwood  
Growers



**Narrow margins and variable climatic conditions – we present a tool to help develop new agricultural enterprise combinations for the future.**



\$400,000 collaborative Caring for our Country project with two major components:

- CSIRO science
- Baselineing to determine current adoption of tree crops, impediments, triggers and solutions

**Partners:** CSIRO, Department of Agriculture and Food WA, Australian Sandalwood Network, Oil Mallee Association, Wheatbelt Brushwood Growers

# AVONGRO Team

**Emma Wilson, Oil Mallee Association**

**Helen Job, Wheatbelt  
Brushwood Growers**

**Bethan Lloyd, Australian  
Sandalwood Network**

**Tom Sweeny, Department of  
Agriculture and Food WA**





## **AVONGRO tasks:**

- Overall project management.
- Farmer and grower group involvement.
- Collate data on current rate of adoption of tree crops.
- Identifying triggers and impediments to tree crops being an accepted part of a profitable agricultural enterprise – develop actions to address any issues.
- Collect stories from land managers.



## **CSIRO science:**

- Scenario Planning and Investment Framework (SPIF) tool calibrated for the Avon Wheatbelt.
- Agricultural Production Simulation (APSim) modeling 'whole of enterprise' agricultural production .
- Focus on gathering growth and carbon sequestration data for Brushwood species and Sandalwood systems and including existing data for oil mallees and sugar gum.



How has it been done?



Measuring biomass in the field



Taking soil cores at each site



Destructive sampling in the lab



Recording green and dry weight



**Calibration work never undertaken before in the world  
– biomass data collection for Brushwood and  
Sandalwood systems**

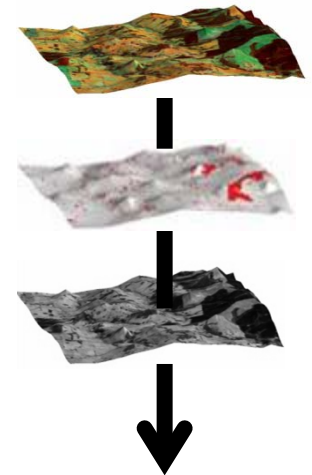




Growth data for each species on different soil types and rainfall modelled and entered into SPIF.

Land manager can enter more specific site information.

SPIF – ‘mines’ through multiple layers of information to create scenarios at farm and landscape scales.

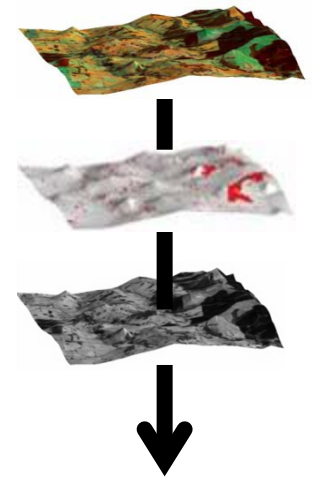




What will the tool do?

Individual farm photos with underlying data layers (soils, rainfall, transport...) will enable each land manager to run a range of 'what if' scenarios:

- 'what if I keep my current rotations and the rainfall is less?'
- 'what if I incorporate brushwood/sandalwood/ mallees on that part of my paddock?'
- 'what if...?'



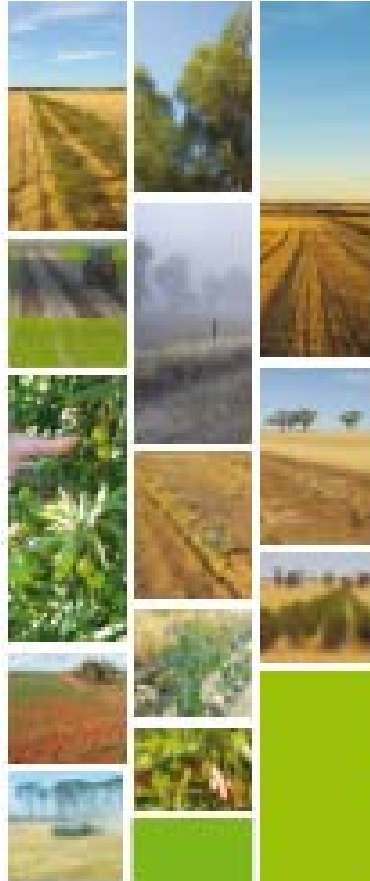


Individual and group sessions:

- Roadtesting early December 2009
- Training workshops February 2010

To register your interest contact AVONGRO:

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AVONGRO & CSIRO PRESENT...

# FARMING LANDSCAPES FOR THE FUTURE

A Scenario Planning & Investment Framework  
Tool for the Avon Region of WA



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