

Acacia Saligna for fibrewood in the Northern Agricultural Region



Project Number: 05N116-05

Project Start Date: 1/1/2008

Project Completion Date: 30/06/2009

Project Description

Establish *Acacia saligna*, on traditionally low production sands, in a ~400mm rainfall area of the northern agricultural region as a commercial tree crop.

The targeted landscape unit, the low fertility white sands of the Badgingarra district, due to their low production under traditional farming practices contribute disproportionately to the regional groundwater rise potentially leading to salinity issues. There is an understanding in the community that deep-rooted woody perennials are needed to reduce the impact from these high recharge zones of the landscape but the reality is that the "crop" needs to be commercial to be adopted at a scale that will make a difference. The NHT funded SEARCH Project identified *Acacia saligna*, a species that originates from the district, as a native species that has both the desired environmental and market characteristics.

Establish 500 hectares of *Acacia saligna* in plantations near Badgingarra on low production infertile sands for evaluation of the 'crop' for commercial potential and ability to meet specific technical market requirements.

Delivery Organisation: Trees Midwest

Total IP2 Funding: \$121,200

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