

CASE STUDY

Northern Agricultural Catchments Council



Yvonne Marsden – Wahroonga Farm

Yvonne's Wahroonga Farm is about 25 km east of Geraldton at Mt Magnet road. Yvonne is the Deputy Chairperson of the Northern Agricultural Catchments Councils (NACC) and a former president of local landcare community group. She is a passionate supporter of NACC and a promoter of WA's biosecurity program

Yvonne's story

I believe in sustainable farming. For over 20 years, I have been implementing on-ground works to address the problem of climate change and weather which is confronting us in this part of the region and to reduce stock erosion issues.

"In 1995, I started adjusting my paddock fences and introduced contours to manage our surface water runoff. We live in a dry country therefore it's important that we conserve the little runoff we get to keep moisture in the paddocks."

Another interesting component which I have introduced on our farm is I have installed new fences adjacent to the existing plain wire to make revegetation corridors.



Yvonne explains to bus tour participants how she made changes in the farm



Yvonne explains about the significance of introducing perennial pasture into farm system

"I also believe that by dividing our paddocks with vegetation corridors we can help reduce erosion from prevailing winds. Revegetation also has other important benefits. It acts as habitat for some essential biodiversity and provides shelter and shade for stocks (i.e. helps reduce energy to keep the animals cool during hot summers)."

"On the lower part of the farm I have introduced perennial pastures into my farming systems. Integration of perenniality into our farming systems has added

CASE STUDY

Northern Agricultural Catchments Council



tremendous value – it provides ground cover during summer when annual crops and pasture residues are often unable to protect the soils from erosive winds.”

“These subtropical grasses, with proper grazing management have been providing the stocks with green feed in summer and autumn, allowing animals to be turned-off in peak condition year round.

“Recently, I have been successful in gaining a financial incentive from the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council (NACC). This incentive has enabled me to strategically revegetate 5.3 hectares with 5,500 plants; establish 75 hectares perennial grass and install four water points.”

“My take home message is that “there is no silver bullet, things don’t happen overnight so don’t stop asking questions and learning, life is a learning experience for us all. It takes investigation and planning. My son Glen says ‘all of the above and a lot of hard work’.”

For more information about this case study please contact Stanley Yokwe, NACC’s Regional Landcare Facilitator at NACC on (08) 9938 0105 or at Stanley.Yokwe@nacc.com.au

This case study is produced by NACC in association with Yvonne Marsden, a local farmer in Kojarena at Geraldton Mount Magnet Road. The funding came from the Australian Government Caring for our Country program.



CARING
FOR
OUR
COUNTRY

© NACC 2011



| nacc.com.au | Supporting people to support the natural environment