

Managing Remnant Vegetation

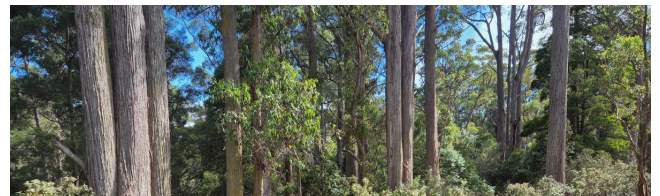


As part of the **On-farm Natural Capital Accounting Demonstration** at the TIA Dairy Research Facility, a variety of practical actions are being implemented to preserve and improve the value of vegetation assets across the property.

On-farm remnant vegetation can offer a variety of values to farmers and agricultural businesses, from shelter and shade to support animal welfare and productivity to scenic values, pollination services and filtering valuable water resources.

Farming is a lifestyle, and beautiful farm environments and native wildlife support farmer wellbeing.

Good quality vegetation at a large enough scale requires little maintenance, but it can also degrade quickly if stock trample understorey, weeds are allowed to establish or if it is physically damaged by various human or natural influences such as expanding infrastructure, logging, storms or fire. Climate change is also negatively impacting on many vegetation communities.



Remnant vegetation at TDRF

Proposed actions at the TIA Dairy Research Facility:

Weed control and fencing to maintain or improve condition of current quality intact native vegetation across the property is a key priority for this demonstration. This includes patches of Threatened *Eucalyptus viminalis* wet forest, and gullies of other mature Eucalypts and Blackwoods. These areas have relatively low levels of weed infestation, with patches of encroaching blackberry, hawthorn and other weedy European trees. Many of these areas have existing fences which are degraded.

Targeted weed control to eradicate discreet patches of encroaching weeds will have huge benefits in preserving the value of these remnant vegetation patches and saving an immense amount of work down the track, instead of allowing weeds to continue to spread.

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The value of these actions to famers and industry:

- Support the long-term maintenance and or improvement of these assets
- Provide a certified uplift in environmental condition of these assets as measured through the Accounting for Nature (AFN) Framework. This demonstration is establishing a certified Natural Capital account through AFN and actions carried out which restore biodiversity could meet requirements for a NaturePlus biodiversity Credit
- The Australian Government Nature Repair Market is currently refining a 'Protect and Conserve' method which is aiming to support active management of biodiversity and deliver long-term protection and conservation of biodiversity on private land.
- Long-term sequestration of carbon in plants and soils
- Preserve habitat for a plethora of native species
- Provide water filtration for TDRF water supplies (including stock water, dairy cleaning and irrigation) and downstream users
- Provide scenic and mental health values to farm staff and community



Map of remnant vegetation works areas at TDRF



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