



Optimising Fodder Options on Mixed Farming Systems

Application Form

The Optimising Fodder Options on Mixed Farming Systems Project is supported through the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and is designed to increase summer ground cover to:

- fill summer feed gaps, and
- improve soil health.

The project will support mixed farmers in the Wheatbelt NRM region to develop whole farm summer cover plans that consider a range of pasture, summer cropping and forage options, to meet pre-defined livestock production goals.

To enable this, Wheatbelt NRM will partner with farmers, local grower groups, corporate agriculture, and other organisations to establish eight demonstration sites across the region during 2019/2020.

The purpose of the demonstration sites are to provide a wider audience of mixed farmers with a reference as to how whole farm summer cover plans fit within Wheatbelt mixed farming systems to both improve soil health and meet production objectives.

Demonstration site hosts will be supported by a farm planner/advisor to develop the whole farm summer cover plans. The plans will identify the best mix of feed options for each property to ultimately reduce the reliance on hand feeding and improve ground cover during the summer period. By selection of demonstration farms across different soil types and rainfall zones it is intended that the full spectrum of summer feed alternatives will be considered.

Extension events and wider industry learning will support the demonstration sites. They will include opportunities for industry discussion on the topic, and include the latest information on different fodder options, livestock health and market trends affecting livestock production.

Applicant Details

Applicant Name:

Trading/Entity Name:

ABN:

**Address of
property/
properties:**

Mailing Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Introductory Property and Production Information

Total Landholding (ha)

Average total crop area planted each year (ha)

**Average total pasture area
allocated each year (ha)**

Native vegetation area (ha)

Number of years of mixed farming experience

How did you hear about this opportunity (tick all that apply)?

☐ Wheatbelt NRM eNews

☐ Wheatbelt NRM Website

☐ Community Newsletters

☐ Direct Emails

☐ Social Media

☐ Word of Mouth

☐ Other (please specify): _____

What groups do you belong to? (eg footy club, grower group, etc.)

Soil Constraints

What sort of Soil health issues/constraints do you currently face on your farm that limits productivity? Please indicate all that are present, approximate the area of your farm (ha) that is affected and rank where 1 is the worst or most serious problem.

Soil Health Issue	Present (Y/N)	Area (ha)	Rank
Soil Acidity			
Wind Erosion			
Low Soil Organic Carbon			
Low Soil Biology			
Soil Structure Decline (e.g. compaction)			
Water Repellence			
Dryland Salinity			
Nutrient Status & Export			
Other (please specify)			

Summer Ground Cover

Do you currently, or have you in the past, planted any of the following?

Option Type	Species	Successful? (Y/N/partially)	Area (ha)
Summer pastures (e.g. native grasses, Sub tropical grasses etc.)			
Summer crops (e.g. millet, legumes)			
Forage (eg. native shrubs, saltbush etc.)			

How would you rate your current level of knowledge of the options available to you for growing the following (please mark)?

Summer Pastures

High

Low

Medium

%

Summer Crops

High

Low

Medium

%

Forage Shrubs

High

Low

Medium

%

More information - Livestock

What livestock you manage on the farm:

	Breed	Number Mated	Marking %
Sheep			
Cattle			
Other			

What time of year do you typically join?	
What is your target market? (eg 6mth old wethers sold to finishers)	

More information - Cropping

Please outline the average area of the different crops do you manage on the farm:

Crop	Area (ha)
Wheat	
Barley	
Oats	
Oaten Hay	
Legumes	
Oilseeds	
Pasture	
Summer Crops	
Other	

Please describe your current crop rotation? (eg Wheat: Canola: Wheat: Pasture: Pasture)

More information – Natural Resource Management

Please tick if you currently or have undertaken any of the following natural resource management activities.

<input type="checkbox"/> Protect remnant vegetation from stock	<input type="checkbox"/> Biodiverse native planting
<input type="checkbox"/> Protect waterways from stock	<input type="checkbox"/> Native planting for forage
<input type="checkbox"/> Feral animal control	<input type="checkbox"/> Threatened species protection
<input type="checkbox"/> Wind erosion control (ground cover)	<input type="checkbox"/> Minimum/No Till systems
<input type="checkbox"/> Water erosion control	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduction of nutrient run-off
<input type="checkbox"/> Agroforestry	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____	

Please circle:	Yes	No
Is your farming enterprise the primary source of livelihood for you, your spouse and any dependents?		
Are you willing to contribute 25% of the cost of seed and/or seedlings?		
Are you prepared to work with a farm planner/advisor to develop a long term whole farm fodder plan to optimise summer pastures/crops/forage shrubs?		
Are you prepared to work with an economist to model the cost/benefit of filling summer feed gaps?		
Are you prepared to host 1-2 half day field visits on your farm?		
Are you prepared to speak at workshops about your experiences in the project?		
Are you prepared to be photographed and participate in project promotion via mediums such as newsletters, media articles, case studies and social media?		
Are you prepared to participate in a video case study (time commitment 3 half-days spread across the project)?		

Why do you believe that your farm should be selected to become a demonstration site for this project?

What do you hope to achieve/learn from this project?

Demonstration Site Ideas

Please outline the possible demonstration site ideas you would like to explore if you were to become a host.

Project Map

Please provide either a GPS location for your project site or create a map using the [Funding Application Map Maker](#). Instructions on how to use the map are provided on the map site.

If you experience difficulty with the map maker, please contact Bonny Dunlop.

Further information

(Please note that previous funding or experience in hosting a demonstration site is not a part of the essential eligibility criteria.)

Have you received funding from Wheatbelt NRM in the past?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes please list previous projects:

Have you hosted other demonstration sites or field walks in the past?

Yes

☐

No

☐

If yes please list previous projects:



Signed by the applicant

The information provided in this application form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have the authority to make this submission as the owner/ representative of the owner of the land on which this project is proposed to be undertaken



Checked box indicates signature of applicant

Date:

Please submit this form with associated photos and map to Wheatbelt NRM by 5.00pm 13 May 2019

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