

Project Report

Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices

2013 - 2018



Project partners



This project is supported by Western Port Catchment Landcare Network through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

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Project manager's report

It's been a privilege to manage and co-deliver the 5 year "Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices" project as part of the National Landcare Program. One of the biggest highlights has been the 2,777 people we've engaged through the project. In five years we ran 321 training workshops, field days, discussion groups and forums with a total attendance of 7,362 people! An even bigger achievement has been the number of farmers who have made changes to their farm management practices as a result of participating in the project.

These results were only achieved due to the hard work of all our key delivery partners who helped manage and deliver the project, and also sat on the Steering Committee. Thanks to all partners. You did an amazing job!

The Farmer Reference Group were a great group of farmers who played a significant role in the project. They assessed each of the innovative demonstration site applications put forward by farmers and selected the ones they deemed to display innovation and replicability on other farms. The large attendances at all the demonstration site field days confirmed the group's selections.

Most importantly, I'd like to extend a special thank you to the hundreds of farmers we worked with!

Thanks to each one of you who opened your farms for field days, discussion groups, farm tours, hosted demonstration sites and smiled for the cameras! Your generosity, friendship and support are greatly appreciated by all the project team.

The project has created a real buzz around sustainable agriculture in the Westernport region and we look forward to continuing to support farmers in the region.

Peter Ronalds, Project Manager



Background

The 'Demonstrating Sustainable Farming Practices' project was a 5 year project funded by the 'National Landcare Program' as part of the Port Phillip & Westernport CMA (PPWCMA) regional delivery program. The project ran from July 2013 to June 2018 and was managed by Western Port Catchment Landcare Network (WPCLN) in conjunction with key partners including; Bass Coast Landcare Network (BCLN), Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, South Gippsland Landcare Network (SGLN), AgVic, Melbourne Water & the PPWCMA. The project aimed to increase farmers' understanding of innovative and sustainable farming, ultimately leading to improved farming practices, healthier natural resources and increased farmer resilience throughout the Western Port, Port Phillip and Yarra catchments region. These aims would be achieved through the establishment of demonstration sites, training courses, discussion groups, field days and farm tours.

Using extensive experience from delivering similar projects, the project team designed activities which would engage and influence farmers, and their farming practices. The project design was strongly influenced by the 2012 '*National Drivers of Practice Change Survey*', which found that effective engagement and practice change came about by targeting farmers learning preferences which primarily included; training courses, workshops, peer to peer support (such as farmer discussion groups) and on farm demonstrations.

As a result, the following were identified as key activities for the project:

- Establish, benchmark and monitor 40 demonstration sites to trial innovative, and sustainable farming practices
- Develop case studies for each of the demonstration sites as a resource for farmers
- Run 40 field days with an average attendance of 30 farmers per field day
- Run training courses to improve farmers' knowledge on farm management, planning and mapping
- Conduct five farm tours to other regions to challenge and inspire
- Establish and support a minimum of six sustainable agriculture discussion groups
- Develop online resources about sustainable farming methods
- Engage 400 farmers managing 16,000ha with support to implement improved farming practices

In 2014 a farm consultant was engaged as part of the project to conduct a 'Hard to Reach' survey with farmers who had no prior engagement with Landcare. The survey interviewed 150 farmers at Farm World and Redhill show to determine the blockers for farmers becoming involved in Landcare and Sustainable Agriculture. The results showed that only 8% of farmers interviewed associated Landcare with sustainable agriculture; most farmers assumed Landcare primarily focused on waterways, trees and biodiversity. The results from the survey motivated the project team to change people's perception of Landcare and its links with sustainable agriculture.

In addition to the practical aspects of supporting farmers on sustainable farm practices, the project aimed to maintain clean water, improve biodiversity and healthy soils, increase land productivity and improve resilience to withstand environmental changes, in particular, climate change.

The success of the project was made possible through the contributions from the farmers and our key partners. Through sharing ideas, resources and their combined experience, the project team was able to significantly outperform the original targets and engage with farm enterprise types that had not traditionally been involved with Landcare.

Governance

The project was governed by:

- a **Steering Committee** comprised of a representative from WPCLN, BCLN, SGLN, the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, AgVic and PPWCMA. The Steering Committee formed the project team who managed and delivered the project.
- a **Farmer Reference Group (FRG)** was also established, which included an innovative farmer from each of the key delivery regions, an AgVic representative, and an independent soil consultant. The group of seven innovative and leading farmers represented a diverse range of farm enterprise types (dairy, dairy/cheese, beef/agronomist, sheep/forestry, avocado/horticulture) and each had agricultural and/or ag science qualifications. Their role was to assess all the applications received for on-farm demonstration sites and only approve those they thought were innovative, could be replicated on other farms, and which were relevant to other farmers. They also assessed each of the case studies to ensure they addressed the aims of the demonstrations and were written at a level that other farmers could understand and relate to.



Figure 1: Pictured are some of the Farmer Reference Group participants



Figure 2: Pictured are some of the Steering Committee with the Farmer Reference Group

Project Highlights

The project aimed to increase the understanding, development and uptake of innovative and sustainable farming practices through a diverse range of demonstration sites, field days, discussion groups, farm tours, and training workshops. Figure 3 below highlights the key activities that took place during the project, and the total numbers of people involved.



Figure 3: Total project numbers

The project was delivered in the PPWCMA region of Victoria. The WPCLN, BCLN and the SGLN had successfully worked together on previous large projects, but this project expanded into the Mornington Peninsula and part of the Yarra Catchment, and established relationships with key partners in these areas. Figure 4 below highlights the breakdown of activities and events in each region.

Region breakdown



Note: Jointly managed activities make up the remainder of the events and participants

Figure 4: Regional breakdown

There was a diverse range of farm enterprise or industry types represented in the project. Some of these such as viticulture, horticulture, hops and agroforestry were enterprise types that Landcare had not traditionally been involved with in this region. Figure 5 breaks down the types of enterprises that participated in the project. The 'other' category relates to chickens, pigs, bush foods and other niche enterprise types.

Enterprise types on the project

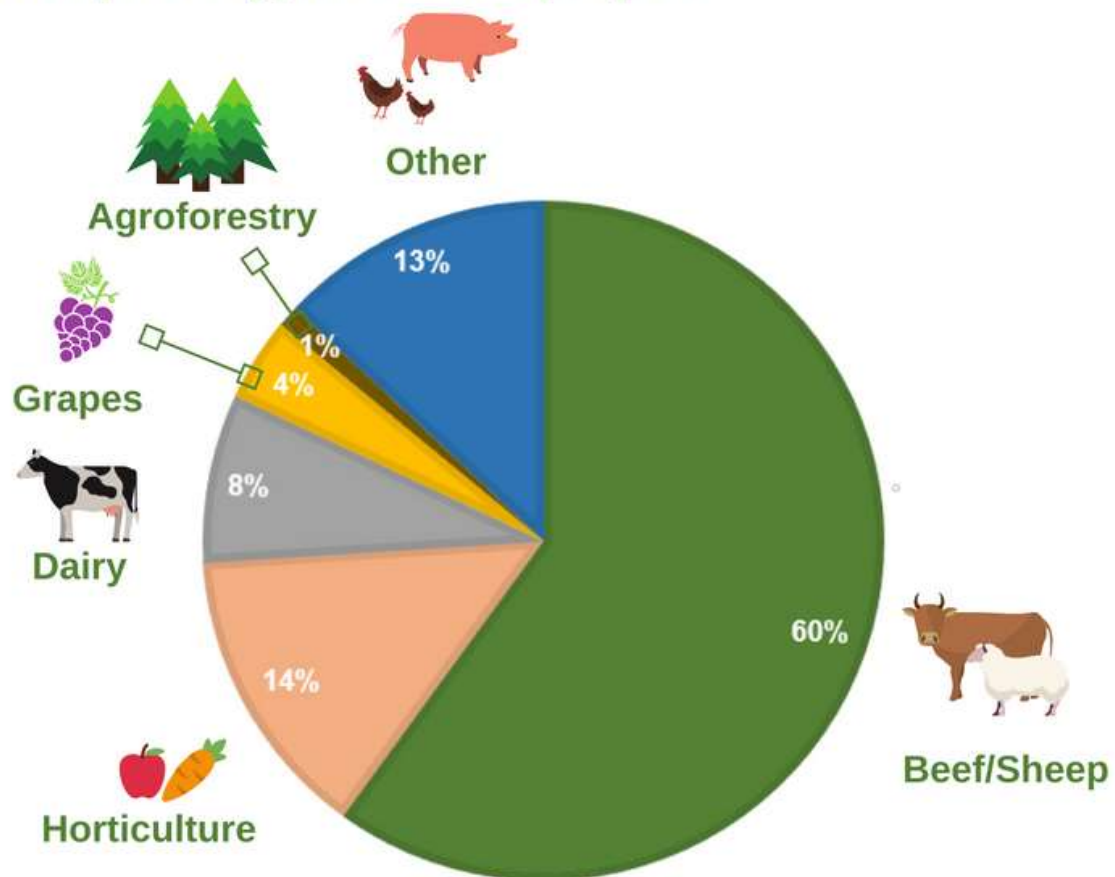


Figure 5: Enterprise types represented on the project

Demonstration Sites

The Farmer Reference Group reviewed 48 proposals by farmers and community groups for the on-farm demonstration sites. The Group chose 25 demonstrations that covered 53 separate farms (one demonstration was replicated on six farms, another demonstration was replicated on five farms, and one demonstration involved 19 farms).



The on-farm demonstrations were selected for being innovative, replicable, relevant to other farmers and with the potential to add value to the farming sector and possibly drive an impetus for practice change (*see appendix A for full list of demonstration sites*).

The trials took place on a range of farming industries including horticulture (fruit and vegetables), hops, poultry, dairy, beef, agroforestry and viticulture. Enterprises such as viticulture, horticulture, hops and agroforestry had not been engaged in a significant way with Landcare in this region previously. The team were able to engage with a significantly larger number of farmers by establishing demonstration sites on these farms.

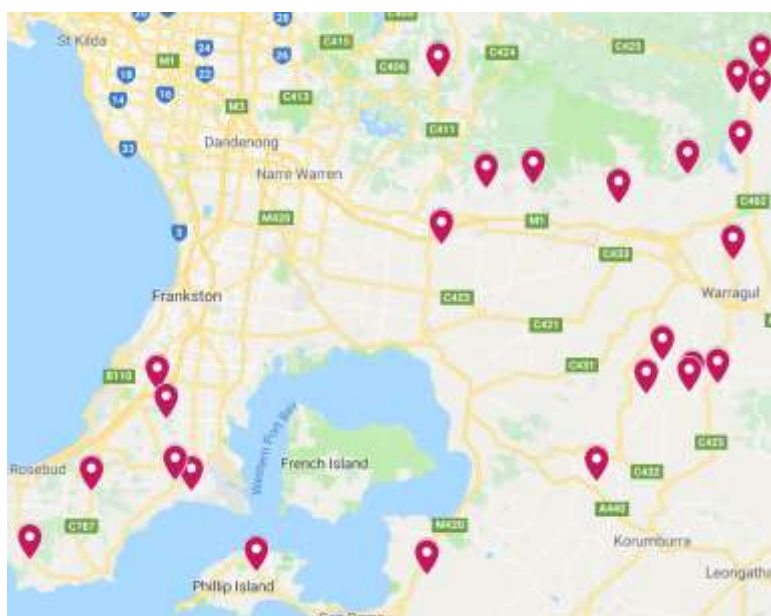


Figure 6: General location of the on-farm demonstration sites

The demonstrations site trials covered a wide variety of innovative, sustainable farming techniques, including:

- Using compost under vines as an alternative to chemical fertilisers (*see highlight box below*)
- Growing pasture and grazing cattle between tree plantings using a new agroforestry design called 'multi storey farming'
- Testing the quality of hay and silage for improved livestock cattle carcass weights
- Trialling green manure crops for nutrient cycling in intensive organic horticulture

The demonstrations were an important part of the 'Demonstrating Sustainable Farm Practices' project and a key driver in developing new practices or refining existing farming practices to provide farmers with information that would help them consider whether or not to adopt these farming practices. Through participation in the project, the farmers were given technical, monitoring and financial support, and the tools required to trial farming methods that would not have been possible otherwise.



Many of the demonstrations were extremely successful resulting in improved productivity, increased resilience and benefits to the natural resources. Several of the demonstrations registered a strong interest from the community which has led to practice change from other farmers in the region who have adapted the learnings to suit their particular enterprise. The 'compost under vines' demonstration is a good example. Prior to the demonstration, there were only a couple of vineyard owners and managers using compost under their grape vines. After four years of monitoring and showcasing the excellent results to other farmers there are now over 34 vineyard owners/managers trialling compost under 193ha of vines in the region.

Multi storey farming was another new technology for the region which provided significant interest from the farming community. The farmer who proposed to demonstration was determined to develop a practical method to add value to trees on farms while reducing some of the common problems they can cause, such as weed and pest animal issues, fire, and falling trees damaging fences.

In partnership with the WPCLN the farmer submitted a design for trees to be planted with a larger space between them, which would allow pastures, crop and cattle to better utilise the land around the trees to fill feed gaps and provide protection, while providing additional income opportunities. Over 70 different blends of pasture and cereal crops were planted in the rows between the trees. Cattle were first grazed on the site 14 months after planting and many times since. Four years after establishment, the results show that the system works. The crops, trees and livestock have integrated together very successfully and productivity has increased. The trees have grown quickly and compare favourably with other agroforestry plantings of the same species in the region.

***'the demonstration site is changing the direction of where
we're going with the farm'***

Clinton Tepper on Multi storey farming

Some of the demonstrations didn't achieve the expected or 'desired' outcomes, however, they were still considered a valuable exercise and important lessons were learned about why the results weren't as expected. The demonstrations were well received by farmers and the case studies that were produced outlining the results will be shared among the farming community to help other farmers who may be interested in trialling similar practices.



Green manure crops as an alternative to purchased inputs



Testing the viability of growing hops on the Bass Coast



Using free-range chicken manure as an alternative fertiliser



Establishing an intensive market garden at Philip Island

Figure 7: Examples of on-farm demonstration sites

Case Studies

Each demonstration site was carefully monitored and evaluated at regular intervals to test for changes. The results of the monitoring were presented in a series of 25 case studies that explained the background behind each demonstration, the outcomes of the monitoring process and the lessons learned.

Case studies can have a large impact on influencing a farmer's decision to make a management change. By documenting each demonstration, the project has been able to create a resource for other farmers to try the same, or a similar, method of sustainable farming on their own property without repeating the mistakes of the first trials. The demonstration trial case studies are published and available at www.wpcfn.com.au, and some have been printed as brochures to be distributed to farmers.



Figure 8: A sample of published case studies

Capturing Information and Research

An important aspect of the demonstration sites was the manner in which they captured quantitative information that showed the effects of various treatments being applied.

The quality of the information was enhanced by the controls that were established (areas with no treatment), which enabled a true comparison to be made. This meant that the true effect of treatments could be measured, as well as the underlying causes of the measured impacts.

The analysis of this information, and its presentation as part of the case study reports, represents an important source of information to guide and assist on-farm decisions into the future. The case studies have been a major outcome of the project.

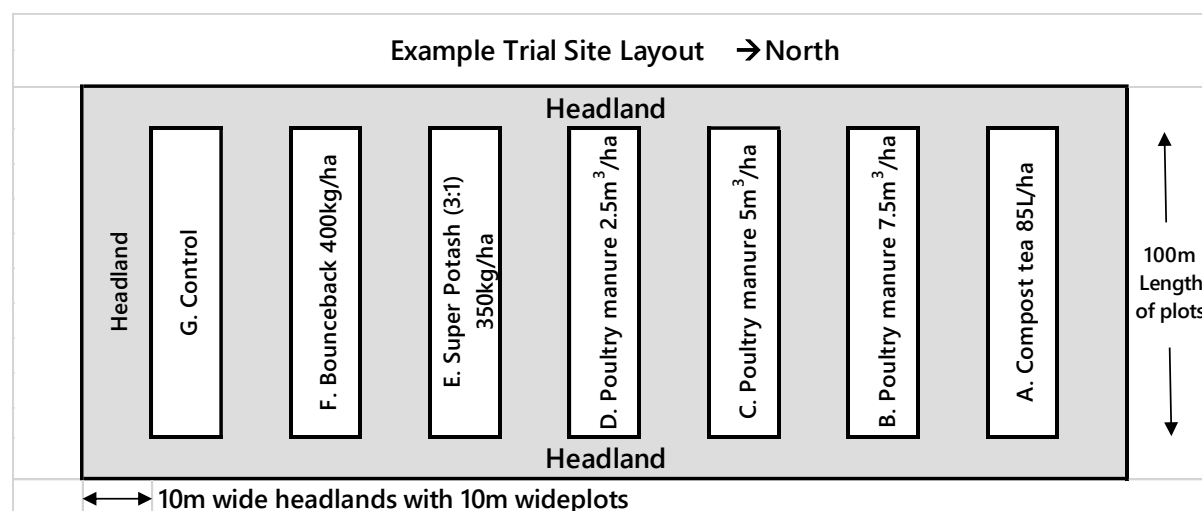


Figure 9: Example trial site layout



Figure 11: Measuring tree height



Figure 10: Measuring pasture growth with electronic pasture meter

Field Days

There were 63 field days held over the five years of the project (*see Appendix B for full list*) with a total of 3,111 people attending.

The field days were an opportunity for farmers and members of the public to learn about new, innovative and sustainable farming practices. The days were held at either a demonstration site to showcase the trial taking place, or around a topic of interest for farmers on sustainable agriculture.



An example of the topics covered at the field days included:

- How to farm on steep slopes
- Managing wet soils to minimise damage by livestock
- 'A day on the Farm', a full day visiting a local farm to showcase a sustainable farming method in action
- Managing tunnel erosion
- Regenerative farming practices

The field days held at the demonstration sites gave attendees the opportunity to view the trial in progress and ask questions in a relaxed, informal environment. Some trial locations were used multiple times for field days due to the strong interest shown. For example, the multi storey farming trial had four field days held at the same property due to high demand (*see highlight box below*). Several farmers are now starting to trial multi storey farming on their farms. Three field days were also held to showcase the compost under vines demonstration and 34 grape growers are now trialling compost under their vines.



The team received excellent feedback from participants at all the field days, along with requests to run similar days in the future. The field days were attended by a diverse audience including young families, people new to farming and older farmers looking at new approaches to farming.



Figure 12: Farmers at a Multi Storey Farming field day

Farmer Discussion Groups

The project supported nine farmer discussion groups across Gippsland and the Mornington Peninsula, which included the establishment of five new groups. The discussion groups brought together farmers to share ideas, discuss concerns, and learn from each other. The groups met regularly and were well-attended, with some having over 35 members. The groups were usually hosted at a farmer's property and included a farm walk, giving attendees the opportunity to observe different farming techniques and discuss farm-specific matters in a practical, meaningful way with other farmers and specialist advisors.



The new discussion groups established by the project were:

- Mornington Peninsula Farmers discussion group
- Mornington Peninsula Market Gardeners discussion group
- WPCLN Organic Vegetable and Fruit grower discussion group
- WPCLN Sus Ag discussion group
- BCLN Innovation and Diversification discussion group

Existing discussion groups that were supported by the project when the groups requested it included:

- BCLN Dairy discussion group
- BCLN Kongwak-Ellipak discussion group
- BCLN Phillip Island Better Beef discussion group
- Warragul BeefCheque group

The feedback from the group members has been outstanding and the discussion groups have been a real success story within the project.

One of the most important benefits of the group has been the social connections and friendships made in an industry that can, at times, be very isolating.

As well as providing support and shared experiences, farmers used the groups as a sounding board for new ideas. One respondent from the Mornington Peninsula Farmers discussion group said that the group gave '*confirmation if you are doing things right or wrong*¹'. The group is now mentoring other farmers in the region through providing support and sharing ideas on innovative and sustainable farming methods.

Another respondent, who identified as a '*new (non-generational) farmer*' appreciated the guidance from the experienced farmers in the group in making sure they were going down the right path. Many respondents to the evaluation surveys commented on the '*camaraderie*²' found in the groups, and the feeling of mutual support.

The newly created Organic Vegetable and Fruit Growers' discussion group established by the WPCLN has been a stand-out success. It is believed to be the first of its kind in Australia with interest in the group growing all the time. (*see highlight box below*). The BCLN innovation and diversification group is another standout success supporting farmers in niche enterprises such as mushrooms, hops and pasture raised pigs.

Organic Vegetable & Fruit Growers' Discussion Group

24 sessions held **2** visits from Costa Georgiadis ★

'What a privilege to be a part of such innovation and support for organics'
'life saver' 'farm saver'

Participant feedback, June 2018

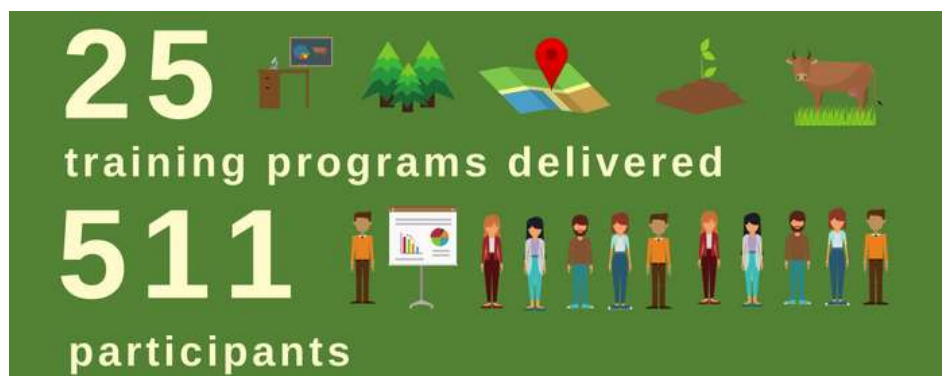
The infographic features a green background with white and yellow text. It includes icons of a cauliflower, a tomato, a carrot, and another cauliflower between the numbers 24 and 2. A yellow star is placed after the name Costa Georgiadis.

¹ Evaluation feedback from WPCLN Organic vegetable/fruit growers' farmer discussion group, December 2017

² Evaluation feedback from WPCLN Organic vegetable/fruit growers' farmer discussion group, June 2018

Training and Workshops

The project used industry respected and highly qualified people to deliver a range of training and workshops (see *highlight box below*).



The project team:

- Developed and piloted two new programs, Grazfert and P-Tool, which generated strong interest resulting in significant practice change amongst the farmers who participated,
- Ran annual Fert\$mart courses for dairy farmers in the region,
- Ran the popular Master TreeGrowers program facilitated by national and local leaders,
- Ran farm planning courses and workshops focusing on farm planning, farm management and farm mapping.

The following training programs were held over the course of the project:

Fert\$mart

Fert\$mart was designed for dairy farmers to help them better understand their soils, fertilisers and nutrient management. The team ran five Fert\$mart programs (one per year) in partnership with GippsDairy, Dairy Australia, and Melbourne Water. 10-12 farmers participated in each program. The program delivered substantial financial savings to farmers through a reduction in their fertiliser requirements, whilst still maintaining production. (see *highlight box below*).



Grazfert

GrazFert was developed by AgVic, with the WPCLN piloting the first course in Victoria. The GrazFert training program is designed for beef and sheep farmers and is based on the successful Fert\$mart program. Three courses were held which involved; individual soil testing, development of a tailored farm nutrient plan for each farmer based on their soils' nutrient requirements and the farmers aspirations and goals. Two workshops were held for each program to help farmers understand soils and nutrient budgeting and requirements. Feedback from the participants has been excellent. 100% of participants have indicated an intent to change their land management practices based on what they had learned from the program. The program has been so successful that it is now being rolled out throughout Victoria by AgVic.

Master TreeGrower program

The Master TreeGrower program proved to be an amazing opportunity for participants to increase their knowledge, engage with other like-minded people and develop ideas and actions for their own properties. Facilitated by national and local leaders in tree growing on farms, the participants visited a series of outstanding West Gippsland properties and enterprises that demonstrated 'what can be done'. This inspired participants to create a vision for their properties and landscapes that includes the integration of trees for multiple purposes. The program focuses on ensuring that the development of forestry and native vegetation management on farms is driven by the aspirations and opportunities of each landowner and is supported by the best available scientific and practical knowledge. Over 30 individuals applied for the course, from which 17 were selected. One farmer said it was *"Very interesting and inspiring to see the different approaches to tree growing and explore all the options available and potential end products"*³.

P-Tool

The P-Tool course helped farmers to use a framework developed by AgVic to manage phosphorus on a farm. The course looked at each farmer's current phosphorus levels and helped farmers understand the desired levels for their farm.

iFarm

iFarm is a farm mapping tool. The three-day course provided participants with the mapping software program and skills on how to map their land. This helped them to accurately calculate areas and distances, identify land classes to create management zones and assist

³ Gippsland Master TreeGrowers' evaluation: summary report, June 2018

with studying water flow and paddock locations. Five full courses and two refresher courses were held around the region.

Farm Planning Courses

Comprehensive farm planning courses helped farmers achieve their environmental and farming goals by educating them in a range of farming issues, such as water management, soil types and grazing management. Two courses were held and were delivered by leaders from AgVic, consultants and leading farmers. One farmer said *'the benefits I received will make me a better farmer, the contacts I made will also benefit me⁴'*.



Figure 13: Participants at a training workshop

⁴ Evaluation feedback from FarmPlan21 course, August 2014

Farm Tours

The course ran five farm tours (one held each year). Each tour ran for three to four days and were held in different regions of Victoria and Tasmania. The participants on the farm tours visited 35 of the most innovative farms over the five years.



The five farm tours were:

- 2014 - The 'Tasmania Landcare' tour visited five diverse farms (dairy, poppy, sheep and apple) in Tasmania.
- 2015 - 'Best of Gippsland' farm tour showcased eight of the most innovative farmers in the Gippsland region with a 'paddock to plate' focus.
- 2016 - 'Innovation in the Otways' visited farms with a focus on innovation, diversification and marketing. During the tour the group were hosted by seven individual Otway farmers.
- 2017 - 'Best of the High Country' visited eight farms and spoke to 11 different farmers with a focus on innovation and diversification.
- 2018 - 'The 'Spa Country' tour (Daylesford) visited six innovative farmers who use sustainable systems to produce quality food and wine.

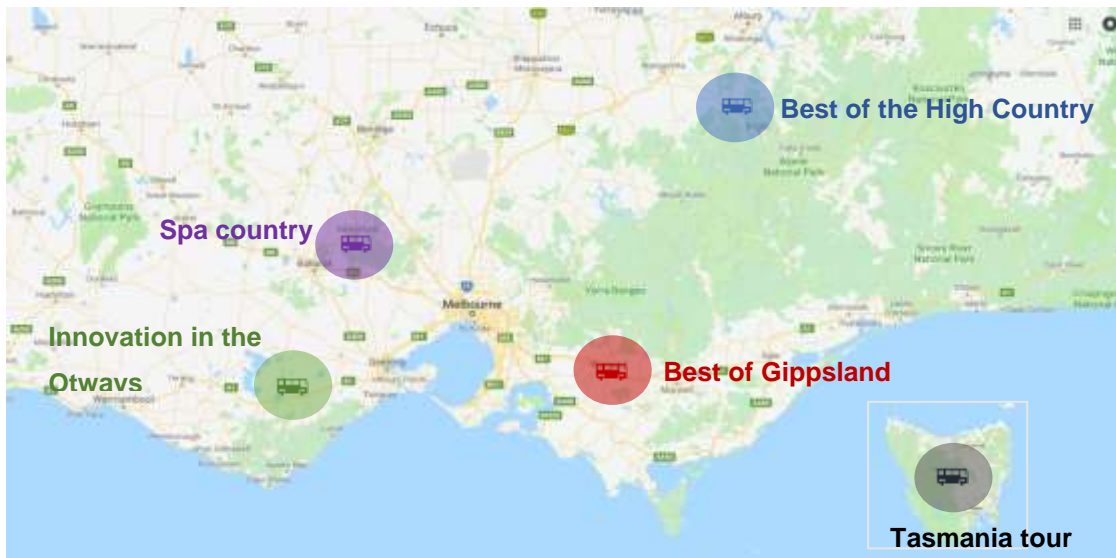


Figure 14: Annual farm tour map

The farm tours gave attendees the opportunity to visit and learn from a range of farmers showcasing innovative approaches to farming and marketing their produce. The length of the tours allowed people to learn in a relaxed environment, connect with fellow attendees, and ask more detailed questions of the hosts and presenters.

The tours proved to be excellent learning opportunity and helped the attendees think ‘outside the box’ and consider new approaches to farming.

‘Have the courage to take on new challenges’
‘Small farms can be profitable’

Feedback from attendees on year 4 High Country tour

One farmer who attended the Best of Gippsland tour, was so inspired by what he saw that within a year of the tour he left his job and started a farm gate shop selling his horticultural produce.

Resources

A key part of the project was the creation of project 'legacy' resources to provide high quality information to farmers on key issues relating to sustainable agriculture that will be available as a resource for many years to come.



The following resources were created:

- **24 'Common Ground' fact sheets.** The fact sheets were designed to help farmers improve their knowledge around key themes, for example managing soils, bees in agriculture, water for livestock and pasture improvement. They were written by soil scientists, ex DEPI staff, and consultants. The fact sheets are available online at www.wpcln.org.au/resources.
- **39 Sustainable Agriculture videos** released on the WPCLN YouTube channel to showcase the trials that have taken place and provide valuable information on sustainable farming methods.
- **Two podcasts** featuring innovative farmers and their unique approach to farming.

These resources play an important role in communicating the work that has taken place on the demonstration sites, and the lessons learned. This is vital information for farmers who are looking to find more sustainable methods of farming, or looking to diversify their current offering. The material has been written by experts in the field making them a valuable resource. The written material has been distributed to all farmers who participated in the project and to interested parties at events such as Farm World.

As at July 2018, the 39 YouTube videos have had over 1,750 views. All the resources are available online.

Conclusion

The Demonstrating Sustainable Farming Practices project has been an exciting and innovative project that has enabled farmers in the Western Port, Port Phillip and Yarra catchments to trial and learn about sustainable farming methods in a supportive environment.

The level of interest in the project has been outstanding with trials, events and courses often being over-subscribed, and feedback from participants calling for more information.

As a result, the project has not only met his initial goals, it has surpassed them. Over the 5 years the project engaged with 7,362 participants, established 53 demonstration sites and completed a diverse range of training courses to give as many farmers as possible the knowledge and skills to effectively manage their farmland for the future.

These achievements were only made possible by the hard work and dedication of the key partners, without which many of the activities would not have been possible. Key partners included; BCLN, SGLN, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, AgVic, Melbourne Water, GippsDairy, Organic Industry, Mornington Peninsula Vignerons, Senior Consultants and Scientists, PPWCMA RLF and many others. The partnership with the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, formed as a result of this project, has been particularly effective in engaging with farmers in a region that had no prior significant connection to a structured sustainable agriculture focused program.

Together with the partnerships, the engagement with community groups who are passionate about local food production (such as the Baw Baw Food Movement, local farmers markets, and community food and farmers advocates) has enabled the team to engage with a sector of farmers and community members who haven't previously been exposed to Landcare. Social media has also been used to increase our exposure in the community; the two "Open Farm Days" run by the WPCLN were promoted exclusively through social media and were extremely well attended.

The project also highlighted the value of bringing farmers together to learn from each other in relaxed, peer to peer supported settings. The information that has been shared, and friendships that have formed, are crucial in an industry within which farmers often operate in isolation. The mental well-being of these interactions should not be underestimated.

At the heart of the project was the goal to improve the management of Australia's natural resources. By engaging with the community through a diverse program of activities, the project has effected a change in farming practices that will benefit Australia's agricultural

lands through more resilient and skilled farmers providing cleaner water and supporting biodiversity and healthy soil.

The Future

Many elements of the project will continue to operate. At a high level:

- the discussion groups that were created will continue to meet regularly,
- the online resources will continue to be available,
- some of the practices trialed through the demonstrations have been implemented and, in some cases, rolled out on other farms and regions,
- the Grazfert program has been adopted by AgVic and is being rolled out to more participants around Victoria,
- the wider community are now more aware of Landcare and our work in sustainable agriculture.

In addition, farmers have been given the skills and confidence to trial and adopt new sustainable agricultural practices and the project has vastly increased the communities' knowledge and awareness of sustainable agriculture. Feedback from events and courses has been hugely positive and consistently referred to as '*inspirational*' and '*informative*'. There are even instances of individuals who have been so inspired by their participation in their project they have left their 'off farm' job and started farming!

The project has shown farmers and the wider community that farming can be exciting, interesting and play a significant role in improving the resilience of our natural resources. Programs such as Fert\$mart and GrazFert have shown that through implementing best practice nutrient management, there is scope to reduce costs and maintain productivity simultaneously. With the challenges of an ever-changing environment farmers need to be prepared to embrace new farming practices and increase the resilience of their land and business.

The Demonstrating Sustainable Farming Practices project team hope that the ideas and inspiration sparked by the project will be felt in the region for many years to come.

Further information

For more information about the project, case studies and demonstration trial sites go to the WPCLN website at www.wpcln.org.au. For more detailed information contact Peter Ronalds peter@wpcln.org.au.

Appendix A – Demonstration site list

Demonstration site name	Location
Measure impact of compost application on pasture and soils – (Beef)	Neerim
Monitoring alternative fertilisers on the Moorooduc Plains – (Beef)	Mornington
Comparing economics of agroforestry vs traditional grazing in steep country – (Agroforestry)	Torwood
Trial different management treatments to mitigate tunnel erosion – (Sheep)	Poowong
The effects of compost tea on soils and pasture – (Beef)	Nar Nar Goon
Trialling river pebbles in calf rearing shed – (Dairy)	Drouin South
Trial to compare compost on organic vegetable farm with green manure crops – (Horticulture)	Cockatoo
Improving soils and pasture affected by salinity – (Dairy)	Labertouche
Monitoring nutrient flows on a free range egg farm – (Poultry)	Hallora
Trial to add value & productivity to farm plantings whilst reducing common problems – (Beef)	Buln Buln
Comparing compost under vines for soil health and grape quality – (Viticulture)	Tuerong
Monitoring dung beetle establishment on 6 farms – (Beef)	Cannibal Creek
Demonstrating soil fracturing for drainage for avocados on 5 farms (Horticulture)	Shoreham
Monitoring pasture improvement using biological strategies (Sheep)	Somers
Establishing a community orchard on Phillip Island (Horticulture)	Cowes
Demonstrating sustainable of recurrent biosolids applications (Cropping)	Pakenham
Pasture improvement through the use of biosolids on light sandy soils (Beef & Sheep)	Cape Schanck
Trialling the viability of Hop Production in Bass Coast (Hops)	Bass
Trialling sub-soil compost for soil and pasture improvements (Beef)	Nayook
Trialling sub-soil compost for soil and pasture improvements (Dairy)	Neerim North
Trialling Green Manure Crops for Nutrient Cycling in Intensive Horticulture (Horticulture)	Noojee
Monitoring Red Azolla on Dams through Nutrient Reduction (Sheep)	Torwood
Trialling Living Mulch vs Purchased Mulch under Mountain Pepper Trees (Bush Foods)	Jindivick
Trialling Methods to Optimise Pasture Production on Organic Dairyfarm (Dairy)	Ellinbank
Assessing Fodder quality for Improved Livestock management (19 Beef farms)	Mornington Peninsula

Appendix B – Field day list

Network	Title	Location	Date
WPCLN	Alternative Fertiliser Trials Results	Garfield	17/12/2013
WPCLN	Project Launch	Drouin Sth	18/03/2014
WPCLN	Warragul Beef Cheque Group Dutson Downs visit	Longford	9/04/2014
SGLN	Farming on steep slopes	Torwood	28/04/2014
WPCLN	Warragul Beef Cheque Group Nitrogen BMP	Nayook	11/06/2014
WPCLN	Soil Biology	Neerim Junction	27/06/2014
SGLN	Hens of Hallora Demo site	Hallora	22/08/2014
WPCLN	Landcare Conference Tour	Kooweerup	17/09/2014
SGLN	Wet Soils Management	Ripplebrook	26/09/2014
SGLN	Agroforestry monitoring establishment	Torwood	7/10/2014
WPCLN	Nitrogen / Pasture Professional Training	Ellinbank	7/11/2014
Morn Pen	Alternative fertilisers Demo site	Moorooduc	6/12/2014
WPCLN	Dung Beetle Trap Building	Garfield Sth	6/02/2015
Other	Shade & Shelter Workshop	Ellinbank	17/02/2015
WPCLN	Feed Me - A menu for healthy soils	Pakenham	19/02/2015
SGLN	Getting out of a hole - Tunnel Erosion	Poowong	5/03/2015
WPCLN	Sub-soil compost trial results presentation	Neerim	11/03/2015
WPCLN	Sub-soil compost trial results presentation	Officer	12/03/2015
WPCLN	Compost Under Vines	Tuerong	1/05/2015
Other	Indigenous land management with Bruce Pascoe	Tooradin	11/05/2015
WPCLN	Dung Beetle Demo Site Field day with Bernard Doube	Tynong Nth	15/05/2015
WPCLN	Dung Beetle Demo Site Field day with Bernard Doube	Nayook	16/05/2015
SGLN	Growing Biodynamic Garlic	Krowera	22/05/2015
SGLN	Revegetation Techniques	Loch	5/06/2015
WPCLN	Compost and pasture Demo Site	Neerim Sth	18/07/2015
BCLN	Indigenous Foods	Ruby	15/10/2015
WPCLN	Indigenous Foods	Jindivick	16/10/2015
Other	Indigenous Foods	Gembrook	17/10/2015
Morn Pen	Indigenous Foods	Mt Martha	18/10/2015
BCLN	PICO Demo site Field day	Cowes	15/11/2015
WPCLN	A Day On The Farm 1	Noojee	6/03/2016
WPCLN	Compost Under Vines	Tuerong	6/05/2016
WPCLN	A Day On The Farm 2	Drouin Sth	5/06/2016

Network	Title	Location	Date
WPCLN	Thailand Delegation to visit organic vegie farms	Regional	15/08/2016
WPCLN	Landcare Conference Tour	Regional	21/09/2016
WPCLN	Gippsland Growers and Makers Forum	Warragul	12/10/2016
WPCLN	International Nitrogen Conference Tour	Regional	6/12/2016
SGLN	Bee day & Manuka Honey	Lang Lang	15/01/2017
SGLN	A Day on the Farm 3	Moyarra	18/01/2017
BCLN	PICO Demo site Field day	Cowes	18/02/2017
BCLN	Hops Demo site Field day	Bass	25/02/2017
BCLN	A Day on the Farm 4	Phillip Island	11/04/2017
SGLN	SoilKee Field day	Loch	21/04/2017
WPCLN	Compost Under Vines	Balnarring	28/04/2017
WPCLN	Multi-storey farming Demo site 1st Field day	Buln Buln	26/05/2017
WPCLN	Multi-storey farming Demo site 2nd Overflow Field day	Buln Buln	2/06/2017
WPCLN	Multi-storey farming Demo site 3rd Overflow Field day	Buln Buln	4/07/2017
WPCLN	Healthy Soils Nutritious Food Healthy People Workshop	Drouin	21/09/2017
BCLN	Healthy Soils Nutritious Food Healthy People Workshop	Inverloch	17/11/2017
SGLN	Red Azolla Field day	Torwood	1/12/2017
SGLN	Agroforestry Measurement Field day	Torwood	1/12/2017
BCLN	PICO Demo site Field day	Cowes	17/03/2018
BCLN	Yellingbo Brewing & Hop Garden visit	Yellingbo	19/03/2018
WPCLN	Bush Foods Demo Site Field day	Jindivick	25/03/2018
BCLN	A Day on the Farm	Phillip Island	6/04/2018
Morn Pen	Food Forum	Balnarring	24/04/2018
WPCLN	Avocados and soil fracturing for drainage	Shoreham	26/05/2018
WPCLN	Dung beetles Demo Site Field day	Bunyip	26/05/2018
WPCLN	Compost Under Vines	Main Ridge	5/06/2018
WPCLN	Multi-storey farming Demo site Field day	Buln Buln	6/06/2018
WPCLN	What we eat and grow matters with Andre Leu	Warragul	27/06/2018
WPCLN	Regenerative Farming with Andre Leu	Hallora	27/06/2018
WPCLN	Regenerative Farming with Andre Leu	Labertouche	29/06/2018