

Changing Landscapes



In March 2010, AVONGRO Wheatbelt Tree Cropping Inc applied to Wheatbelt NRM for a Small Community Grant for funding to develop and produce a DVD on tree crops as part of farming enterprises. Five land managers were filmed to ensure a good mix of genders and spread of locations in the Avon Wheatbelt. The DVD focussed on the three main tree crops and tree cropping systems currently being recommended for low rainfall broadacre agricultural landscapes.

The 5 x 5 minute film clips on the DVD were made of farmers in their landscapes, amongst their trees talking about:

- What the tree plantings meant to them
- NRM benefits they noticed and addressed
- What were the triggers to plant in the first place?
- How they went about it
- Their vision for the future of their farms.

The aim of the project was to:

- give keen advocates of tree cropping the opportunity to tell their stories
- Showcase the multiple benefits of the different tree crops in the agricultural landscape
 - Highlight the need for planning at a farm and a regional scale
 - Show the “real” farmers are planting trees
 - Inspire others into action and increase uptake
 - Help others to learn from what these farmers have done.

Fifty of the DVDs were made freely available to Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management Officers, LCDCs

and Catchment groups. The footage can be shown at relevant field days and events, and screened on Westlink.

There is a lot of enthusiasm for tree crops as part of future farming landscapes. There is hope that tree crops can bring diversification of income to individual farmers, their families and their communities.

Wheatbelt NRM Small

Community Grants 2010

Recipient: AVONGRO Wheatbelt Tree Cropping Inc

Amount Funded: \$14,274

People Involved: 9



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wheatbelt
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**Community
Small Grants**