



Showcasing Sustainable Farming Practices: Using Native Grasses to Control Erosion

**Thursday 29th June 2017, 10am-2pm
60 Stockdale Road, Wallan**

Over the last two years, Rhonda Petschel and Robert Shelley have run a demonstration site on their farm to investigate native pasture's ability to reduce land degradation while also creating an area of fodder that can be grazed if other paddocks are low in feed or need to be rested.

Grazing management has been combined with soil conservation practices to restore a northern slope with low ground cover. Rhonda believes that by restricting grazing during spring and early summer, wildflower and native grass species are able to reproduce and provide fodder during late summer when other pasture resources are getting low. Coir logs have been placed to reduce the erosive potential of water and native grass hay have been used to help the establishment native grasses.

Loss of surface soil from erosion has a major impact on productivity through the depletion of soil organic matter and associated soil nutrients. Clem Sturfels (DEDJTR) is a soil conservation scientist with over 35 years of experience in protecting Australia's topsoil from wind, sheet and gully erosion. Clem will provide examples of best practice soil conservation work from southwestern Victoria.

Come along to hear what Rhonda and Clem have to share.

Lunch provided. Booking essential.

Bookings and more information:

<https://register.eventarc.com/38495/using-native-grasses-for-erosion-control-wallan>

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