

Natural Regeneration in the Mid-Goulburn Broken Catchment

Case Studies



A history of light grazing followed by a period of stock exclusion has resulted in 3 acres of naturally regenerating vegetation. This site is adjoined by healthy roadside vegetation, providing the area with a good and varied seed source.

Although the regeneration event was not planned by the landholder, they were very pleased with the result and were more than happy to help the new recruits by fencing the area to control stock access.

The regeneration is now 7 years old and is improving each year, with varying species regenerating, and new cohorts of trees emerging. The site is dominated by Grey Box, however Wattle species and Wallaby grasses are also regenerating at the site.

The site below had been grazed at a medium intensity for many years. After an above average summer rainfall event, the landholders noticed natural regeneration occurring, and seized the opportunity by fencing the site.

The landholders saw an opening to revegetate an area of their property quickly and at a low cost. They felt that the natural regeneration would improve the aesthetics and the value of their farm, whilst providing habitat for native fauna.

Two hectares has regenerated as a result of the management - 100's of Red Gum seedlings have developed from just 4-5 mature trees.





Reduced stocking rates and 2-3 years of tropical-like summer rainfall resulted in 2ha of Grey Box naturally regenerating. Once again, the landholders saw an opportunity to revegetate a bare hill, protect their existing trees and create a link between roadside vegetation and a nearby remnant at low cost and very little effort.

Now that most of the trees are well established, the landholders continue to graze the site with sheep for 4-6 weeks per year. Not only is the Grey Box regenerating at the site, the landholder is beginning to see Wattles and native lilies there also.

The site to the right shows that a large amount of regeneration can occur from just one tree providing seed. These seedlings regenerated in a productive paddock with an extensive cover of exotic grass species.

A fence was erected shortly after the natural regeneration was observed; the fence has subsequently been removed.



The paddock to the left has been managed in such a way to allow natural regeneration. As a result, the paddock has a number of different aged seedlings and is starting to regenerate different species. Light grazing of the paddock has occurred and is likely to continue.