# **Regenerative Agriculture**

Supporting community-driven agriculture and environmental solutions







Regenerative Agriculture Community groups strengthen the health and vitality of farming communities by delivering on-ground projects and activities that improve soil health, enhance ecosystem services and increase community's resilience to climate variability.

The groups are supported by a local facilitator to assist with planning, delivering and reporting group activities. If you would like to be involved with one of these groups, please contact your nearest facilitator.



Figure 1: Tillage Radish

### **Project staff**

Felicity Harrop, North Central CMA Regenerative Agriculture Project Manager: E: felicity.harrop@nccma.vic.gov.au

Darren Bain, North Central CMA Regenerative Agriculture Project Officer:

E: darren.bain@nccma.vic.gov.au

Go to the North Central CMA's website and follow us for event dates and workshops on various topics. [www.nccma.vic.gov.au]

This project is supported by the North Central CMA, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

# **Group Facilitators**

Group facilitators coordinate events and on-ground activities.

If you would like to be involved, or know more about the project, contact:

Central Victorian Regenerative Farmers: Zoe Crouch

E: <u>valooka81@bigpond.com</u> Find us on <u>Facebook</u>

Kara Kara Regenerative Agriculture: Andrew Borg

E: bnglandcare@gmail.com Find us on Facebook

Loddon Plains Future Farmers Regenerative and Sustainable Agriculture: Danny Pettingill

E: facilitator@lpln.org Find us on Facebook

Mt Alexander Regenerative Agriculture: Deane Belfield

E: deanebelfield@eco2sys.com

Normanville Farm Advance: Anne Jackman

E: anne@cropfacts.com.au

Raywood Regenerative Agriculture: Penny Wall

E: apwallfarmbusiness@gmail.com

#### 2021-22 Regenerative Agriculture Group Activities (all groups)

#### Soils

- Soil workshop understanding soil biology and the soil testing process.
- Soil workshop interpreting soil test results and using this knowledge as a basis for correcting soil imbalances and enabling those conducting field trials/demos to make better decisions.
- Soil amendments/ amelioration understand the potential of integrating various soil amendments including biochar and compost into the soil, and trial non-farm manufacture and application.
   Farmers encouraged to undertake small on-farm trials with a view to improving yields and reducing wastage.



- Dung beetle workshop using Dung beetles to improve soil health. Property visit.
- Establishing dung beetle nurseries improving farmer capability to incorporate beetles as part of their regenerative system and enable local breeding of beetles.
- Erosion control workshop overview of erosion processes and methods of mitigation/rehabilitation.

#### **Grazing/Ground cover management**

- Grazing management for nutrition.
- Grazing management to maintain ground cover workshop and demonstration.
- Stock containment electric fencing options, construction, moving livestock.
- Grazing naturally practical intensive planned grazing.
- Holistic grazing introduction and demonstration. Principles of holistic or managed grazing will be reviewed, along with case studies and tools, including tissue testing.

## Pasture/Ground cover management

- Improving lucerne-based pastures.
- Pasture variety trials and field visits.
- Multi-species cover crop trials, demonstrations and field walks. Improving knowledge and skill about
  pasture establishment and management and cover crop types (winter, summer) to help improve soil
  biology (fungi/bacteria, C:N), pasture nutrient density and balance, ensure maximum vegetation cover,
  retain moisture, smother weeds and to provide maximum photosynthetic capacity to build soil carbon.
- Perennial pastures species options, establishment, management, value.
- Grass and pasture inventory workshop followed by on-farm audits of prevalent grasses, forbs, natives, perennials and annuals.
- Bus tour of regenerative farms in south-west Victoria and the Mallee.

# **Biodiversity and Native Vegetation**

- Native vegetation on farm information session and farm walk.
- Increasing on-farm biodiversity workshop and site visit.
- Pasture cropping for soil health workshop and demonstration.
- Biodiversity demonstration sites of forage trees and shrubs suited to local environment that can be grazed by livestock.
- Revegetation workshop shelterbelts, biodiversity and hydrology: understanding plant species that will
  improve soil condition (where and why), water retention and providing biodiverse habitat.
- Native Grasses workshop to consider using native pastures in agricultural systems.

## **Climate adaptation**

- Climate adaptation workshop.
- Soil carbon benefits multi-species paddocks, deep-rooted perennials, stubble retention.
- Climate and soil moisture monitoring.
- Yield monitoring and Nitrogen management.

# For more information

Telephone 03 5448 7124 or visit www.nccma.vic.gov.au

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