

Kara Kara Regenerative Ag Group



The Kara Kara Regenerative Ag Group (KKRAG) covers a wide area around St Arnaud ranging from Donald in the northwest, Wycheproof in the north, Wedderburn in the northeast and Redbank in the south.

The group has developed an action plan that will guide the group's activities over the next two years. The activities chosen are based on soil types, climate, local knowledge, and experience.

The North Central CMA's Regenerative Agriculture Project will fund implementation of the plan to enable the group to build awareness, knowledge, and skills.

The activities will focus on: maintaining and building soil carbon, minimising wind and water erosion, and management practices that maintain or increase native vegetation and biodiversity on-farm.



Luke Batters discusses his multi-species cover crop with North Central CMA's Darren Bain

About the Facilitator



Andrew Borg, Group facilitator

The KKRAG Facilitator is Andrew Borg. Andrew is also the Landcare Facilitator for the Buloke and Northern Grampians Landcare Network which overlays the KKRAG area of interest.

Raised in a farming family, Andrew is passionate about biodiversity, and improving agricultural practices in order to benefit both environmental and human health.

Andrew, and his wife Debra, live on a small 40-acre property alongside the Kara Kara National Park where they manage a herd of alpacas.

Group Objectives

- To improve knowledge and ability to interpret soil testing results and make informed decisions for their farming pursuits.
- Improve knowledge of soil health, soil biology and soil improvement techniques through training and demonstration activities.

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- To improve pasture and grazing management to retain soil carbon, build native pasture species diversity and improve production.
- Create a shared knowledge base between regenerative agriculture groups and their members.

Group Activities

- Group Meeting (Start/Year 1): review the Action Plan and discuss how it is to be implemented over the two-year period. A guest speaker will present on the topic of the importance of regenerative agriculture.
- Promoting Knowledge: encourage discussion about different regenerative agriculture techniques, through the acquisition and circulation of published materials for linkage from the KKRAG website.
- Workshop - Soils, biology and testing: An introduction to understanding soil biology and the soil testing process. Soil testing will be conducted on farms throughout the area.
- Workshop - Understanding your soil test: Purpose is to consolidate learnings from Workshops and Soil Tests about interpreting soil tests and using this knowledge as a basis for correcting soil imbalances and enable those conducting field trials/demos to make better decisions.
- Workshop - Improving Soil with Dung Beetles: An introduction to methods of improving soil using Dung Beetles. The longer-term aim is to establish Beetle nurseries in the region.
- Workshop - Erosion Control: Overview of erosion processes and methods of mitigation/rehabilitation. Several erosion control test and demonstration sites will be established.
- Workshop - Revegetation, Planting, Shelterbelts, Biodiversity, Hydrology: Consolidating member's understanding of plant species that will improve soil condition (where and why), water retention and provide biodiverse habitat. Demonstration sites will be established and visited.
- Multi-species cover crop trials and demonstration: Preliminary design for small-scale trials. A trial site for ongoing demonstration will be established.
- Holistic grazing introduction and demonstration: Principles of holistic, or managed grazing, will be demonstrated. A trial site for ongoing use will be established.
- Workshop - Native Grasses: Considering the utilisation of native pastures in agricultural systems.
- Workshop /Field Demonstration - Soil Amelioration: Soil ameliorant inputs with a view to improving yields and reducing wastage.

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For more information

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