

Restart of Redbank

Power Station

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Eden Vale

Vacy

Harvesting trees for Bioenergy
is an

Opportunity to contribute to sustaining a net
carbon sequestration on farm

Our Farm

Beef Production

Sheep

Industrial Hemp

Carbon Neutral Housing. Our hemp in 150 houses around Aust.

Circular Economy

Food waste injection – EPA Licence

Minimal use of synthetic fertiliser

Very low use of pesticides

Our 8th field day on regenerative farming practices since 2020 will be held in September(LLS)

Native Habitat

- Both Flora and Fauna biodiversity across the farm are a significant part of the whole farm and contribute to
- Improved pasture production
- Increased soil carbon
- Net carbon position of the farm

Trees on farm

- Self sufficient in timber
- Provides biodiversity improvement
- Provides shade and shelter
 - For livestock
 - For the pastures
 - For the soil

In our valley there are a lot more trees than when I was a kid

- While there has been an improvement in native habitat.
- There is also a significant increase in the risk to that habitat not just because of climate change but a lack of fire management.
- In fact I believe the single biggest risk to our native habitat is **poor Fire** management of our
 - Bush
 - Our forests
 - Our National Parks
 - Crown land

Climate change is used as an excuse

- A landscape that continues to dehydrate because of poor agricultural management
- For hotter more destructive bush fires
- Droughts getting worse
- Floods getting worse
- The problem is poor land management at all levels

In my time farming minimum and maximum temperatures on average have increased

- In that time on Eden Vale
- Soil carbon has increased
- More of the farm has no livestock access
- Use less irrigation water
- Use less fertiliser and pesticide
- More land locked up for native habitat
- **Total farm productivity has gone up**

We have adapted to increasing temperatures

- The 2019 drought was not as harsh as my first in 1980
- BUT I genuinely believe we have a responsibility to reduce our GHG emissions.
- For me that starts with our farm.

Regrowth of the bush must be managed

- Indigenous cool burning
 - Just doesn't happen
- Thinning
 - Unless thinning occurs soil health will decline over time
 - An opportunity to harvest that energy as opposed to just burning in the paddock

Rotational grazing

- The increase in rotational grazing / holistic grazing has seen major improvement in land productivity in grazing areas.
- Increases in soil carbon
- Improved drought resilience
- Slowing runoff
- Reducing flooding downstream

With the number of paddocks required

- Not every paddock has shade.
- There is an opportunity for growing trees as an enterprise on farm for multiple benefits.
- Bioenergy is one of those opportunities
- Coppicing can be a great opportunity
- It will help offset the methane emissions of the cows that were here 200 years ago.
- It will help offset the increased emissions from the herd increase of the last 40 years.
- It will further increase beef production

Locking up bush doesn't sustain native habitat

- There will be another drought
- The lack of management of our bush and national parks will lead to a massive loss of biodiversity both flora and fauna.(the greens will contribute to more loss of native habitat than any other group in Australia)
- The lack of commitment to sustainable management of our forests and national parks can be an opportunity for agriculture to contribute to reducing our net GHG emissions by adding bioenergy as an on farm enterprise.

Indigenous Cool burning

- It just doesn't happen
- That makes Redbank a greater opportunity

For grazing country in the Hunter Valley

Supplying Redbank has the potential
to be a sustainable farm enterprise
That will help protect our native
habitat.