Learn How Rural Landscapes Work!

Develop a whole farm plan that uses landscape ecology to achieve a healthy rural landscape as well as productive and efficient farm enterprises.

"I found this course a super-easy option to arrange for our members and friends. It’s leading-edge and up-to-date presenters and content were perfect for inspiring participants in their farm planning endeavours."

Karen Zirkler - Southern New England Landcare
Merging landscape science, applied agroecology and whole farm planning, this innovative 6 day course will show you how to design and plan a healthy, resilient and productive rural landscape for your farm business in the 21st century.

At the end of this course you will have the confidence to identify issues, make decisions and take action to start improving landscape health and enterprise productivity on your property. It all starts with good planning! You will develop a well thought out Regenerative Farm Plan for your place. The course is hands on, group based and combines theory with lots of practical activities.

You will learn:

- how to “see” your landscape using landscape thinking
- about landscape patches: the building blocks of your farm’s landscape
- the water and nutrient cycles in rural landscapes
- how energy flows and biodiversity functions in rural landscapes
- climate, landforms & soil types on your property
- about the landscape and agricultural elements of rural planning
- the different approaches to property planning
- the 10 steps to effective property planning

“A farm plan can give you a sense of hope because it sets goals that you can systematically achieve over time, so you feel you’re getting somewhere. We would have been left in a horrible situation, if we had been encouraged to turn and look at our farms and just recognise the damage which had been done to it, without being given an appreciation of how to tackle the problems”

Bruce Milne - Potter Farmland Plan farmer 1990
You will also

- use Rural Landscape Logic for effective planning
- use maps for property planning
- set goals for your farm’s rural landscape & enterprises
- assess your farm’s rural landscape
- identify & prioritise issues
- brainstorm strategies for improvement
- develop a Regenerative Farm Plan

The course is led by agroecologist David Hardwick supported by a team of highly experienced professionals in the field. The course is for anyone looking to develop a holistic Whole Farm Plan, refresh their existing plan, improve their farm’s biodiversity and landscape health, implement ecologically based farm innovations or improve farm business productivity.

The “Planning your farm landscape” course really brings together and explains all the different functioning systems and how interrelated everything is. David and Bruce explain some very complex and innovative systems, but they do this with a very clear process that enables participants to engage, understand and relate the information back to their own circumstances. I could see the spark in everyone’s eyes from start to finish. This was an excellent course.

Ruth Aveyard - Landcare Coordinator
Upper Lachlan Landcare, NSW

More Information
david@soillandfood.com.au

Cost
$1800 plus map per person

This course has Rural Assistance Authority registration. Eligible NSW Primary Producers can get 50% off the cost of the Course. Contact us for a possible group discount if you are a Landcare/Farmer group.

Duration
Three 2 day blocks once a month over 3 months
David Hardwick

completed a degree in Ecological Agriculture at the University of Sydney with focus on agroecology, land management and rural change. He has worked in rural extension roles for over 15 years and teaches whole farm planning at TAFE NSW and to farmer groups.