

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC
Working Together

Edition 106
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NRM is the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together land use planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.



Seed collecting is a tricky business

Over the summer months, we collected various species of seed and plant material to be propagated and subsequently planted at our rehabilitation sites on the Hotham and Williams Rivers.

We are working with Nuts About Natives (a local plant nursery) to process and propagate the plant material. The new plants will be used to revegetate the same areas the material originally came from, increasing plant density in these locations. This important work ensures local genetics of the plants and characteristics specific to surviving within Hotham and Williams Rivers sites.

Seed collecting and plant propagation can be a tricky business. It starts with the requirement for a licence granted by DBCA to collect material from native plant species, and written permission of the land owners from areas you would like to collect it.

An understanding of which species should be targeted, what parts of the plants are best to collect for successful propagation and what is the optimum timing for collection is necessary. Treatments and potential need for storage of plant material also needs to be a consideration.

So far, our team have collected rhizomes, fresh seed, dried/ripe seed and cuttings of the following species, *Sporobolus virginicus* (native couch grass), *Eleocharis acuta* (common spikerush) *Dianella revoluta* (blueberry lily), and *Tecticornia sp.* (samphire). These were delivered to the nursery and the material was processed accordingly. For example, the native couch grass rhizomes were divided and potted whilst still fresh from the Williams River. The samphire will be dried and sieved to extract seed material for germination.



Eleocharis acuta seed heads

We are relying heavily on the expertise of the nursery, and trial and error in terms of what we collect, and when we collect it – making lots of notes along the way to make improvements for next year.

We look forward to planting these species back into their local areas and watch them grow in the years to come.

This project is funded by Newmont (Boddington) and in partnership with the Wilman (Dryandra) People Corporation



Collecting native couch rhizomes

Coming Up

Feral Pig Management
Primary Producer Workshop



Tuesday 9 June
9am to 12.30pm
Williams

June 9

Feral Pig Management
Workshop – Williams

<https://www.trybooking.com/DKSFJ>

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