Thanks to the Reef Catchments Reef Rescue program, in the first financial year of our involvement, we were able to complete 2.8km of riparian fencing, install three offstream watering points, complete Stocktake pasture course, implement pasture monitoring and improve pasture management.

- Kel and Amanda Tennent

## REEF PROGRAMME CASE STUDY







Kel and Amanda Tennent purchased Cloudbreak in 2010. The 86 hectare property lies on the edge of Eungella National Park and Crediton State Forest, near Crediton. Crediton Creek runs the length of the property's southern boundary. The land type is wet highland forest, with steep gullies and highly erodible soils with a tendency for landslip. The property was established as a dairy farm in the 1930's and prior to that was cleared for timber.

When Kel and Amanda purchased the property in 2010 it was dominated by lantana (estimated 80%) and a variety of other weed species. With the

arduous task of clearing lantana and developing A-class pastures of Kikuyu, Rhodes grass and a variety of legumes.

"We want to operate Cloudbreak as a successful cattle breeding and fattening enterprise, and to do this by being environmentally sustainable and utilising best practice methods in line with our business plan," Kel said.

In 2011-2012, Kel & Amanda applied for funding through Reef Catchments' Reef Rescue water quality grants. This allowed them to attend a DAFF-run Stocktake Course, which gave them the

assistance of family and friends, the pair began the



Pasture monitoring

and management.







Through internal fencing of gullies and the installation of strategic water points, the Tennents have slowly developed an effective rotational grazing program for long term improvement.



foundation knowledge needed to start improving property management. They were also funded to install 2.8km of riparian fencing to control stock access to a number of steep sloping gullies prone to erosion.

"Thanks to the Reef Catchments Reef Rescue program, in the first financial year of our involvement, we were able to complete 2.8km of riparian fencing, install three off-stream watering points, complete a Stocktake pasture course, implement pasture monitoring and improve pasture management," Kel said.

In the following 2012-2013 funding round, Kel and Amanda received further funding for an additional 3km of riparian fencing along Crediton Creek to control stock access and reduce erosion along the banks. They also installed a further four off-stream water points and undertook 48ha of pasture

improvement and rehabilitation. Activities included undesirable species control and A-class pasture preparation, including sowing a variety of pasture species.

By internal fencing of gullies and the installation of strategic water points, the Tennents have slowly developed an effective rotational grazing program for long term improvement. This has allowed them to control stock grazing in different areas of the property, improve ground cover and enabled them to regularly spell paddocks for up to a number of weeks.

\*\*Graziers please note: Reef Catchments is currently taking Expressions of Interest from landholders in the next round of funding for the Australian Government Reef Programme (formerly Reef Rescue), available July 2014.







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