

Welcome to Grazing in Mackay Whitsunday Isaac Regions!

With the support of the Grazing Regional Working Group (GRWG), their mentoring and technical and practical advice, has energised the development of this small information brochure which led you to Reef Catchments' website.

In these pages you will find a wealth of information in the form of books, videos, mobile apps and so much more. You may have heard or touched upon some of these ideas, and we invite you to delve further, to explore options best suited to your farm plan and other hopes for your future production.



My roots are firmly planted in Mackay region, having grown up in the Pioneer Valley, just a stone's throw from Eungella and the Finch Hatton Gorge. Curiosity for farming traditions, food security and production developed as a high school student and expanded during tertiary studies, student exchange year in Spain and cultural experiences in England, France, and Morocco. While travelling and working in hospitality, my love of good food and a desire to support local, sustainably produced, and authentic foods grew.

As Reef Catchments' Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator (RALF) I work to support landholders on their sustainability journey while encouraging natural resource management activities across this incredible region. Living and working my values, and those of Reef Catchments, encourage me to continue to advocate food sustainability, and care for our country through innovative, sustainable, and ultimately, regenerative farming practices and methods.

The RALF role is to facilitate extension activities, advise and support stakeholders in the creation and delivery of projects which sustain natural resource management.

Gillian (Gilly) Barbat



National
Landcare
Program



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Food for Thought & Extension Information -

Podcasts:

➤ SOILS FOR LIFE PODCAST

A podcast about connecting farmers, researchers and policy makers, to shed light on agricultural best practice and explore current policy barriers and mindsets.

<https://soilsforlife.org.au/podcast/>

➤ CHARLIE ARNOTT – [The Regenerative Journey](#)

Ep. 34 - Peter Andrews - The Godfather of Landscape Rehydration & Natural Sequence Farming (YouTube):

<https://youtu.be/WCSZytIOgUY>

➤ DR CHRISTINE JONES – Soil Ecologist, Australia

Building New Topsoil Through the Liquid Carbon Pathway:

https://youtu.be/C3_wGp1mLM

2019 Conservation Tillage and Technology Conference, March 5 - 6, 2019, USA.

➤ GRAEME SAIT – [Nutrition Matters](#)

Nutrition Farming Podcasts:

Ep. 1 – Harnessing Humus

<https://blog.nutri-tech.com.au/nutrition-farming-podcast-episode-3-harnessing-humus/>

In this episode, entitled “Harnessing Humus”, we return to the regenerative farming format with a focus upon strategies to build organic matter. Humus is now recognised as the most important player in high production, problem-free food production. Here you will discover multiple strategies to improve soil fertility, retain moisture and build profitability through boosting your humus.

➤ JOHN KEMPF – [Advancing Eco Agriculture - AEA](#)

Regenerative Agriculture Podcast:

<http://www.regenerativeagriculturepodcast.com/>

On this show, ... You will find straightforward, actionable information about growing that can be implemented right away to increase crop quality, yields, pest resistance, and climate resilience -- to regenerate soil health, and most importantly, increase farm profitability.

➤ GRANT SIMS – [Down Under Covers](#)

Talking Cover Crops in Australia (YouTube):

<https://youtu.be/Q3nXDY7OFB8>

No-Till Influencers and Innovators Podcast: <https://www.no-tillfarmer.com/topics/624-no-till-influencers-innovators-podcast>

The No-Till Influencers & Innovators podcast series is brought to you by Martin Industries.

Topics such as:

- *Preserving Wetlands on the Farm*
- *Benefitting from Long-Term No-Till*
- *Boosting Profits with Soil Health*

➤ REGENFARMING.NEWS – Top 10 podcasts for Regenerative Farming

<https://regenfarming.news/articles/184-top-ten-podcasts-for-regenerative-farming>

Regen Farming News have comprised a list of the top ten regenerative agriculture podcasts to keep you informed. The podcasts vary in tone and focus from a 'go at your own pace' approach, to detail-heavy looks at the science behind soil health. For those who are merely curious or if you are actively considering starting your journey into regenerative farming practices, we have the ticket for you. You've got hours of tractor listening ahead!

Videos (YouTube):

➤ REEF CATCHMENTS –

RCL working to sustain, protect and improve natural resources in the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region. You will find case studies, forums, field days and events we have hosted. You will also find presentations by our various project teams.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/ReefCatchments/playlists>

➤ FROM THE GROUND UP – Regenerative Agriculture: inspired by Charles Massey's call of the Reed Warbler. (13:15)

https://youtu.be/6vQW8Tl_KLc

This short video is an overview of Massey's book, an important reference document filled with case studies and discussion supported by references you can discover to broaden your journey in sustainable, innovative, and regenerative agriculture.

➤ REGENERATIVE FARMING - Stuart Andrews - *Enlightened Ag 2021 - Natural Sequence Farming.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKIM3nYSK64>

[#regenerativefarming #regenerativeagriculture](#)

#regenerativefarming #regenerativeagriculture - This is an incredible visual explanation on a mini scale of Natural Sequence Farming. 1. Kickstarting the hydrology of land. 2. Managing energy (plant, animal and fertility using water and the hydrology of the land).

- CROAKER CONVERSATION - Brian Wehlburg

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnfALiE_OAM

In this Croaker Conversations, Brian Wehlburg, from Inside Outside Management will sit down with our agronomist, Sally Fields. Brian, a cattleman and Holistic Land Management consultant will explain why using animal impact as a tool for regeneration is so important.

- FROM THE GROUND UP –

Regenerative Agriculture: Inspired by Charles Massy's best-selling book "Call of the Reed Warbler", filmmaker Amy Browne set out across the dry farming country of South-east NSW to meet Massy and the other trailblazing farmers bringing new life to their land. (13:15)

https://youtu.be/6vQW8TI_KLc

- KISS THE GROUND – Josh Tickell

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3-V1j-zMZw>

Kiss the Ground is a full-length documentary narrated by Woody Harrelson that sheds light on a new, old approach to farming called regenerative agriculture that has the potential to balance our climate, replenish our vast water supplies, and feed the world.

- TED TALK – Allan Savory

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vpTHi7O66pl>

"Desertification is a fancy word for land that is turning to desert," begins Allan Savory in this quietly powerful talk. And terrifyingly, it's happening to about two-thirds of the world's grasslands, accelerating climate change, and causing traditional grazing societies to descend into social chaos. Savory has devoted his life to stopping it. He now believes -- and his work so far shows -- that a surprising factor can protect grasslands and even reclaim degraded land that was once desert.

- TED TALK – Charles Massy (TEDx Canberra)

How regenerative farming can help heal the planet and human health

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Et8YKBivhaE>

Regenerative agriculture is an ecological approach to agriculture that enables natural systems & functions to not just be renewed, but also to do the renewing: to self-organise back to healthy function, a radical idea of empowering and not controlling nature. In this talk, Charlie Massy OA

draws on his decades of farming experience and research to propose new ways of farming that don't harm the land and the planet in the way industrial agricultural practices can.

➤ ABC LANDLINE –

Hosted by award-winning journalist Pip Courtney, Landline is Australia's only national agricultural television program covering stories from Australia's rural and regional heartland.

<https://iview.abc.net.au/show/landline/>

➤ POLYFACES: A WORLD OF MANY CHOICES – Joel Salatin

<https://vimeo.com/125404937>

<https://www.polyfacefarms.com/>

In 1961, William and Lucille Salatin moved their young family to Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, purchasing the most worn-out, eroded, abused farm in the area near Staunton. Using nature as a pattern, they and their children began the healing and innovation that now supports three generations.

Websites: information, extension, training

➤ FARMING SECRETS – Soil Education, regenerative farming

<https://www.farmingsecrets.com/about-us/>

Farming Secrets is a global community where like-minded soil lovers and regenerative farmers working together to heal our soils and grow fibre, fuel, and nutrient-dense food.

Dr Christine Jones – podcasts:

<https://www.farmingsecrets.com/mentor/dr-christine-jones/>

➤ NATURE'S EQUITY –

<https://www.naturesequity.com.au/>

Grazing Naturally director Dick Richardson provides a wealth of information in an online school and some very good interviews with notes, are available on the site as well as detail for membership and access.

➤ FARMERS FOR CLIMATE ACTION – (FFCA)

<https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au/>

FFCA's mission is to influence Australia to adopt strong economy-wide climate policies and realise a prosperous and sustainable future, full of opportunity for farmers and their communities.

- SOIL SCIENCE AUSTRALIA – Soil Management information, training and more

<https://www.soilscienceaustralia.org.au/>

The Australian Society of Soil Science Incorporated, known as Soil Science Australia is a not-for-profit, professional association for soil scientists and people interested in the responsible management of Australia's soil resources.

- SOIL QUALITY

<https://www.soilquality.org.au/>

Developing cost efficient management practices and farming systems to improve soil quality is essential to sustainable agriculture in Australia and world-wide.

Land holders seek to increase or optimize plant and animal productivity whilst maintaining on-site and off-site environmental impact. This is achieved through the implementation of a variety of management practices and philosophies which have a direct effect on biological, chemical, and physical properties of the soil resource. Through appropriate monitoring of these properties over time positive and negative changes in soil quality can be identified with the overriding goal of developing better farming systems.

- SOIL LAND FOOD – Resources, information, and training

<https://www.soilandfood.com.au/>

An independent agricultural consultancy that is passionate about supporting change in Australian rural landscapes, farming and food systems towards a more regenerative, ecological future.

- RAPID ASSESSMENT OF SOIL HEALTH TOOLBOX – NQ Dry Tropics & David Hardwick

<https://ldc.nqdrytropics.com.au/rash-toolbox/>

Developed by NQ Dry Tropics, this online toolbox is to help landholders assess the condition of soil on different land types across their properties.

The toolbox consists of David Hardwick's RASH Manual and six 'how to test soils' videos to complement the Manual. The series includes an introduction to the RASH approach to soil health, assessing ground cover, assessing water infiltration, soil texture, soil aggregate testing, soil organism testing and soil pH testing.

- HEALTHY SOILS – Healthy Soil - Healthy Plants - Healthy People

<https://www.healthysoils.com.au/soil>

Healthy soil is crucial to plant health. Soil microbes have a symbiotic relationship with plants, as plants provide sugars/exudates to microbes and microbes make nutrients bio-available for plants, plants then provide nutrients to animals and plants and animals provide vital nutrients to humans.

➤ QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION – Carbon farming

<https://www.gff.org.au/advocacy/carbon-farming/>

- Carbon Farming presents an opportunity for land managers to secure another income from their land as well as make improvements to their natural capital – their land.
- Queensland is responsible for 90 per cent of Australia's total land sector emissions. In all other jurisdictions except Western Australia and the Northern Territory, this sector acts as a 'carbon sink', meaning that the sector's activity removes more carbon from the atmosphere than it releases.

➤ RCS AUSTRALIA – Extension and Training

<https://www.rcsaustralia.com.au/>

"We connect farmers, the most noble professionals in the world, with their true purpose: healthy food production."

➤ MEAT AND LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA – Extension and Information

<https://www.mla.com.au/extension-training-and-tools/>

MLA's purpose is to foster the long-term prosperity of the Australian red meat and livestock industry by investing in research and marketing activities.

Through subsidiary companies, they also accelerate innovation across the value chain and deliver the industry's integrity and on-farm quality assurance programs.

➤ FUTURE BEEF AUSTRALIA – Extension and Information

<https://futurebeef.com.au>

FutureBeef is an ally for the north Australian beef industry, sharing the latest practical tools, scientific insights, and relevant, timely advice.

This helps producers, pastoralists, graziers, livestock owners and landholders to make the most of good and bad times.

GOVERNMENT WEBSITES

➤ FUTURE DROUGHT FUND - Department of Agriculture & Fisheries

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/future-drought-fund>

Drought is an enduring feature of the Australian landscape. It has significant economic, social and environmental impacts. The FDF provides secure, continuous funding for drought resilience initiatives. It will help Australian farms and communities prepare for the impacts of drought.

➤ Queensland Globe – QGLOBE

<https://qldglobe.information.qld.gov.au/>

The Queensland Globe provides an online interactive experience to view Queensland's location based information.

➤ THE LONG PADDOCK – Climate & Pasture Information

<https://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/about/>

The Long Paddock is a Queensland Government initiative that has provided climate and pasture information to the grazing community since 1995. With over 17,000 visits per month (on average), the site provides access to rainfall and pasture outlooks and decision support tools to support land management decision making and planning for land holders, education, consultants, and extension officers.

➤ LAND RESTORATION FUND – Carbon Farming

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/climate/climate-change/land-restoration-fund>

Queensland is well placed to be Australia's major source of 'premium' carbon credits over the next two decades. Our large and diverse landscape gives us an advantage in the use of carbon farming methods that also deliver environmental, socio-economic and First Nations co-benefits.

Demand for Queensland-sourced carbon credits is likely to come from national and international governments, organisations, and businesses. As carbon abatement increases over time, landholders, farmers, and First Nations peoples can earn an ongoing income and gain a range of other benefits through carbon farming.

➤ QUEENSLAND CLIMATE ACTION – Preparing Qld for the opportunities of the future

<https://www.des.qld.gov.au/climateaction>

Land and Agriculture: The shift to a low-carbon future present significant opportunities for Queensland's land and agriculture sector and its supply chain to deliver productivity, profitability, and environmental benefits: <https://www.des.qld.gov.au/climateaction/sector-action/land-agriculture>

➤ NATIONAL LANDCARE PROGRAM – What is happening across Australia

<http://www.nrm.gov.au/>

The National Landcare Program is a key part of the Australian Government's commitment to protect and conserve Australia's water, soil, plants, animals, and ecosystems, as well as support the productive and sustainable use of these valuable resources.

➤ THE CLEAN ENERGY REGULATOR – Emissions Reduction Fund & Carbon Farming Projects

<http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/About>

The Clean Energy Regulator administers schemes legislated by the Australian Government for measuring, managing, reducing, or offsetting Australia's carbon emissions.

For information on the Emissions Reduction Fund regarding earning carbon credits in farming, understanding what types of projects are available is a good place to start:

<http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/ERF/Choosing-a-project-type>

➤ DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & SCIENCE – Farming in Reef Catchments

<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/agriculture/sustainable-farming/reef/reef-regulations>

Here is a wealth of information, project support, updates on programs to support landholders make positive change, case studies and so much more.

➤ QUEENSLAND RURAL AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – QRIDA

<https://www.qrida.qld.gov.au/about-us>

QRIDA is a specialist provider of government financial assistance programs, including loans, grants and rebates.

Technology, Innovation:

➤ PARADIGM FOODS – Roots Regenerative

<https://www.paradigmfoods.com.au/planet/>

Regenerative Agriculture: CONNECTING CONSCIOUS CONSUMERS WITH REGENERATIVE PRODUCE

Paradigm Foods supports regenerative agriculture, a philosophy that focuses on improving soil health, fostering biodiversity and promoting economic resilience in farming communities. We continually invest in regenerative agriculture, connecting with our consumers through our Roots Regenerative Beef brand – 100% grassfed beef, raised on dedicated regenerative Australian farms. Paradigm Foods works closely in collaboration with RCS – Resource Consulting Services, a leading private provider of regenerative agriculture education, training and advisory services to the agricultural sector.

➤ GALLAGHER – Animal Management

<https://am.gallagher.com/en-AU>

Helping farmers to harness the power to farm by delivering world-leading animal management solutions, that enable customers to operate responsibly, productively, and profitably.

➤ FARMBOT AUSTRALIA – Water Monitoring System

<https://farmbot.com.au/>

Offering innovations in water management, saving time and labour costs involved in manual monitoring checks.

- NQ AEROVATION – Drones

<https://www.nqaerovation.com.au/>

Offering services in biological control, spray application, mapping & data, photo & film.

Apps and Trackers:

- CLI-MATE – Australian CliMate: climate analysis for decision makers

<https://climateapp.net.au/>

- BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY – **BOM**

<http://www.bom.gov.au/app/>

Follow this link to download options for the BOM Weather app.

Facebook Groups & Newsletter subscriptions:

- INNOVATIVE GRAZING NETWORK – CENTRAL QLD COAST – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1789825537916240>

This group has been designed to be a networking tool for the Central QLD Coasts innovative graziers. Share stories, ideas, methods, photos, and to network. This is also a forum for peer to peer learning and support.

Capacity building events will occasionally be posted.

- REEF CATCHMENTS – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ReefCatchments>

The Mackay Whitsundays Isaac Regions' Natural Resource Management group working to promote and benefit ecosystems and communities. Connect with us to discover information and news about our projects, events and workshops delivered across the Mackay – Whitsunday region.

- HEALTHY RIVERS TO REEF PARTNERSHIP – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/MWIHR2RP>

Monitoring and advocating for improved waterway outcomes in the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region.

- FUTURE BEEF – Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/futurebeef>

FutureBeef is helping producers, pastoralists, graziers, livestock owners and landholders in northern Australia.



Books and other resources:

- ARTICLES – **Dr Christine Jones**

<https://www.amazingcarbon.com/>

[https://www.amazingcarbon.com/PDF/JONES-OurSoilsOurFuture\(8July08\).pdf](https://www.amazingcarbon.com/PDF/JONES-OurSoilsOurFuture(8July08).pdf)

‘There has been a notable ‘climate shift’ in many of the arable regions of eastern, southern and western Australia. A trend to less reliable autumn, winter and spring rainfall has increased production risks for annual cereal crops, while the greater incidence of episodic high intensity rainfall events in summer has heightened the vulnerability of bar fallows...’

- CALL OF THE REED WARBLER – **Charles Massey**

Charles Massey gained a Bachelor of Science (Zoology, Human Ecology) at ANU (1976), before going farming for 35 years, developing the prominent Merino sheep stud ‘Severn Park’.

Call of the Reed Warbler will change the way we farm, eat, and think about food. In this groundbreaking book Charles Massey explores regenerative agriculture and the vital connection between our soil and our health.

- FOR THE LOVE OF SOIL – **Nicole Masters**

For the Love of Soil is a land manager’s roadmap to healthy soil, revitalized food systems in challenging times. This book equips producers with knowledge, skills, and insights to regenerate ecosystem health and grow farm profits.

Globally recognized soil advocate and agroecologist Nicole Masters delivers the solution to rewind the clock on this increasingly critical soil crisis in her first book, *For the Love of Soil*.

- KISS THE GROUND – **Josh Tickell**

Josh Tickell, one of America’s most celebrated documentary filmmakers and director of *Fuel*, has dedicated most of his life to saving the environment. Now, in *Kiss the Ground*, he explains an incredible truth: by changing our diets to a soil-nourishing, regenerative agriculture diet, we can reverse global warming, harvest healthy, abundant food, and eliminate the poisonous substances that are harming our children, pets, bodies, and ultimately our planet.

➤ **DIRT TO SOIL – Gabe Brown**

In *Dirt to Soil* Gabe Brown tells the story of that amazing journey and offers a wealth of innovative solutions to restoring the soil by laying out and explaining his “five principles of soil health,” which are:

- Limited Disturbance | Armor | Diversity | Living Roots | Integrated Animals

➤ **BACK FROM THE BRINK – Peter Andrews**

Peter Andrew's was the subject of a two-part Australian Story in 2005, 'Of Drought and Flooding Rain', about his controversial vision for saving the Australian landscape. In this book, Peter outlines what he has learned about Australia's unique landscape, what has led us to the potential environmental catastrophe, and the unique methods that could save us from disaster.

This project has been developed by Reef Catchments through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and Glencore.

