

2025 Grazing Forum Showcases Latest Tools and Strategies for Profitable, Sustainable Grazing

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This October, Reef Catchments will bring together graziers, industry experts, and agronomists at the 2025 Grazing Forum and Field Day, a two-day event showcasing practical field demonstrations and a conference program delivering the latest knowledge and strategies to support productive, profitable, and sustainable grazing in the tropics

Proudly supported by Glencore Coal Australia and the Australian Government, the event provides a unique lens on how graziers in tropical regions are adapting to wet conditions, enhancing productivity, and implementing cutting-edge technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) to future-proof their enterprises.

Kellie Harmsworth, Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator at Reef Catchments, says, “The Grazing Forum and Field Day will empower local graziers with tools and strategies to thrive in the tropics, improve productivity, and contribute to a sustainable, globally significant beef industry.”

The Field Day, hosted at Yalboroo, will feature practical demonstrations that bring science directly to the paddock. A highlight of the Field Day will be a live demonstration of Smart Spraying, where AI technology selectively targets weeds — cutting chemical use, reducing waste, and saving producers money. The line-up also features local graziers transitioning from cane to grazing, expert advice from Queensland Department of Primary Industries Senior Principal Scientist Dr Wayne Vogler on managing invasive species, and guidance from Farmacist Agronomist Mandy Jeppsen on boosting pasture and animal performance. Soil testing stalls from Drought Hub and Reef Catchments will help producers put these insights straight into practice.

Day two at the Proserpine Showgrounds will feature expert presentations on breeding, herd management, cattle health, and industry developments, with speakers including DPI Beef Extension Officer Tim Emery, Great Northern Brahman Sale representative James Kent, Cambil Brahmans Stud’s Lawson Camm, and local vet Dr Jason Mansfield. Craig Bushell, from Glencore’s Newlands Coal Closure Project, will also share practical insights from their extensive pasture rehabilitation program.

The Mackay Whitsunday Isaac (MWI) region is at the heart of one of Queensland’s most productive grazing landscapes. Supporting approximately 8.7% of the state’s cattle herd ([Greater Whitsunday Alliance, 2025](#)), and contributing significantly to Australia’s beef exports to Japan, South Korea, and the USA ([MLA, 2024](#)), the region plays a vital role in both domestic and global food systems.

With sold-out field day tickets and a dynamic conference program, the event underscores the region’s pivotal role in driving innovation, resilience, and growth in Australia’s tropical grazing sector.

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About Reef Catchments

Reef Catchments are the Natural Resource Management (NRM) group for the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region. We are a non-government, not-for-profit organisation.

We facilitate change and work for long-term solutions to sustain, protect, and improve our region's natural resources and environment, now and into the future.

Our team are skilled and outcome-focused people, all dedicated to looking after the environment in the Mackay Whitsunday Isaac region.

For more information: www.reefcatchments.com.au