

Healthy Landscapes

Practical Regenerative
Agricultural Communities

Holistic Grazing Management Short Course

The Holistic Grazing Management Short Course forms part of the *Healthy Landscapes - Practical Regenerative Agricultural Communities* program which aims to raise awareness about sustainable land management practices that improve soil health, reduce exposure to climate risk, enhance biodiversity and increase productivity.

About the course

The Holistic Grazing Management Short Course has been designed to assist land managers to improve their skills and knowledge about grazing livestock, resulting in an increase in soil carbon and perennial pasture species, including native species.

Along with the presenters Jason McAinch and Sam White, guest speakers will be used to enhance the delivery of the program.

The course will incorporate:

- 16 sessions delivered between November 2021 and June 2022
- Face to face theory learning (6 days)
- Online (Zoom) theory learning and support sessions
- Practical on-property learning

Who is the course for?

The course is structured for large and small landholders with grazing livestock. Landholders in the Macedon Ranges Shire, Hepburn Shire or the City of Greater Bendigo are eligible to attend.

Grazing Fundamentals

Limiting sunlight hitting bare soil and increasing the time green pastures are growing increases the time plants are photosynthesising. Through proper grazing, this results in more energy/sugars/carbon entering the soil and the grazing animal. The consistent green pasture cover increases life and organic matter in soils, resulting in additional nutrient cycling. Land managers are rewarded as the soil is able to hold more moisture while drainage is improved.

Cost

The cost of the course is \$100 per property.

To register, fill out the online form at www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/healthylandscapes.

For more information contact Private Land Conservation Officer, Jason McAinch on 0455 210 436 or at jmcainch@mrsc.vic.gov.au.



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Course Outline

<p>DAY 1</p> <p>Friday Nov 12</p> <p>Face to face</p>	<p>Setting the big picture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions • Energy cycle, water cycle, nutrient cycle, community • Complicated and complex • Co-evolution of animals and grasslands • Introduction to grassland species • Introduction to how grasses grow • Introduction of holistic management – we are part of the landscape. 	<p>Malmsbury Hall</p>
	<p>Practical – Property visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify grasses (C3 & C4) and herbs/forbs. Tufted, stoloniferous and taproot. 	<p>Visit Sidonia Beef</p>
<p>Wednesday Nov 27</p>	<p>Review of Day 1</p>	<p>Online</p>
<p>Nov - Feb</p>	<p>1:1 property visits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidate foundation learning on grazing grasslands. • Consolidate grazing plan & ACTION plan 	<p>Individual property visits</p>
<p>DAY 2</p> <p>Friday Dec 10</p> <p>Face to face</p>	<p>Setting up your property</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring an aerial photo! • Animals and Grassland - Not all grass is good for animals • Developing a grazing plan “tools” • Water & Fencing for stock • Hay, Soils and seed heads • Setting a short-term action plan 	<p>Venue: TBC</p>
	<p>Practical – Property visit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal gut health • Practical water, fencing, stock handling infrastructure 	<p>Visit Sidonia Beef</p>
<p>Tuesday Dec 14</p>	<p>Review of Day 2</p>	<p>Online</p>

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	Review of summer planning Feed budgeting and practical feed budgeting	
DAY 3 Friday Feb 11 Face to face	Soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil biology, Soil testing, Carbon farming 	Malmsbury Hall Guest presenter - TBC
	Practical – Property visit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soils & soil sampling 	On farm
Tuesday Feb 22	Review of Day 3	Online
DAY 4 Friday Mar 11 Face to face	Weeds and Crops/Re-sowing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring • Woody weeds – gorse, blackberry, rose. • Annual weeds - capeweed • Reasons for resowing/crops 	Malmsbury Hall Guest presenter Stephanie Grylls
	Trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating biodiverse farms & Revegetation techniques • Paddock trees • Pollinators 	Guest presenter - TBC
Tuesday Mar 22	Review of Day 4	Online
DAY 5 Friday May 6 Face to face	Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hydration of soils • Pugging soils • Riparian zones 	Malmsbury Hall Guest presenter - TBC
Tuesday May 24	Review of Day 5	Online
DAY 6 Friday Jun 10 Face to face	Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revisit our plans, revisit our questionnaire • Economics – does this meet our financial needs? • Celebrate the success 	Venue: TBC