

# Community Support component - previous investments in South Australia

- **Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges**
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## Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges

### **Implement high water use strategies for salinity outcomes (\$90,000, 2003-04)**

This project will target salinity issues through expanded use of perennial pastures and improved soil condition.

### **Land and Water Management on the Northern Adelaide Plains: Producers Sustaining and Enhancing Long-term Productivity (\$190,000, 2004-05; \$181,000, 2005-06; \$191,000, 2006-07)**

The Virginia Horticulture Centre will demonstrate effective and practical management practices and modern technologies for irrigation, soil and revegetation options on farms at case study sites. They will include investigating and designing watercourse rehabilitation and wetlands development to treat drainage water, and providing sustainable disposal options for currently unmanaged irrigation drainage water and town stormwater.

### **Local Catchment Groups — Making an impact with landcare in the Upper Torrens Catchment (\$86,000, 2004-05; \$124,000, 2005-06; \$131,750, 2006-07)**

The Upper Torrens Land Management Project will undertake on-ground works, coordinated within local catchment groups, to improve agricultural productivity to reduce saline lands, improve biodiversity in the region and provide natural resource benefits to the Torrens Catchment.

### **Investigating sodicity and treatment options in the Barossa Valley Viticultural Area in SA (\$72,400, 2004-05; \$74,000, 2005-06; \$72,000, 2006-07)**

The Advisory Board of Agriculture will survey a range of sites and soils to determine the extent of sodicity problems in the Barossa Valley. Several sites will be established to demonstrate and evaluate treatment options, and develop information packages and strategies for growers to adopt sustainable soil management practices.

### **Integrating best practice natural resource management with productive agriculture (\$184,840, 2004-05; \$218,250, 2005-06; \$250,000, 2006-07)**

The Southern Hills Soil Conservation Board will hold workshops and field days to address fertiliser application, pasture management and land capability planning. Strategic on-ground works will also be carried out at high priority sites.

### **Integrating environmental and agricultural sustainability in the Willunga Basin (\$119,140, 2004-05)**

The Willunga Hills-face Landcare Group will establish a demonstration site for best management practice of pasture and indigenous vegetation, a native seedling nursery and on-site rainwater harvesting and water storage to supplement the watering of the seedlings and promote water saving techniques. An extensive on-ground works program will also be carried out to facilitate the implementation of appropriate environmentally and economically sustainable land management options by local landholders.

### **Enhancing community support for farm forestry (\$62,700, 2004-05; \$64,450, 2005-06; \$68,790, 2006-07)**

The Mount Lofty Ranges - Kangaroo Island Branch of the Australian Forest Growers will improve its support to community groups and individuals by providing up-to-date technical information on farm forestry, especially ongoing maintenance, thinning, pruning, harvesting and marketing. The support will include fact sheets, field days, site visits and on-going promotion of the environmental and economic benefits of farm forestry to groups and individual landowners.

### **Improving sustainable agricultural management in the Upper Onkaparinga Catchment (\$27,100, 2004-05)**

The New Springs Landcare Group will develop a sub-catchment land management action plan for the Upper Onkaparinga sub-catchment. It will also carry out targeted on-ground works to address the quality of surface and ground water, and encourage best water use practices, pasture improvement and perennial pasture establishment.

### **Improving the productivity and sustainability of soil resources using innovative compost products (\$123,500, 2005-06; \$129,700, 2006-07; \$136,200, 2007-08)**

A consortium of compost producers, together with the South Australian Research and Development Institute, will assess the value of existing composted products in improving the productivity and sustainability of soils. The project will also assess the use of 'flowable' compost, which is injected at depth, to ameliorate sub-soil constraints. This is expected to improve the soil's physical and chemical composition and plant growth, and reduce irrigation and nutrient needs.

**Water quality impacts of pesticide application – a property-level assessment tool (\$142,200, 2005-06; \$124,200, 2006-07; \$113,200, 2007-08)**

The Apple and Pear Growers' Association of South Australia will provide commercial horticultural and viticultural growers with detailed information on the potential effects of pesticides on water quality. With a better understanding of the mobility and toxicity of different pesticides, growers will be able to select the most appropriate pesticides, improving water quality and biodiversity as well as their overall productivity.

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## **Alinytjara Wilurara**

**Management of problem animals and plants (\$241,000, 2003-04)**

In this project, the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Land Management Team will establish new infrastructure to better control large feral herbivores, such as camels, horses and donkeys. The aim is to reduce the overall grazing pressure in this fragile environment. The team will also fence and clean over 100 rock-holes, which act as important water points. This will restore them and help prevent further degradation.

**Feral animal control for Maralinga Tjaruntja lands (\$180,000, 2004-05)**

The Maralinga Tjaruntja Land Council will survey the range of feral animals throughout the Maralinga Tjaruntja lands, to determine the areas of impact and estimate feral population sizes. It will use the information to develop management recommendations for control.

**Establishing an on-going monitoring program for the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands subject to cattle grazing (\$101,000, 2004-05)**

The Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Land Council will establish an effective grazing monitoring system for the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara lands by setting up data collection sites and training local staff in rangeland monitoring. The project will develop the community's capacity to collate and maintain the data collected and use it in management decision-making.

**Development of sustainable agriculture in Aboriginal lands (\$70,500, 2004-05)**

The Aboriginal Lands INRM Group will establish pilot trials in the Yalata and Oak Valley communities to involve Aboriginal communities in the sustainable production of native food. The trials will investigate the suitability of native species for use as medicines, oils, perfumes and bush tucker. The project will also determine the most appropriate production methods and contribute to the development of regional enterprises.

**Advancing aboriginal leadership in sustainable rural production and capacity Building in the remote APY Lands (\$66,407, 2007-08)**

The Iwantja Community will establish a new irrigated lucerne cropping system using reclaimed wastewater from the Community's septic tank effluent disposal scheme. This will create a new primary production option in this remote area, and generate associated community skills and capacity outcomes. The project will serve as a demonstration site to showcase achievements and learnings with other Aboriginal community groups across the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands.

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## **Eyre Peninsula**

**Regional Sustainable Agriculture – On-ground works (\$211,070, 2003-04)**

This project will enable local landcare and catchment groups, as well as individual landholders across Eyre Peninsula, to improve the sustainability of their farming operations. They will tackle problems associated with wind and water erosion, and dryland and transient salinity, erect new fences and examine the benefits of whole-farm planning. The project also includes setting up a low-rainfall, farm forestry demonstration site in each sub-region. The sites will feature local native species, and help encourage local landholders to integrate farm forestry into their existing operations.

**Priority Dryland Salinity (\$412,680, 2003-04)**

The Driver River Management Committee, River Dutton Landcare Group and Eastern Cleve Hills Steering Committee will jointly manage this project to control the spread of salinity, combat soil erosion and improve riparian habitat. This includes revegetating large blocks and creek-lines, fencing remnant vegetation, various revegetation activities, planting lucerne, saltland agronomy and small-scale surface drainage projects.

**Upper Kimba Wind Erosion and Sustainable Agriculture (\$92,780, 2003-04)**

The Eastern Eyre NRM Group will carry out on-ground works to tackle problems associated with salinity and wind erosion, and boost the use of sustainable agriculture. They include protecting remnant vegetation, various revegetation activities, planting lucerne and fencing to prevent grazing in sensitive areas.

**Identifying and addressing soil constraints and dryland salinity within the Driver River Catchment (\$73,670, 2004-05)**

The Driver River Steering Committee will undertake strategic on-ground works in the Driver River catchment area. They will include extensive revegetation in large blocks and along creek lines, fencing off remnant vegetation, pastures and revegetation, establishing lucerne, small-scale surface drainage and increasing the water-holding ability of the local sandy soil.

**Promoting sustainable agriculture and biodiversity in the River Dutton Catchment (\$77,410, 2004-05)**

The River Dutton Landcare Group will carry out strategic on-ground works in the River Dutton Catchment to address soil erosion, sodic soils and vegetation decline, and improve productivity and the natural resources.

**Sustainable agriculture in the Eastern Cleve Hills Catchment (\$117,110, 2004-05)**

The Eastern Cleve Hills Steering Committee will hold workshops in the Eastern Cleve Hills Catchment area to identify necessary changes to existing farming systems and develop individual property management plans. It will also undertake targeted on-ground works, including fencing riparian zones, soil amelioration and revegetation.

**Identifying and addressing erosion prone soils within the Upper Kimba area (\$77,370, 2004-05)**

Eastern Eyre NRM Reference Group will help landholders in the Upper Kimba area undertake high-priority on-ground activities to address wind erosion and sustainable agricultural issues. The activities will also address important local issues, such as native vegetation decline and salinity.

**Salt Creek Catchment - On-ground actions for broad landscape change (\$92,990, 2004-05)**

The Salt Creek Catchment Group will encourage landholders to implement on-ground works to address salinity and improve land management systems/sustainable agriculture in the Salt Creek and Butler Swamps sub-catchments.

**Linking Environmentally Sustainable Practices to Land Capability on Eyre Peninsula (\$257,025, 2004-05)**

This project, managed by the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resource Management Group, will assist local farmer groups to identify, evaluate and compare a range of environmentally sustainable management systems appropriate to local landscape classes, from a range of perspectives including land capability, financial, social and whole farm integration. It will encourage the adoption and integration of improved land management practices at the individual farm business level.

**Protecting soil by increasing adoption of no-till across Eyre Peninsula (\$98,700, 2005-06; \$100,000, 2006-07; \$120,925, 2007-08)**

The Eyre Peninsula Agricultural Research Foundation will hold workshops and demonstrations to help local farmers identify the barriers to greater use of no-till farming systems on the Eyre Peninsula. Increasing the use of no-till farming will reduce erosion and improve soil quality.

**Improving the water use efficiency of Lower Eyre Peninsula cropping systems (\$55,000, 2005-06; \$58,000, 2006-07)**

The Lower Eyre Agricultural Development Association will use the latest science and technology to develop and showcase innovative management strategies for increasing water-use efficiency and productivity. This will help contribute to the long-term sustainability of cropping systems in the Lower Eyre region.

**Improving options for managing changing climatic and economic environments through addressing soil constraints (\$104,420, 2007-08)**

The Lower Eyre Agricultural Development Association will work with community, agency and the agricultural industry to identify soil constraints, understand the potential of Lower Eyre Peninsula farming systems and develop best management options to improve their flexibility and sustainability.

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**Kangaroo Island****Establish effective and sustainable perennial pastures to reduce rates of recharge: Building a sustainable future (\$88,500, 2003-04)**

This project will target the reestablishment of deep-rooted vegetation and protection of remnant native vegetation on farm sites to reduce groundwater recharge.

**Enlarge and implement the soil health-monitoring program across Kangaroo Island: Building a sustainable future (\$23,000, 2003-04)**

This project will encourage land managers to participate in a program to monitor subsoil, as well as topsoil, acidity levels on an individual property and regional basis.

**Healthy soils: Demonstrate methods of best practice for stubble, crop and pasture management in key areas (\$71,100, 2003-04)**

This project will provide for demonstrations on best practice cropping and pasture management. It will target soil conditioning, improved stubble retention, minimum tillage management and engineering solutions for treatment of waterlogging.

**Working Down Under (\$45,000, 2004-05)**

The Kangaroo Island Natural Resources Board will demonstrate the benefits of subsoil amelioration to significantly improve water use and reduce recharge, lateral saline flow and surface saline discharge. They will identify the best opportunities for improving water use efficiency and productivity by actively managing the whole soil root zone.

**Farm Forestry for Multiple Benefits (\$26,400, 2004-05)**

Private Forestry Kangaroo Island will develop farm forestry plantings on cleared agricultural land for multiple benefits. It will address a range of natural resource management issues, including managing salinity, waterlogging, and water quality, and enhancing habitat. These activities will also produce timber for firewood and sawlog applications to diversify farm income.

**Improving the Sustainability of Growing Seed Potatoes on Kangaroo Island (\$33,000, 2004-05)**

The Kangaroo Island Irrigated Seed Producers Group will evaluate and monitor seed and soil treatments to manage soil borne diseases that occur when seed potatoes are grown in soils with high organic carbon in an intensive horticultural production system. The project will also demonstrate and evaluate new technologies for the management of non-wetting sands for intensive horticultural production.

**The 'how, what, why and where' of effective land management on Kangaroo Island (\$125,000, 2005-06; \$115,000, 2006-07)**

The Kangaroo Island Natural Resource Management Board will employ trials, demonstrations, case studies and extension activities to provide Kangaroo Island's landholders with the skills to implement on-ground works to increase the water use of their crops and pastures. This will not only boost sustainability and increase production it will also help reduce salinity, soil erosion, nutrient loss and soil acidity.

**Sustaining land management practices - from seasonal variability to climate change (\$51,750, 2007-08)**

Agriculture KI will increase awareness of, and provide the skills and knowledge required, to enable the Island's farming community to have the necessary land management skills to manage the effects of changing climatic conditions. Activities will include demonstration of improved water capture methods and management of environmental flows.

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## Northern and Yorke

### **Provide technical support to primary producers in sustaining natural resources for environmental, economic and social benefits (\$100,000, 2003-04)**

This project will help land managers undertake salinity management measures, including stubble retention and implementing farming practices best suited to the local land capability.

### **Establish perennial vegetation to improve soil and production in priority salinity areas to reduce groundwater recharge (\$130,000, 2003-04)**

This project will encourage the establishment of changed land management through the expanded use of perennial vegetation and soil improvement practices.

### **Establish an incentives program for improved farming systems based on land capability and other best practice management principles for joint soil, salinity, water and biodiversity management benefits (\$100,000, 2003-04)**

This project will provide incentives to implement improved farming systems based on best practice management principles and information. The project will target improved soil and water management.

### **Improving the sustainability of low rainfall cropping using paddock risk assessment (\$49,500, 2004-05; \$17,000, 2005-06)**

The Central Flinders Ranges Soil Conservation Board will develop management strategies for different land class zones within paddocks on properties in low rainfall areas. The project will also develop and promote risk management options to improve agricultural productivity while reducing soil erosion and maintaining or improving soil structure.

### **Improving grazing management in low rainfall agricultural areas (\$10,000, 2004-05; \$18,650, 2005-06)**

The Mt Remarkable Soil Conservation Board will improve sustainability of grazing in low rainfall agricultural areas by increasing surface cover levels in low rainfall agricultural areas to reduce wind and water erosion and improve soil condition and grazing management of pastures, leading to higher returns from livestock products.

### **Landholder incentives program for improved farming systems and natural resource benefit, based on land capability and other best practice management principles (\$197,400, 2004-05; \$197,000, 2005-06; \$197,400, 2006-07)**

The Northern and Yorke Agricultural District INRM Group will promote the sustainable use of the region's natural resources through a program of landholder incentives to encourage improved farming systems based on land capability and best practice farm management.

### **Technical innovation support program for land managers to sustain natural resources in primary production (\$80,000, 2004-05)**

The Northern and Yorke Agricultural District INRM Group will provide technical support in natural resource management for primary producers through training, practical on-ground advice, workshops that encourage improved farming systems based on land capability and best practice farm management.

### **Capitalising on native pasture opportunities in cropping/grazing rotations (\$78,000, 2005-06; \$36,000, 2006-07; \$40,000, 2007-08)**

The Upper North Farming Systems Group will investigate the potential of re-establishing pastures of perennial native grass on cropped land, and promoting their benefits to local primary producers.

### **Sustainable systems for mid-north high rainfall pasture and cropping regions (\$68,620, 2005-06; \$68,000, 2006-07; \$68,620, 2007-08)**

Agrilink Agricultural Consultants will establish a field site to address issues of profitable cropping systems in mid-north high rainfall areas. The project will investigate ways of reducing waterlogging, overgrazing, runoff and erosion, acidification and fertility decline, providing key local data to facilitate adoption of more profitable and sustainable farming and grazing systems.

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## SA Arid Lands

### **Strategic rehabilitation and habitat restoration (\$145,100, 2003-04)**

This project involves the Rangelands INRM Group facilitating on-ground soil conservation, revegetation and broad-scale habitat restoration works. Information on the condition of the land, particularly areas of advanced erosion, will be collected to develop a prioritised work plan for the entire region. Regional workshops will be held to pass on advice on designing, constructing and maintaining appropriate infrastructure.

### **Protecting water dependent ecosystems of the Flinders Ranges (\$120,000, 2004-05)**

The Arid Areas Catchment Water Management Board will identify important groundwater-dependent ecosystems, develop individual site plans and carry out on-ground works to fence off sensitive areas and relocate watering points off source.

### **Best practice nutritional management of grazed rangeland pasture plants (\$68,010, 2005-06; \$78,930, 2006-07)**

The Outback Lakes SA Group aims to improve the ability of pastoralists to identify those plant species that are the main sources of nutrition for grazing stock. This will, in turn, help improve their management decisions, and also help preserve high-value plant species.

### **The use of feed supplements to complement beef cattle diet in the SA Arid Lands region (\$90,070, 2007-08)**

The Oodnadatta Bronco Branding Committee will monitor animal nutrition in the paddock and observe the outcomes of targeted supplementation. The project aims to improve sustainability of grazing by knowing the health of stock as well as how to optimise both production and environmental outcomes.

### **Remote management system technologies piloted to improve sustainability and land condition (\$100,985, 2007-08)**

The North West Sheep Meat Production Group will pilot a remote sheep weighing and drafting system, developed by the Sheep CRC, to assess and promote the value of introducing this technology into the management of rangelands by SA pastoralists. With decreasing labour resources and increased costs, adoption of such technology is essential to the future viability, sustainability and better management of the natural resource in the rangelands.

**Protecting productive and ecological values of Arid Areas water resources (\$120,000, 2007-08)**

The SA Arid Lands NRM Board will assist landholders in the Flinders and Gawler Ranges to fence springs, waterholes and watercourses. Stock exclusion will protect water quality, prevent trampling of native vegetation, and reduce soil compaction. Production values will be maintained by installing infrastructure that allows stock watering points to be established in less sensitive areas.

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**SA Murray-Darling Basin****Overcoming barriers to the use of productive perennial species to reduce Mallee recharge (\$50,000, 2003-04)**

This project will conduct trials to help identify the most suitable techniques and species to improve dryland farming productivity.

**Deliver improved on-farm water use efficiency through land and water management plans (\$50,000, 2003-04)**

This project will provide training to achieve irrigation efficiency targets. It will include the development of a catchment-wide code of practice and incentive programs.

**Improve on-farm water use efficiency, particularly in irrigated agriculture in the Tintinara/Coonalpyn area (\$50,000, 2003-04)**

This project will determine an average crop water-use index for the region and seek to identify the most suitable mechanisms for achieving water index targets. It will help irrigator groups set strategic farm plans.

**Delivery of on-ground support programs for improving water use efficiency (\$200,000, 2003-04)**

The project involves the River Murray Catchment Water Board encouraging the use of more effective water management practices. This includes specialised training for irrigators, and setting up a test site to promote industry best practice. There will also be on-ground works to help ensure more efficient water use and a baseline assessment of irrigation efficiency at the farm, district and regional levels.

**On-farm trials and investigations to increase adoption of conservation farming (\$50,000, 2003-04)**

The Mallee Sustainable Farming group will hold trials on a core demonstration site as well as various 'focus' sites throughout the region to encourage local farmers to get the best out of their land. The most appropriate practices will then be adopted.

**Conduct on-farm trials to overcome barriers to use of perennial species in farming systems (\$92,780, 2003-04)**

The Mallee Sustainable Farming group and the Soil Conservation Board will manage this project. It will involve on-farm trials using different types of native perennials to rehabilitate degraded land, and examine various stocking methods and assessment techniques to establish and maintain native perennial grasses on shallow limestone soils. It will also investigate the on-farm costs and benefits of perennials.

**Mallee Futures Program (\$210,000, 2004-05; \$195,000, 2005-06; \$235,000, 2006-07)**

The Murray Mallee Local Action Plan Association will work with landholders to increase their use of sustainable resource management practices, enhance skills, knowledge and awareness of natural resources, and implement on-ground actions identified as priorities in the Murray Mallee Local Action Plan and Murray Mallee Revegetation Plan.

**A framework for linking on-farm EMS to regional NRM outcomes (\$150,760, 2004-05; \$139,090, 2005-06; \$125,900, 2006-07)**

The River Murray Catchment Water Management Board will create a framework to link on-farm Environmental Management Systems (EMS) with regional NRM strategies through regionally specific Codes of Practice and Best Management Practice Guidelines. The framework will be compatible with other EMS programs, transferable to any NRM region and useful as a tool for marketing Australian sustainable agriculture.

**Building the capacity of land managers to improve dryland farming practices and enhance agricultural sustainability in the SA Mallee (\$130,000, 2005-06; \$131,000, 2006-07; \$132,500, 2007-08)**

Mallee Sustainable Farming aims to boost awareness among farmers about land management issues and encourage changes of attitude. With a better understanding of NRM, they are more likely to adopt sustainable management practises and improve their business skills. Precision agriculture will also be adapted for use in Mallee conditions.

**Experienced conservation farmers increasing other farmer's productivity under conservation practices (\$12,500, 2007-08)**

The SA No-Till Farmers Association aims to implement and measure the success of high competency consulting from experienced conservation farmers for inexperienced operators, to help them increase sustainable productivity.

**Managing soil degradation in orchards which utilise high fertiliser inputs (\$35,660, 2007-08)**

The Riverland West Local Action Planning Association will use strategic soil sampling to assess the effects of high level fertiliser inputs on soil physical and chemical parameters in almond and citrus orchards, and to develop information packages to manage these effects.

**Increasing landholder knowledge of soil constraints affecting production and natural resource management in the lower Mallee (\$114,400, 2007-08)**

The Southern Mallee Agricultural Bureau will assist land holders to identify constraints and limitations of current low rainfall farming systems, evaluate options to overcome them, and demonstrate to the wider community ways to increase productivity and profitability of high risk landscapes whilst reducing wind erosion and groundwater recharge.

**Investigating and promoting sustainable production around the Lower Lakes (\$67,965, 2007-08)**

The Goolwa to Wellington Local Action Planning Board will investigate and promote sustainable and profitable grazing practices around the Lower Lakes, where grazing is the major land-use, by continuing and expanding upon existing programs to investigate the effects of various grazing regimes on the lake edge and floodplain. The project will also focus heavily on improving the knowledge and skills of local landholders and producer groups and increasing their adoption of sustainable production methods.

**Demonstrating sustainable and productive forage systems in the Murray Mallee (\$91,960, 2007-08)**

Mallee Sustainable Farming will work with Murray Mallee farmers to implement productive forage pasture systems. The project will identify pastures that: are productive and complement the cropping phase; have an acceptable level of risk in terms of inputs required in a low rainfall environment; and allow for sustainable management of a range of problem weeds, including branched broomrape, to minimise the need for residual herbicides and prevent erosion.

**Resilient shrub-based forage systems to improve farming system returns and durability (\$163,515, 2007-08)**

The Coorong District Local Action Plan Committee will explore the opportunities and pitfalls of introducing novel forage systems into grazing enterprises, particularly on mixed cropping farms. Participants will identify and document the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to best use the new forage systems. This process will have an emphasis on collaborative, community learning and lead to improved forage management and farm productivity while providing significant environmental benefits.

**Environmental management in viticulture - Langhorne Creek (\$56,000, 2007-08)**

The Langhorne Creek Wine Industry Council will increase the uptake of sustainable practices in viticulture using environmental best management practices developed by growers and NRM agencies with environmental risk management and property planning.

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**South East****Irrigate for success and sustainability - improving water use and efficiency to combat increasing salinity in key locations (\$300,000, 2003-04)**

This project will target improved productivity and groundwater quality by developing and implementing best-practice guidelines, and assisting irrigators in setting strategic farm business plans.

**Environmentally sustainable development of dairying in the South East (\$50,000, 2003-04)**

This project will provide updated guidelines for managing milking shed effluent and reducing the threat of groundwater contamination from dairying.

**Breaking the South East weed seed bank (\$13,850, 2004-05; \$15,325, 2005-06; \$24,295, 2006-07)**

This project, conducted by the McKillop Farm Management Group, will lead to improved understanding and management of annual ryegrass, wild radish and other weeds under South East farming systems. This is particularly important for managing the risk of herbicide resistant weeds and their negative impact on using reduced tillage and conservation farming.

**Soil sodicity management equals good farm management (\$109,834, 2004-05; \$61,120, 2005-06)**

The South East Natural Resource Consultative Committee will manage the project to determine the cause of soil sodicity on the Keilira/Avenue flats and establish 12 on-farm paddock demonstration sites to determine best-practice farm management techniques to address the problem.

**Evaluating monitoring tools for sustainable potato production in South Australia (\$118,160, 2004-05; \$118,100, 2005-06; \$118,100, 2006-07)**

The South East Potato Growers will evaluate and demonstrate strategies for more efficient use of nitrogenous fertilisers by potato growers through widespread adoption of crop monitoring and decision-support tools. This will lead to reduced leaching of nitrates into ground water, more efficient use of nitrogenous fertilisers and increased production from a limited water resource base.

**Best management practices for the sustainable production of white clover (\$45,340, 2005-06; \$36,340, 2006-07; \$36,340, 2007-08)**

The MacKillop Farm Management Group will determine best management practices for sustainably managing the soil and water resources needed to produce white clover. The information will be used to educate growers and advisers; help increase water-use efficiency and reduce the impacts on the region's groundwater resources.

**Best management practices for phosphorus and potash application in potatoes (\$75,200, 2007-08)**

SE Potato Growers will demonstrate new technologies, practices, research outputs and industry experiences to the potato industry so new best management practices and tools can be produced to better manage phosphorus and potash, by minimising off-site impacts and maximising profitability for the industry. These key project outputs will support the potato industry in the natural resource management planning and implementation process for nutrient management.

**Improving soil management on irrigated soils in the South East of South Australia (\$91,800, 2007-08)**

The South East NRM Board will work with industry groups to assess the impact of irrigation on various soil types, develop best practice irrigation management systems, build awareness of the impact of irrigation on soils and build the capacity of farmers to best manage their soils.

**What is happening to the water in South East soils? (\$65,460, 2007-08)**

The South East NRM Board will develop information on soil water properties for a representative range of SE soil materials. This information will be presented to land managers to enable them to improve their management of soils, water, nutrition and salts, and ultimately improve water use efficiency.

**Quantify and promote the benefits of deep ripping (\$22,765, 2007-08)**

The MacKillop Farm Management Group will assess the impact of deep ripping on soil characteristics and crop/pasture production. They will promote the adoption of deep ripping by sharing information that demonstrates its potential for improved sustainability, increased productivity and profitability of growers. The project will also help growers and advisers increase their knowledge of soils and interpreting soil analyses to improve their decision-making for the efficient use of soil conditioners and fertilisers.

**Native woodlots and seed orchards - landholders enhancing local landscapes (\$108,520, 2007-08)**

Greening Australia (SA Inc) will enhance regional NRM through revegetation, by creating native species woodlots and seed orchards. It will reduce pressure on remnants from seed and fire wood harvesting, create a store of local provenance seed for revegetation works, provide additional income sources and on farm benefits to landholders.

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## Statewide

### **Sustainable land use and management of sandy soils (\$228,694, 2003-04)**

This project will be managed by the Advisory Board of Agriculture and address the main barriers preventing successful adoption of better land management strategies. It will identify knowledge gaps within grower groups and introduce new technologies for landholders to develop and demonstrate best practice in each district/region. And it will hold training programs to boost landholder skills and encourage them to incorporate new farming technologies.

### **Growing Agricultural Excellence (\$149,500, 2004-05; \$149,500, 2005-06)**

The Yorke Peninsula Alkaline Soils Group will develop a combined task force with project partners to drive adoption of improved farming systems in areas that have been slow to take them up. The project will push the role and effectiveness of smaller district Agricultural Bureau branches in promoting improved sustainable resource management practices.

### **EMS - Building Awareness (\$34,000, 2004-05; \$34,000, 2005-06; \$34,000, 2006-07)**

Partners in Grain SA will hold introductory EMS workshops in 10 locations across South Australia to promote a systematic and consistent approach to EMS principles. It will follow up the workshops with specific training aimed at increasing the adoption rate of EMS.

### **Developing and Evaluating Monitoring Tools for Sustainable Apple Production in South Australia (\$148,210, 2004-05)**

The Apple and Pear Growers Association of SA will trial nutrient management tools and soil-water management options for apple orchard management systems. This will lead to the development of best management practices for more efficient use of fertilisers by apple growers, resulting in reduced levels of nutrient leaching into groundwater resources.

### **Tactical decision making to enhance pastoral grazing management (\$95,000, 2005-06; \$95,000, 2006-07; \$125,000, 2007-08)**

Rural Directions Pty Ltd will work with pastoralists to identify and develop decision-making tools which assess the combination of feed, land and livestock that results in changes to grazing management. This will improve overall business performance and pastoral natural resource management as stocking rates are altered to match seasonal conditions and feed on offer.

### **Productive pollution-free agriculture — pathways to rural and urban coexistence (\$143,200, 2005-06; \$131,910, 2006-07; \$170,200, 2007-08)**

The South Australian No-Till Farmers Association will identify ways producers in the agricultural areas immediately to Adelaide's north can adopt best practice conservation farming methods. The project will also help reduce the impact of dust, smoke, water and pesticide pollution in outer metropolitan communities.

### **Resource not waste - the new dairy effluent paradigm (\$233,100, 2005-06; \$185,230, 2006-07; \$96,300, 2007-08)**

Dairy SA aims to bring about a significant increase in the use of dairy shed effluent as a resource. The project will involve dairy farmers in a program that captures and uses the nutrients in dairy waste — enhancing productivity while at the same time protecting the environment. Key features include best management guidelines and technical advice.

### **Advancing farming systems on sandy soils of South Australia (\$196,700, 2005-06; \$200,200, 2006-07)**

The Advisory Board of Agriculture will help farmers identify the production constraints and natural resource management impacts of sandy soils. The project will test and evaluate suitable technologies, and also identify the barriers to more farmers adopting new technologies and management systems.

### **Increased sustainability and profit from improved application of precision technologies (\$95,700, 2005-06; \$94,020, 2006-07; \$97,670, 2007-08)**

The Advisory Board of Agriculture will work with SA Mallee and Upper South East grower groups to improve land and risk-management practices through the better application of precision technologies. The latest technologies will be applied on focus paddocks, with the outcomes evaluated and the results made known to other growers via field activities.

### **Dairy Best – Farm NRM self-assessment (\$34,800, 2007-08)**

Dairy SA will deliver the Dairy SAT environmental self-assessment tool to 20 farms across South Australia. DairySAT will enable farmers to identify good natural resource management practices, learn more about the issues that they are not currently managing well and implement action plans to address these issues.

### **Soil nutrient best management practices for apple growers (\$70,900, 2007-08)**

The Apple & Pear Growers Association of South Australia will demonstrate new technologies, practices, research outputs and industry experiences to the apple industry so that improved best management practices and tools can be produced to better manage apple orchards. Key project outputs will support the apple industry in the natural resource management planning and implementation consultation processes.

### **Setting the direction for improved risk management decision making at a farm level (\$192,824, 2007-08)**

The Advisory Board of Agriculture will identify, trial, and assess newly-developed tools and protocols to support improved risk management and assess how these programs are best delivered. Landholder acceptance will be assessed by working with a number of grower groups based in the Eyre Peninsula and Northern and Yorke Region. Issues addressed will include financial implications, enterprise mix, and next generation property management systems.

### **Adoption of integrated production, business management and natural resource strategies (\$208,000, 2007-08)**

The Ag Excellence Alliance will promote greater grower understanding of current natural resource management (NRM) objectives and planning processes, increased grower integration of NRM targets with planned improvements in production and business management increased participation of growers in NRM planning and priority setting to ensure sustainable agricultural production issues can be better incorporated and addressed through future regional plans.

### **Creating a vision for native grasses to address landscape change across South Australia (\$97,800, 2007-08)**

The Upper North Farming Systems Group will develop a native grass working strategy for South Australia to recommend an implementation program for each region of the State. It will also increase awareness of the production and sustainability benefits of native grasses across SA and present industry development opportunities to regions.

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