



Increased pollination and crop production.



Trees increase property values by improving aesthetics



Beautiful timber furniture starts with beautiful trees



Trees increase biodiversity with "edge effect" from adjacent ecosystems increasing beneficial parasitic insects and birds.



**Agroforestry** combines agriculture and forestry to create more diverse, productive, profitable, healthy, and sustainable land-use. Trees or shrubs are grown around or among crops or pastureland providing multiple outputs, higher overall yields and, because a single application or input can be shared, costs are reduced. More info >>>> [agroforestry.org.au](http://agroforestry.org.au)



**South West Agroforestry Network (SWAN)** is a community organisation that helps landholders plan, establish and manage multi-purpose trees on farms.

If you think trees or shrubs might enhance your property, call Richard 0429 926 731 or get inspiration and information from [swagroforestrynetwork.com.au](http://swagroforestrynetwork.com.au)

Find us on  [SouthWestAgroforestryNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/SouthWestAgroforestryNetwork)



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So you've made the tree/sea change and are now making plans for your land. Through the Peer Group Mentor Program you can get in touch with some local farmers who can help you with your ideas.

Whether you are thinking of beasts, birds, bees, biodiversity or bush tucker, trees can help solve issues with wind, weeds and water as well as providing food, fodder, fuel and furniture timber.

Well planned tree planting will increase your property value and improve profits in your farming operations by providing shade and shelter. Trees also create new possibilities for future income e.g. truffles, biofuels, carbon as well as improving the aesthetics of your property.



Pine shelter belts protect sheep during lambing

Shade and shelter create different microclimates making stock, pastures & crops more productive.



Trees improve soil health by increasing organic matter (carbon) and biology such as fungi, bacteria and microfauna.



Multi-purpose trees provide firewood, quality timber, cut flowers, honey, bush tucker and a better working environment.



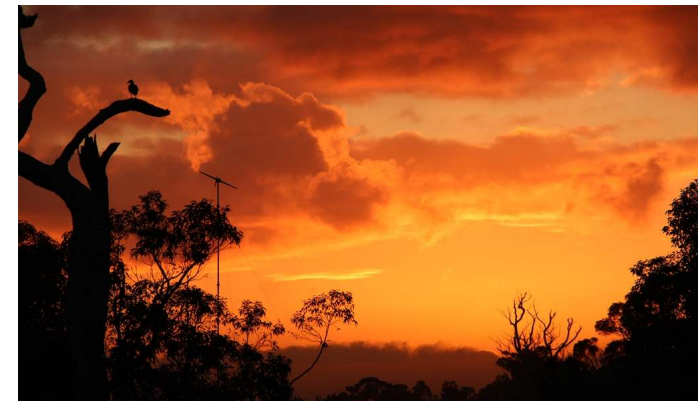
Trees on farms slow runoff, improve water quality and enhance and connect wildlife habitats



The **Peer Group Mentor Program** encourages and supports landholders to plan, establish and manage trees and shrubs for the reasons which are important to them. Mentors are not consultants, instead they provide a sounding board for farmers to explore ideas and develop their own plans. Landholders receive a comprehensive written report on the issues and opportunities identified. Getting started can be daunting. Our mentors can work with the landholder to plan the layout of trees, prepare tree orders, organise site preparation and show them how to plant, guard, prune, thin or even harvest trees.



**Well pruned trees can even reduce the fire risk on a property. Smooth barked spotted gum are also valuable for high quality timber production. Pruning and grazing with livestock reduces risk further.**



**Cath and Brad made the change in 2009. They bought a fabulous view and a howling southerly.**

The first priority was planting eucalypts to provide a wind break and privacy screen and ultimately some sawlogs, bush poles and building materials. Since then they have planted many more trees for fodder, bees, shelter, furniture timber and aesthetics.

*“Six years ago, we had no intentions of being farmers. We moved to the south west so Brad could be closer to the surf. As soon as we approached the property, we knew it was the one. It was a degraded 85 acre property that had been used for grazing cattle and gravel extraction. A lot had been taken out, but not much had been put back in. One of the main attractions was the 40 acres of remnant Jarrah/Marri forest. The first things we farmed were trees and they were our “gateway” into growing food. We now grow prime grass fed lambs, dairy, fibre and meat goats, hay and fodder crops. As well as these, we have chickens, guinea fowl, bees, an expanding veggie garden and fruit trees. Trees were a great way to start as they are a lot easier to manage than most agricultural ventures. They are also green all year round making the property much more attractive.”*

