

Results

Seeds germinate slowly, and in the following spring the site often appears completely covered by weeds. But the seedlings are there...and are quite dense!

After only 3 years, the direct seeding area often looks more established than tubestock areas planted at the same time.

Blackberries and thistles need to be controlled, but no other maintenance is required.



These 10 metre wide windbreaks depict a diverse selection of plants now flourishing after only 18 months.



Interested in more information?

To discuss project requirements, email:
info@wgseedbank.org.au or
Phone Merrin on 0425 775 785
For a current price list, see our website:
www.wgseedbank.org.au

WEST GIPPSLAND SEEDBANK ASSOCIATION INC. WARRAGUL

ABN 70 067 057 631

The Seedbank provides high quality, provenance based seed, which is sold to nurseries, private landowners and Landcare, for a range of local revegetation projects.



A selection of seeds ready for sale.

For a current price list
or for further information contact:

West Gippsland Seedbank Warragul

Address: PO Box 1058, Warragul, VIC 3820
Phone: Merrin Butler on 0425 775 786
E-mail: info@wgseedbank.org.au
Website: www.wgseedbank.org.au

Seedbank is located at the Baw Baw Shire Depot,
188 Normanby St, Warragul.

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DIRECT SEEDING

THE LOW-COST,

LOW-LABOUR OPTION

FOR REVEGETATION PROJECTS



This thriving shelter belt clearly reflects
the successful result of direct seeding
after only three years.

Contact: The Secretary
Phone: Merrin Butler on 0425 775 786
Website: www.wgseedbank.org.au
Email: info@wgseedbank.org.au

Direct Seeding

What is direct seeding?

Direct seeding establishes trees and understorey by scattering the seed directly onto the prepared site. It is quick, cheap and effective and imitates natural vegetation.

Seed is sown at a rate of between 1½ to 2 kilograms of seed per hectare, or 400 grams per kilometre of seeded strip.

What are the advantages?

- ◆ **Cuts** the costs
- ◆ **Cuts** the labour - no planting or tree guards
- ◆ **Cuts** the time - only a few passes with the tractor
- ◆ **Gives** a very effective natural look

What is the best time?

The usual time to do direct seeding in the West Gippsland region is early spring.

A few months of reliable rainfall after planting is necessary so that the young seedlings will receive water (the most common cause of death in germinating seedlings is drying out).

If sowing is done close to summer, manual watering of the rows may be necessary.

Planning

Seed:

- ◆ **Order** your seed preferably 12 months prior to planting.
- ◆ **Contact** the Seedbank to discuss what species and quantities would be most suitable for the intended site. To achieve

the best results, a range of understorey species should be included as well as tall trees.

- ◆ **The Seedbank** will supply seed collected from areas that closely match your site.

The Machine:

- ◆ **Contact** - South Gippsland Seedbank to make a booking to hire the Rippa Seeder - ideally about the first week in September.

Phone: 5662 2453

Email: sgseeds@hotmail.com

Open: Thursdays - 9:00am to 12:00pm

Website: www.sgseedbank.com.au

Preparation of the Site

- ◆ **Fence** the site to protect it from livestock.
- ◆ **Mow** or graze the site hard prior to spraying.
- ◆ **Spray** the site with glyphosate 6 weeks prior to seeding...then again...1 week prior to seeding. This site preparation gives the seedlings the best chance of survival. However, some unsprayed sites have also had success.

How is direct seeding done?

The site is prepared by a specific machine pulled behind a tractor. Several types of direct seeding machines can be hired, including the pictured, Rippa Seeder.



Tractor moves slowly preparing the site.

The "Rippa Seeder" machine digs a shallow rip line and scalps away topsoil, removing grass roots and the weed and pasture seedbed, exposing less fertile soil. Native species prefer less fertile soil and out-compete the weeds.



This 10 metre wide shelter belt will provide 4 rows for direct seeding.

Usually, seed is mixed with a bulking agent and distributed by hand. For large areas, the Seedbox on the machine can be used, however it isn't suitable for all types of seeds.

