

A Brief History of Flora Victoria

The Burnley Horticultural College Indigenous Garden











Brimbank City Council Grassland Interpretation Gardens





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 Organizations, including most Municipal Councils on the
 Basalt plains.
- Does on-ground management on up to 2000 hectares of Western Plains Grassland.



Control of *Phalaris aquatica* at Lake Borrie Grassland at the Western Treatment Plant Melbourne Water

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- The Pimelea population is monitored about every five years by an independent Botanical Consultant.
- Flora Victoria has worked at Lake Borrie Grassland for six years.

Lake Borrie Grassland, approximately 30 hectares



The story of one Pimelea plant









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- Involves dribbling droplets of herbicide into the leaves.
- The best time for this type of herbicide application is after a burn when plants are still small and there is more space between target weeds and desirable plants.
- Is time consuming and expensive, but often the most effective way of targeting weeds threatening rare plants.























If the Phalaris is to thick?

Boom spray and sow



June 2009









• Approximately 20 hectares of *Phalaris aquatica* has been replaced with indigenous species at Lake Borrie Grassland.

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- The following information was relayed to us from the botanical consultant in 2007 regarding the Pimelea spinescens population, only one year after Phalaris aquatica control started.
 - "To my surprise and delight at last count I have recorded 124 new recruits, and as I said I still need to systematically search the study area.

The unexpected increase in population numbers has come in low-density and Pimelea-absent areas, where the recent management (burns, weed control, pest control) has resulted in germination and survival of seed stored in the soil".

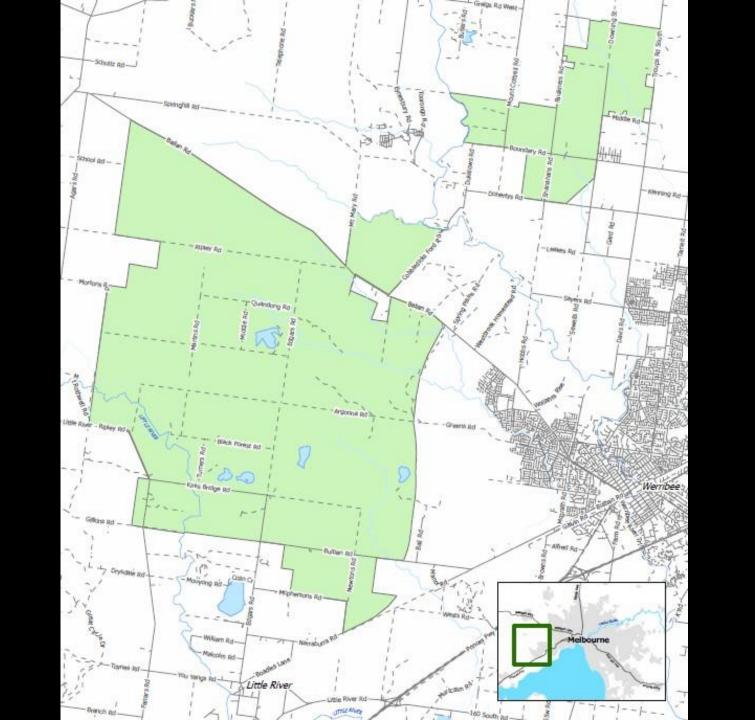
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- Parks Victoria will then take over the management of the Grassland Reserves.
- To find out more about the Western Grassland Reserves, go to the DSE web site at http://www.dse.vic.gov.au and type "The Western Grassland Reserves" into the search box.











Flora Victoria Native Grass Seed Production







































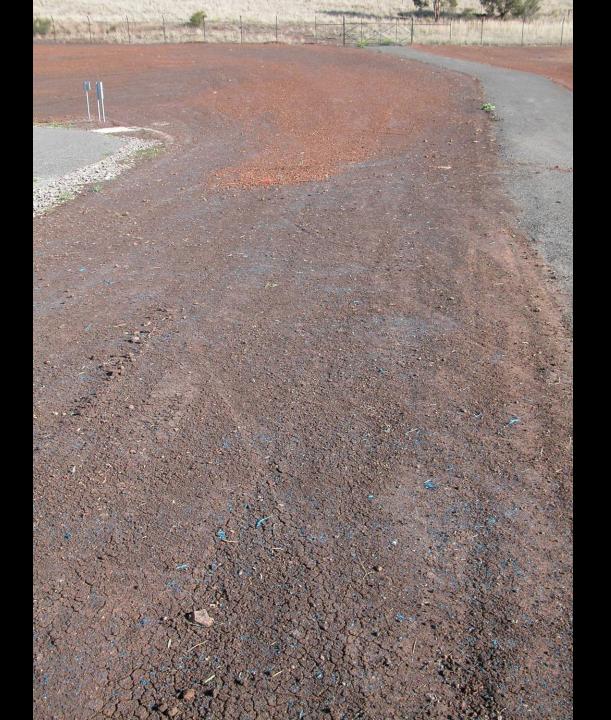


• Use weed free soil, not weed infested topsoil.





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- Test all soil used as topsoil and treat if needed.









- Use weed free soil, not weed infested topsoil.
- Test all soil used as topsoil and treat if needed.
- Use seed harvested from a clean source.
- Sow into a cultivated seed bed.

• Inspect seed sources if harvested from wild stands.

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- If you are not absolutely sure of seed purity, insist on seed certification.

REPORT OF SEED ANALYSIS

E.M. Pascoe Seed Testing Services 12 Ridge Road Greensborough VIC 3088 Ph / Fax (03) 9434 5072

ABN: 59 372 820 518

Flora Victoria 102 McIntyres Dr Altona Vic 3018

Seed <u>Dichelachne crinita</u> CV. <u>Lot Designation_25/3/11</u>

No. of Parcels	Weight of Lot	Date Sample Received	Date Statement Issued	Laboratory Number	
	TOTAL PROPERTY.	28/3/11	6/5/2011	11/599	

ANALYSIS RESULTS

Purity - % weight		Germination - % number Prechilled & KNO treated								
Pure Seed Othe	Other Seeds	Inert Matter	First Count		Final Count		Hard	Frosh	Abnormal	Rock
	Other Seeds		Day	Normal Seedings	Day	Normal Seedings	Seeds	Ungerm. Seeds	Seedings	Sextx Rem.
99.3*	0.1	0.6	7	39	21	72				28

Other Seeds

Astrodanthonia setacea

Inort Matter

Plant pieces, empty glumes, sterile florets, insect parts.

Remarks

* See attached ISTA definition of Pure Seed.

ELIZABETH NA PASCOE STPC

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Seed___Danthonia

CV. mixed Lot Designation 25/3/11

No. of Parcels	Weight of Lot	Date Sample Received	Date Statement Issued	Laboratory Number		
		28/3/2011	6/5/2011	11/506		

ANALYSIS RESULTS

Purity - % weight		Germination - % number Prechilled & KNO treated							ed	
Pure Seed Other See	Other Seeds	Inert Matter	First Count		Final Count		Hard	Frosh	Abnormal	Dead
	Other Seeds		Day	Normal Seedings	Day	Normal Seedings	Seeds	Ungerm, Seeds	Seedings	Seeds
86.5	Trace	13.5	7	29	28	82		1		17

Other Seeds

Phalaris minor Themeda sp

Inort Matter

Plant pieces, empty glumes, sterile florets.

Remarks

ELIZABETH M. PASCOE STPC

- Inspect seed sources if harvested from wild stands.
- If you are not absolutely sure of seed purity, insist on seed certification.
- Seed grown under controlled conditions for seed production should be of the highest quality

Three management case scenarios

Scenario 1

Sowing into weedy sites with no maintenance

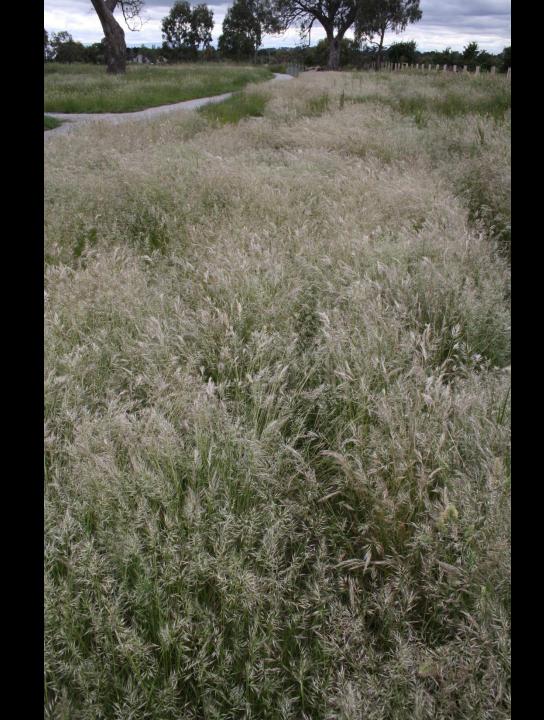
- Cheap!
- Variable results
- Sometimes low amenity value

Taylor's Valley Path





Mernda Village Pipeline





Emu Valley Sunbury









Scenario 2

Sowing into a weedy site with maintenance. Jones Ck Cairnlea

Main weeds

- Couch
- Kikuyu
- Serrated tussock
- Chilean needle grass
- Cane needle grass

- Assorted annual grasses
- Malva and other broad leaf weeds.









Approximate weed control costs for Jones Ck (1 hectare)

• Post sowing weed control \$20,000 for 12 months.

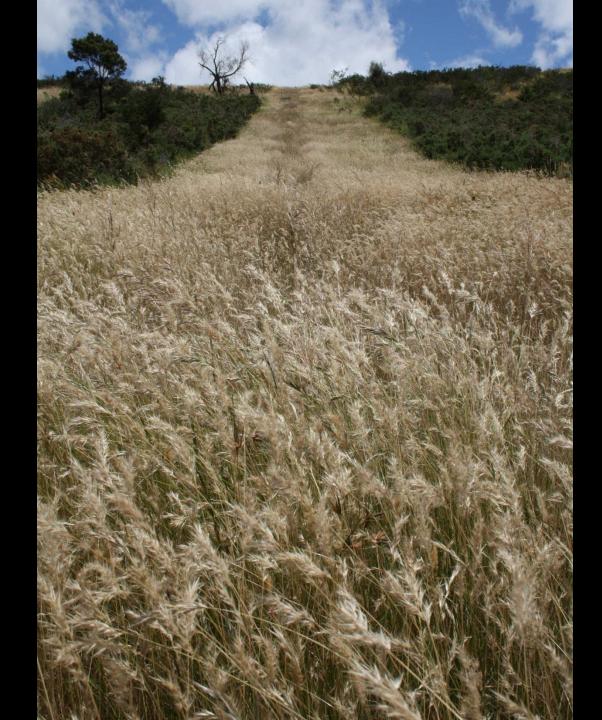
Scenario 3

Sowing into a clean site

- Clean seed
- Clean topsoil with adequate fertility
- = Minimal/No maintenance

Quarry Hills Pipeline







E.E. Muir & Sons Laverton











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- It can take six months to get an acceptable result.
- It takes 18 months for some native grasses to reach maturity.
- Be patient!











What about the cost of sowing native grass seed?

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At a density of 10 to 50 plants per m2 (sometimes much higher) and a seed rate of 20kg, one hectare can be sown from approximately \$7,000.00 including cultivation.

Some projects we have completed.































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- Consider rabbit control.

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- Use high quality weed free seed.
- Use an adequate seeding rate (20kg/ha or more).
- Maintain weed control for 18 to 24 months.
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- Consider rabbit control.
- Be prepared to wait 6 months to see the native grass and 18 months for the full result.