

## Case study

### Coonawarra Wine Region

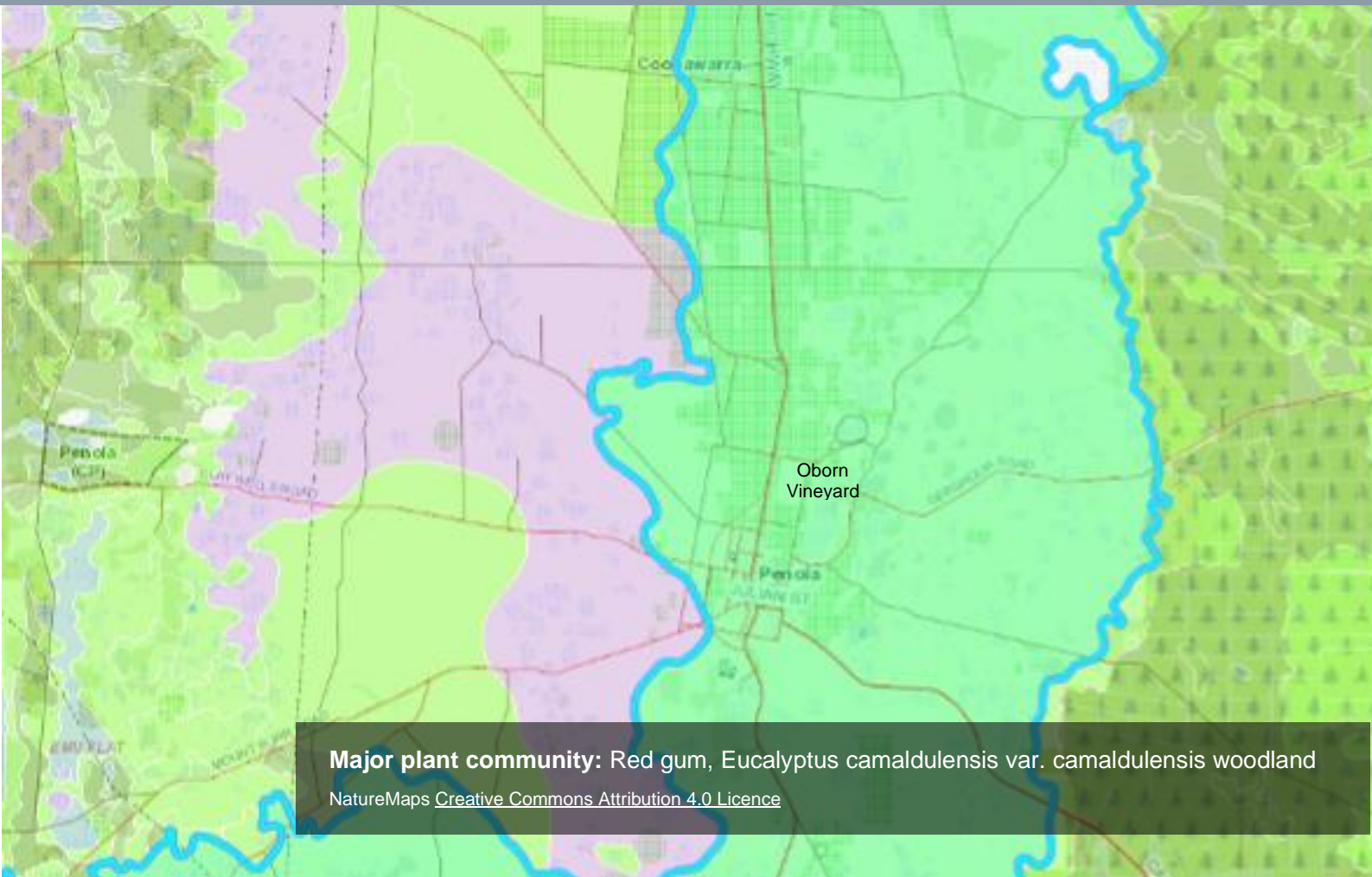
#### Oborn Vineyard, Coonawarra, SA

**EcoGrowers: Rae Clark**

*“The EcoVineyards experience has been awesome, to have the opportunity to network with likeminded people. Our vineyards have all greatly benefited from the planting of over 20 different species of trees, shrubs, and grasses. We have gained so much from the EcoVineyards experience and are grateful for being given the opportunity to partake in this amazing project.”*



October 2023



**Major plant community:** Red gum, Eucalyptus camaldulensis var. camaldulensis woodland

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EcoGrower: Rae Clark, Oborn Vineyard

Coonawarra Wine Region



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### What worked well?

The best thing we did was to hire the dingo post hole driller for drilling holes for planting.

This greatly helped with the establishment of the trees, there was a vast difference between the growth of our 2020 plantings to the following plantings that we used the dingo.

### What would you do differently?

Nothing really, in hindsight maybe we could have used the dingo post digger for everything from the start.

### What are you more aware of now?

Some trees require more TLC to get established than others.

We are more aware and are keeping our eyes out for new and different species of insects and birds coming to our area.

### Has your level of knowledge increased since becoming an EcoGrower?

Absolutely! We have learnt so much over the last couple of years which has given us a great foundation to build upon, I don't think you can ever stop learning.

### Progress (June 2021 to 2023):

#### What were you hoping to achieve and why?

Our aim was to create a safe habitat for our wildlife to thrive including insects, frogs, bats and birds.

#### What did you do and when?

We started by planning 75 trees in 2020. By joining the EcoVineyards program, this enabled us to plant an additional 420 trees in 2021 and 494 trees in 2022.

#### Any highlights that you would like to share?

Most of what we planted has done well except for *Olearia ramulosa*, twiggly daisy bush and *Bursaria spinosa*, sweet bursaria did not like the wet conditions and died in the second year.

We haven't noticed any bats although I'm sure they are there. We do have a lot of different insects, spiders, caterpillars, and frogs that we have not seen before in the trees and grasses.

#### Where to from here?

We have big plans to extend our area at the Oborn Vineyard. At the moment our plantings cover half a hectare and we aim to cover 2 Ha over the next couple of years.

#### What has been the most valuable aspect for you personally?

Enjoying watching everything grow and observing the beneficial importance of having strands of native vegetation we will continue to establish and maintain. It's nice to give back.







Native insectary plantings in 2022 (Photos: Mary Retallack)





Clockwise from above: four-spotted cup moth, *Doratifera quadriguttata*, green orb-weaver spider, *Araneus talipedatus*, garden orb weaver spider, *Hortophora transmarina* and transverse ladybird beetle, *Coccinella transversalis* (Photos: Mary Retallack)













EcoGrower: Rae Clark, Oborn Vineyard

Coonawarra Wine Region



**Native plant list:**

- *Acacia melanoxylon*, blackwood
- *Acacia pycnantha*, golden wattle
- *Allocasuarina verticillata*, sheoak
- *Banksia marginata*, silver banksia/honeysuckle
- *Bursaria spinosa*, sweet bursaria
- *Callistemon rugulosus*, swamp bottlebrush
- *Ficinia nodosa*, knobby club rush
- *Hakea nodosa*, yellow hakea
- *Leptospermum continentale*, prickly tea-tree
- *Melaleuca gibbosa*, slender honey myrtle
- *Melaleuca squarrosa*, swamp honey myrtle
- *Melaleuca lanceolata*, dryland tea-tree
- *Olearia ramulosa*, twiggy daisy bush
- *Poa Labillardierei*, tussock grass



Photo above: *Leptospermum lanigerum*, woolly tea tree. Photo right: *Missulena bradleyi*, eastern mouse spider (Photos: Mary Retallack).

## Expenses (cash and in-kind)

Name: Oborn Vineyard		Region: Coonawarra			
Date	Activity	Number of plants	Grant cash expenses	Additional cash co-contribution	In-kind time captured
30/05/2021	Eucaleuca Native Services 216 tube stock + 350 tree guards	216	\$ 1,227		
30/05/2021	Mimosa Farm Trees 204 tube stock	204	\$ 510		
26/08/2022	Tube stock (@ 2.50 ea)	80	\$ 182		
26/08/2022	Hico tubes (@1.10 ea)	40	\$ 40		
26/08/2022	Tree guards (stakes only 200 @ 0.90 ea)		\$ 164		
3/08/2022	Tube stock seedlings (120 <i>Ficinia nodosa</i> , 68 <i>Oleria ramulosa</i> , 52 <i>Poa labill.</i> , 20 <i>Melaleuca gibbosa</i> , 20 <i>Banksia marginata</i> , 20 <i>Callistemon rugulosus</i> , 14 mixed seedlings @ 2.60 ea)	334	\$ 868		
3/08/2022	Cell Stock Seedlings - (20 <i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i> , 20 <i>Leptospermum continentale</i> @1.50 ea)	40	\$ 60		
16/06/2023	Inter row pollinator mix		\$ 949		
20/05/2021	Herbicide			\$ 50	5 hrs
2/06/2022	Planting/Dingo Hire			\$ 175	48 hrs
	Watering-Weeding-Mowing				68 hrs
15/08/2022	Planting/Dingo Hire			\$ 175	56 hrs
	Watering-Weeding-Mowing				72 hrs
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>914</b>	<b>\$ 4,000</b>	<b>\$ 400</b>	<b>249 hrs</b>





# ECO VINEYARDS

GROWING RESILIENCE NATURALLY

## Program partners



This project is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, through funding from Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

### Acknowledgement of country

The EcoVineyards program acknowledges Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and waters we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present, and emerging. We acknowledge and respect the deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country.

### Disclaimer

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For more info about the National EcoVineyards Program see <https://www.ecovineyards.com.au>