

Dung Beetle Project

The Project

Riverina Highlands Landcare Network is embarking on a 2 year project to look at the opportunities for maximising the use of dung beetles to improve pasture condition.

With funding secured from Meat and Livestock Australia, and project support from Riverina Local Land Services, Riverina Highlands Landcare Network will conduct a series of field trials to measure changes in cattle dung pads as a result of dung beetle activity.

The project aims to trial a greater diversity of species to see if they can survive, thrive and expand across the region under those varying conditions.

As part of the project:

- A landholder survey is available to gauge landholders perceptions of dung beetles. For a copy of the survey please visit www.riverinahighlandslandcare.com.au.
- 2 field days will be delivered to provide information on dung beetles and the results of the field trial.
- A field trial will be held on 5 properties whereby up to 5 new species of beetles will be released. The producers involved will help with monitoring species survival rates and their spread across the property as well as their effectiveness in processing the dung.
- The trial will be based on constructing grazing and beetle exclusion cages to measure pasture growth rates in treated & non treated zones.

How can I become involved?

Riverina Highlands Landcare Network is looking for 5 properties geographically spread across the region to participate in the field trial.

Landholders involved in the project will be provided with up to 5 new species of dung beetles to be released in a trial design.

Landholders will need to:

- Provide 2 paired paddocks;
- Assist with the set up of the grazing enclosures;
- Assist with monitoring the sites in terms of dung beetle activity, pasture growth and soil testing;
- Use only dung beetle friendly drenches and other animal health products.
- Be a financial member of RHLN.

Landholders interested in participating in the project are asked to complete the Expression Of Interest below before the 31st March 2018.



LAND MANAGER EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Name

Address

Phone No.ABN.....

Email Address.....

I am interested in: Participating in the dung beetles trial project

Are you a member of the Riverina Highlands Landcare Network?

Please return this section to:Riverina Highlands Landcare Network

PO Box 3 TUMUT NSW 2720

Email: cherie.white@lls.nsw.gov.au or Fax—02 69474339