



## **Welcome to the May edition!**

Many of you who make up the farmer audience are probably getting ready for seeding at the moment. We would like to wish you all the best for the coming season and hope this edition of Carbon News provides much food for thought during those long hours on the tractor.

---

## New Carbon Farming Extension Officer



Jo Wheeler is now working with WANTFA on the Carbon Farming Extension and Outreach Project. Jo also works for Wheatbelt NRM as a Project Manager on Sustainable Agricultural projects.

The Carbon Farming project focuses on the science behind carbon sequestration and soil emissions management, and the synergies that exist between higher soil carbon content, reduced nitrous oxide emissions and farm productivity. While livestock emissions management are important, this project will focus on cropping systems.

As part of the 'Overcoming Barriers for Western Australian growers to participate in the Carbon Farming Initiative' project, Jo will be running workshops at specific carbon farming events, popular field days and other events. Farmers, industry representatives, researchers and farm consultants are invited to come along so they can access up-to-date knowledge and information on managing greenhouse gas emissions (from livestock and soils), and increasing soil and vegetation carbon stocks.

Jo has previously worked with the Department of Agriculture where she focused on Weed Science, Pulses and Soil Surveying. She was responsible for organising tree plantings for carbon sequestration at the Men of the Trees Revegetation Centre for four years, and is experienced in running agricultural trials, spraying weeds and digging holes. Over the past three years, Jo has been working for Wheatbelt NRM on various Sustainable Agriculture projects including the current Royalties for Regions Carbon Farming project.

To learn more about Carbon Farming or to participate in the Emissions Reduction Fund, contact Jo Wheeler on 0419 753 248 or [jwheeler@wheatbeltnrm.org.au](mailto:jwheeler@wheatbeltnrm.org.au)



## **Change from the Carbon Farming Initiative (CFI) to the Emissions Reduction Fund (ERF) and what it means for farmers.**

Are you interested to learn how the new Emissions Reduction Fund has changed from the Carbon Farming Initiative? Would you like to know how the changes could impact on your carbon farming projects?

Click [HERE](#) to read about the changes.

---

## **Update from the Emissions Reduction Fund**

The Emissions Reduction Fund update for March 2015 contains information on the following topics:

- new Emissions Reduction Fund methods
- open for consultation—draft methods
- date set for first auction
- method prioritisation process
- Emissions Reduction Fund legislative rule
- Australian Financial Services Licence requirements
- expanding opportunities for land managers
- update to FullCAM—carbon storage modelling tool.

To read the update click [HERE](#).



## University of Melbourne and Earth Hour look at the impacts of global warming on farming

During 2015, Earth Hour Australia are celebrating Australian food and farmers, reminding us of the need to tackle global warming, for the sake of our rural communities and our supply of good quality fresh food. As part of this year's initiative, researchers at the University of Melbourne have been working with Earth Hour Australia to identify the impact global warming is having on key farming regions across the country and on different foods grown by our farmers. Check out the full report [HERE](#) .



## Carbon Farming Projects across WA

NRM regions across WA are delivering awareness raising activities relating to the Royalties for Regions Carbon Farming Project. This project works with information primarily generated by the Department of Agriculture and Food, WA specifically for the project on carbon farming issues and opportunities in WA.

Through this project a number of demonstration sites are being established and monitored that demonstrate activities which:

- a) contribute to the sequestration of carbon, or
- b) reduce emissions produced through agriculture.

Field days and workshops are also being conducted as part of this project, so keep a look out for events in your region.

A series of fact sheets has been published by DAFWA to provide information on carbon farming activities. Click [HERE](#) to view these fact sheets.



## Life Cycle Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Australian Agriculture

Australian Agriculture is responsible for approximately 15% of the overall emissions from Australia. A recent study looking at the greenhouse gas emissions associated with cropping systems found that the largest emission sources were from the production and use of nitrogenous fertilisers. Diesel use on farm was also a large source of emissions. For the full story click [HERE](#).

---

*Copyright © 2015 WANTFA, All rights reserved.*

This newsletter is produced as part of WANTFA's Carbon Farming Extension and Outreach project.  
This project is supported by funding from the Australian Government.

**Our mailing address:** WANTFA, Private Bag 5, Wembley WA 6913

**Phone:** 08 93837630