



ORARA RIVER REHABILITATION PROJECT RIVERBANK REVEGETATION FACT SHEET

Six Good Reasons to Revegetate Riverbanks

1. Vegetation with deep roots helps stabilise riverbanks, making them more resistant to erosion, and protecting them in times of flood;
2. Healthy riverbank vegetation traps excessive nutrients and sediment moving from paddocks into watercourses and therefore improve water quality;
3. The native riverbank vegetation on the Orara and Urumbilum Rivers and their tributaries is Lowland Subtropical Rainforest on Floodplain, which is an endangered Ecological Community in the NSW North Coast Bioregion, so is worth protecting;
4. Vegetation corridors along riverbanks, connecting with the well forested hill slopes of the Orara Valley, provide valuable habitat for our native fauna;
5. Native vegetation provides habitat for insect-eating birds and insect parasites that can help to protect pastures and crops from damage. It also reduces the impact of high winds on sheltering stock;
6. Anecdotal evidence from real estate agents suggests that well vegetated riparian frontage can add up to 10% to the market value of a rural property.

While riverbank vegetation has an amazing capacity to regenerate on its own once invasive weeds are managed, if natural regeneration does not occur then planting of locally indigenous plant species is recommended.

Native Plants for the Orara River, Urumbilum River, & Bucca Bucca Creek

Waters Edge (Toe of Bank) & Islands

River Mat Rush (*Lomandra hystrix*)
River Oak (*Casuarina cunninghamia*)
Water Gum (*Tristainiopsis laurina*)

Mid Bank

Water Gum (*Tristainiopsis laurina*)
Brush Cherry (*Syzygium australe*)
Lilli Pilli (*Acmena Smithii*)
Sandpaper Fig (*Ficus coronata*)
Weeping Bottlebrush (*Callistemon salignus*)
(NB – for Bucca Bucca Creek Only)

Upper Bank & Floodplain

Jackwood (*Cryptocarya glaucescens*)
Black Apple (*Planchonella australis*)
Native Tamarind (*Diploglottis australis*)
Olivers Sassafras (*Cinnamomum oliveri*)
White Beech (*Gmelina leichhardtii*)
Coachwood (*Ceratopetalum apetalum*)
Pepperberry (*Cryptocarya obovata*)
Rose Walnut (*Endiandra discolour*)
Small Leaved Fig (*Ficus obliqua*)

Please note that this list is not exhaustive but shows plants which are readily available from Coffs Harbour City Council Nursery and local nursery suppliers. If in doubt about what to plant where, please contact your local LandCare or RiverCare Group

Riparian Zone Cross Section

Upper Bank
& Floodplain



Mid Bank

Bank Toe

Local Group Contact Details

- ▶ Cochrans Pool Urumbilum RiverCare Group – Doug Hoschke – ph 6653 8372
- ▶ Karangi LandCare Group (also covering Coramba) – Ron Smith – ph 6653 8349
- ▶ Nana Glen LandCare Group – Peter Franklin - ph 6654 3452

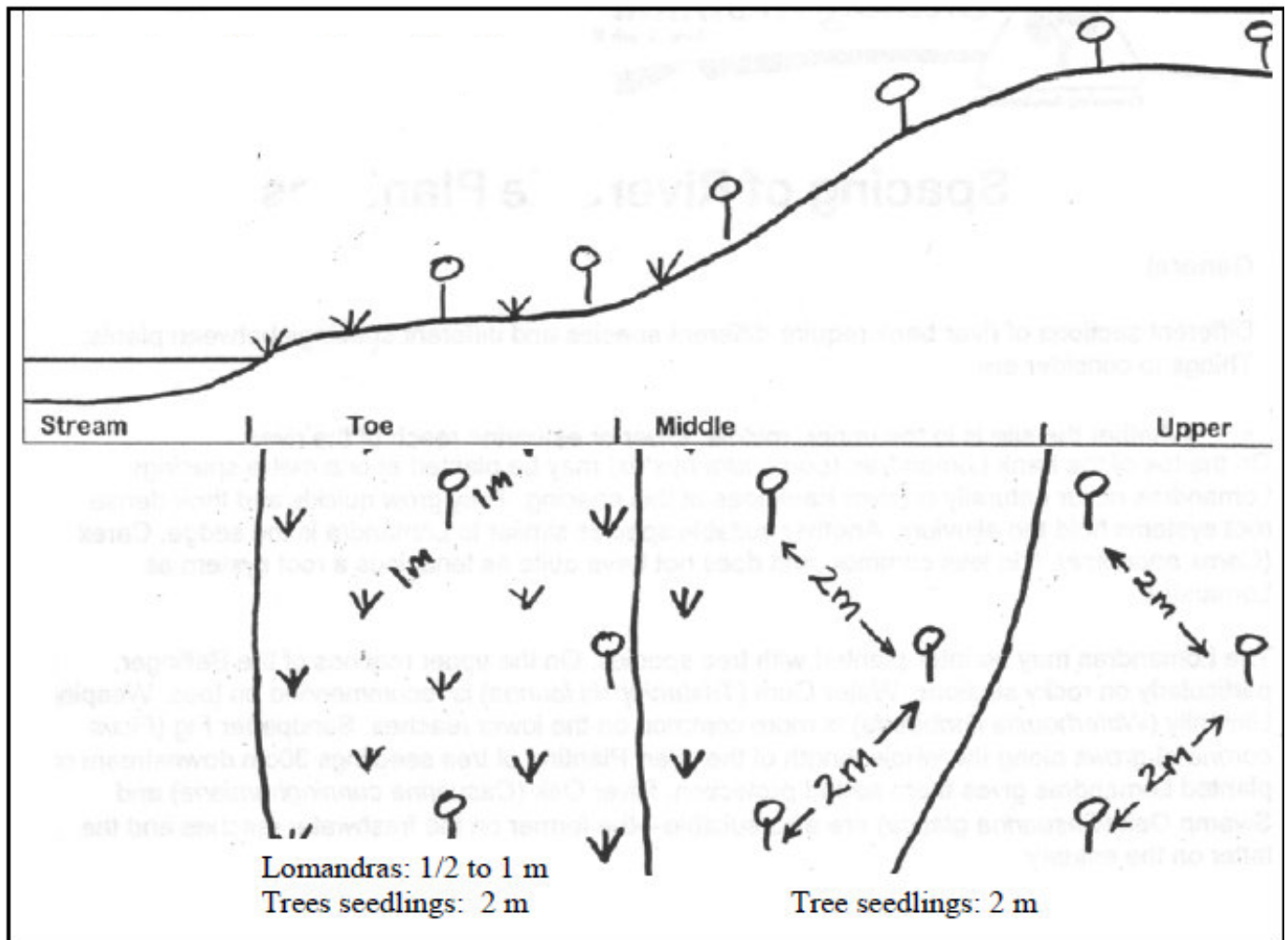
RIPARIAN ZONE PLANTING OPTIONS

Site Preparation & Maintenance

While some weeds, such as Tobacco Bush, protect new plantings from excessive sun exposure and frost, it is essential to keep stock and smothering weeds away from new plantings. For example on:

- ▶ **Smaller Sites** – Weed Control can be carried out through the careful application of herbicides around the new plants, hand pulling, and regular mulching.
- ▶ **Larger Sites** – Weed Control around plantings can be carried out by spacing plants sufficiently to allow the use of your mower or slasher to maintain areas around the plants, and then Weed Control can be carried out in close proximity to the new plants through the careful application of herbicides, hand pulling, and regular mulching.

Plant Spacing



Caring For Your New Plantings

It is best to support tree species planted with Stakes, and to use Tree Guards where grazing by Wallabies is likely. It is also important to use Tree Guards when planting during and just before the cooler months of the year when frosts are likely.

An application of slow release, native fertilizer in early spring gives a worthwhile boost to plant growth.

Expanding Your Revegetated Area

If you are considering planting a very large area, it may be possible to plant small groups of trees together and gradually plant outwards from these areas as the original planting establish.

For more information about the Orara River Rehabilitation Project, contact Orara River Rehabilitation Project Officer, ph 6648 4000.



ORARA VALLEY RIVERCARE GROUPS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE INC

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