
FARMING WITH NATIVE BIODIVERSITY: A roadmap towards systems change

Healthy ecosystems with high biodiversity have been recognised as essential for sustainable farming and it has been proven that supporting native biodiversity can lead to improved farm production.

The Farming with Native Biodiversity pilot worked with farmers, catchment groups, councils, and other stakeholders to improve knowledge of native biodiversity, and develop the capacity to implement practices on farm.

With farmers and land managers still preferring face-to-face interactions to gain information as opposed to being sent a document to read, there needs to be an increase in the number of ecologists and other ecology savvy specialists spread across the country to fill this service.

Through this project, we have developed resources to upskill farm advisors on how to manage biodiversity on farms. It is expected that advisors who have gone through these resources will be better able to provide recommendations on actions to manage biodiversity on farms.

Ecologists and advisors, trained to collaborate with farmers and tāngata whenua, need to be able to advise on how native biodiversity can be managed in a modified environment while being mindful of the impacts management options will have on the farming business, and vice versa.

We hope this roadmap will guide a range of user groups in how they can access and incorporate these resources that were developed for public benefit into their strategies and operations.

Farming with Native Biodiversity ties in with, and can support, the excellent work catchment and community groups are doing across New Zealand.

Throughout the project, we have encountered more proactive farmers who are engaged in making native biodiversity a priority on their farm and have ambitious goals for restoring areas for native biodiversity are part of a catchment group, with many of them being the chairperson of their local group. Catchment groups have proven to be great vehicles for change and support for farmers as they create a safe space for knowledge to be shared without criticism and help align individual landowners' values.

Roadmap for Catchment Groups

The Farming with Native Biodiversity pilot has produced a range of resources to help catchment groups actively improve the outcomes of native biodiversity with pastoral farm systems.

The information is designed to be shared and can be customised and re-skinned for your group's purposes.

HOW YOU CAN USE THE RESOURCES

TRAINING:

- **E-learning modules:** nine 15-20 minute modules designed to introduce your farmers to the concepts behind farming with native biodiversity. The modules mix up videos from experts with quizzes, examples and key facts.
- **Workshop Session Toolkit:** Includes a guide agenda, activities, presentation, and facilitator notes.

PLANNING:

- Example Biodiversity management action plans for sheep and beef farms.

PLANTING:

- Hear from the experts.
- Top tips for native planting.
- Plant selection information sheets and podcasts.

PEST MANAGEMENT:

- Information sheets, podcasts, and videos on predator control and pest identification.

NEWSLETTER CONTENT:

- Tips and information to integrate into industry newsletters and updates on biodiversity on farm.

READ, LISTEN, WATCH & LEARN:

The Farming with Native Biodiversity Resources Collection is a repository of information sheets, presentations, podcasts, videos, apps created by the project, national and international environmental organisations, and research institutes including the Farming with Native Biodiversity project team, NZ Landcare Trust, and more.



INFORMATION SHARING:

- Information sheets
- Videos
- Webinars
- Podcasts

Check out the Resources Collection on Farming with Native Biodiversity's website.

Customise the resources to suit your group

Share with your group

Incorporate the resources into your catchment action plans