



Biodiversity & Girringun Native Plant Nursery September 2016 Newsletter

Girringun Biodiversity Nursery and Revegetation Project Team has been busy since the June 2016 Newsletter.

The Biodiversity Nursery Coordinator has engaged Bryan Tobane as the Revegetation Supervisor with two new team members Sandra Leo and Delvene Reese. The whole team is now currently studying online Certificate 111 in Horticulture with Delvene studying a Diploma of Horticulture.

The concept of seed banking is to secure seeds for the future with the main purpose value of food for the future which was the topic of the Seed Conference Bryan and I attended in Sydney earlier in the year. Bush tucker seed banking is something Biodiversity and Girringun Native Plant Nursery is working on developing.

Each of the team attended Computer Basics workshop at Girringun Aboriginal Corporation to assist with the recording of information for the Nursery and Reporting for Biodiversity to Department of the Environment and Energy. Into the future, record keeping will take a more computer based level of reporting. Girringun Aboriginal Corporation has invested in a new system which will allow our team to report on site through electronic device – tablet which will feed information back directly to Girringun's computer system.

Nursery Construction is complete in August 2016. I was pleased that I have the support of the Nursery Sub Committee through the construction stage and going forward with the planning of the commercial development of the nursery and we are working toward a fruitful future for Girringun Native Plant Nursery.

The rainy season not sure what happened but apparently it is on its way, so the Girringun Native Plant Nursery and Revegetation Team have been busy assessing future maintenance of existing revegetation sites, planting trees and general nursery maintenance. We have been working on maintenance of a few revegetation sites including Warrami Waterhole Site, Yabullum IPA Site, Wheatley Creek and Wongaling Restoration site, Djiru, Mungulla Station Site and preparation for work at Jingalingu.

Green Army is operating out of Cardwell with Supervisor Joel Tiernary at the driving force of 4 sites Girringun national Park Wallaman Falls , Girringun National Park Stoney River/Stoney Creek, Halifax Bay wetlands National Park and Hull River National Park. Bryan Tobane and the team are happily assisting the Green Army Team with biodiversity projects and planting more trees on country.

Biodiversity and Nursery staff attended 8 market stalls promoting the Nursery and educating the general public about Biodiversity and Girringun Native Plant Nursery and Girringun Aboriginal Corporation. Girringun Aboriginal Corporation also has an Indigenous Ranger Program and Arts Centre with a Museum. The project produced a bush tucker plant book Wabu Jananyu on Rainforest Plants earlier in the project with limited book sales. We have continued to promoted the book along with the Girringun Native Plant Nursery.

The promotion and marketing of our existing dedication to the project and the project outcomes has been well received by the general public. Our small community is very supportive and wish to see Girringun Aboriginal Corporation develop the Production Nursery. Biodiversity has attended the NAIDOC festivities at Abergowie, Tully, PYC bush tucker presentation to the children, Juvenile Detention Centre in Townsville and the Banana Festival at the Mission Beach School. All of this participation in promoting the work of Biodiversity and Girringun Aboriginal Corporation's work on Country.

Local community engagement included a Cultural Fun Day at Jumbun Community and engaged with the Cardwell State School for their bush tucker garden project.

Other Activities:

- More business cards were printed for the nursery.
- Book Sales and Plant Sales are gradually growing.
- Marketing, meet and greet for general public and tourists through the market stall is warmly welcomed.
- Landscaping and plantings are looking amazing at the Girringun Native Plant Nursery.
- Facebook page with membership growing daily.

Proposed Community Events:

- AGM and Healing Ceremony in October 28th, 29th and 30th

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