



Case Study

Mixed Fallow Legumes



LANDHOLDER	David Accornero
LOCATION	ForestHome
CATCHMENT	Lower Herbert
RAINFALL	ForestHome annual rainfall 2019 - 2950.5mm
PROPERTY SIZE	36 total ha
ON-GROUND PROVIDER	HCPSL

Project Catalyst is a grower led, sugar cane innovation and adoption project that explores, develops and validates farm management practice change to improve the enduring water quality of the Great Barrier Reef.

BROADER ADOPTION VALIDATION & GROWER SUPPORT

Founded in 2009, the project operates in the Mackay Whitsunday, Burdekin and Wet Tropic regions to deliver valued practice change outcomes and develop methods for industry adoption. Under the Broader Adoption and Grower Support program, professional on-ground service providers assist selected growers to adopt and validate appropriate change practices. Service providers continue to monitor implementation benefits and derived environmental performance improvements. Through targeted extension activities, the program seeks to accelerate the uptake and broader adoption of improved farming practices at local, regional and industry levels.



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●●●● Goal

To grow mixed legumes on all fallow blocks when possible



●●●● Overview

David wants to improve soil health across his farms by growing mixed legumes on his fallow block when possible.

By growing mixed legumes David is hoping reduce weed pressure during fallow periods and reduce erosion after serious rain events.

●●●● Action

- Pre-mound & lime fallow blocks in preparation for planting mixed legumes.
- Season 2019/2020 David has planted some of his fallow blocks to mixed legume crops. (Traditional mix of Ebony cowpea and Rongai Lablab)
- Season 2020/2021 once again David was able to plant some fallow blocks with a Traditional mix. Due to weather condition the fallow crops have been planted a little later than normal but has still been successful enough to reduce erosion which is his main concern around this time of year.

●●●● Outcome

-David was successful in getting some traditional mix legume crop of Ebony Cowpea & Rongai Lablab onto his fallow ground. - The season of 2020/2021 has been planted a little later than intended due to weather complications ,but David has stated that he is mainly wanting to control erosion and sediment runoff during the wet season and he is not overly concerned that his legume crop will have a shorter duration than normal as erosion during the wet season is his biggest concern.



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