

Report

I'm Gerrard Boshoven from Holland. I am in the 3rd year of a 4 year training in forestry, road-building, landscaping and water management. As a part of the training is had to do an internship in a foreign country, I chose Australia and thru a few persons I got to know about Jerrapark.

During my internship I implemented a reforestation project.



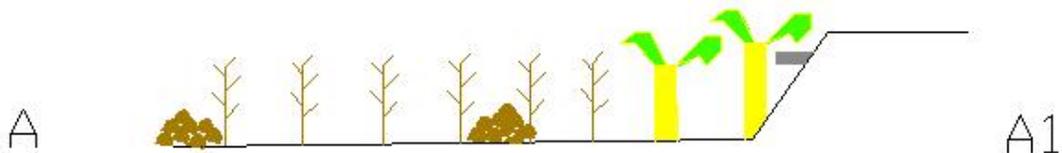
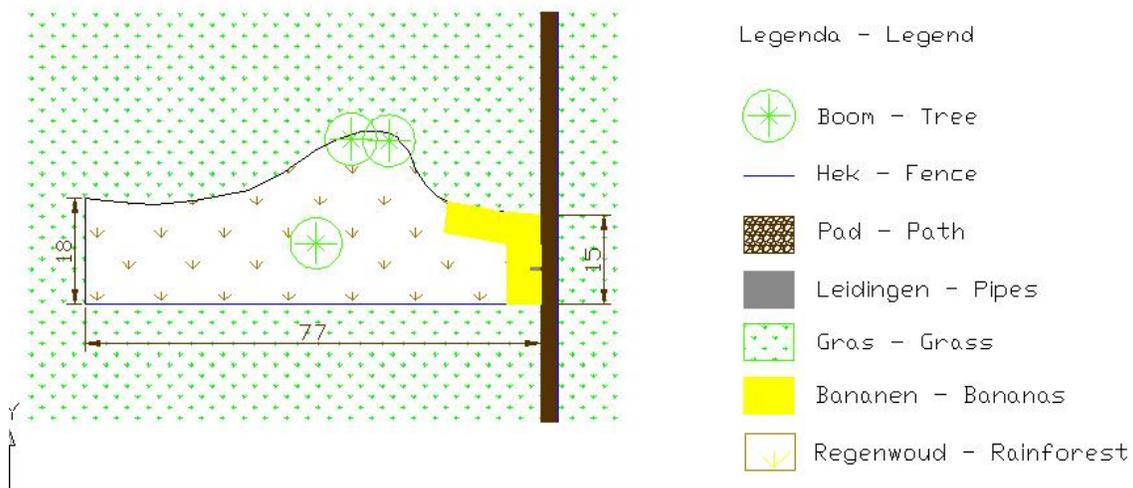
This area was reforested eight years ago. A bush fire four years ago destroyed the plantation. Uncontrolled vegetation took place of this area. Noxious weed had been spreading up. Also partly pioneer trees germinated Black Wattle, Bleeding Hart, Red Kamala and Sand Paper Fig.

To protect the new reforestation from fire we decided to plant a Banana patch as a fire brake as well as Papayas.

The site is part of a 250 m long gully with a fall of 35 m. The project site is dropping in the first 100 meters about 10 m in altitude and the gully is East to West facing. The north facing slope is about 45 degrees steep and dry. The south facing slope 27-30 degrees.

To get an idea about the dimensions, I made a drawing of the project:

Jerrapark



I started with mowing the grass, mostly blady grass (*imмерata cylindrical*) and then I remove noxious weeds mainly Crofton weed' (*ageratina adenophora*), Mistflower (*ageratina riparia*), Fire weed (*Senecio madagascariensis*), Lantana (*lantana camara*) Johnson Grass (*sorghum halepense*), Grounsel Bush (*baccharis halimifolia*) Rush Tree (*toxicodendron succedaneum*) and Cockspur thorn (*Crataegus crus-galli*).

After that I planted the firebreak.

This firebreak is made of banana-trees. Bananas contain 99% water, so in case of a fire the bananas will stop the fire from passing into the rainforest. All bananas suckers used I cut from the already existing bananas on the property.

During the process we discovered that the north-facing side of the 'valley' appeared in reality more dry as thought and also soil contained more clay.

We had to change our tree plant list for the north-facing side.

On the first two "contour line (was it was wet and lots of surface washed down top soil we could plant the selected variety of rainforest trees. For the rest we change to more dry resistant trees like the Banksia, Callistemon, Melaleuca and family.

On the South side we could follow the plan.

At the bottom of the 'valley' we planted the trees that love a lot of water, because in case of much rain the water from another property overflows into the valley. By planting rainforest trees the water will be contained and used by the trees instead of flowing down the hill causing erosion and wash down of top soil towards the ocean.

For a stable biotope in subtropical rainforest on Australians East Coast the following trees can be used:

Fire brake:

Papaya (*Carica papaya*)

Bananas (div varieties)

Dry Subtropical Rainforest Zone:

Hoope Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*)

She Oak (*Cassurina cunnighamiana*)

Fern Leaved Grevillea (*Grevillea pteridifolia*)

Golden Wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*)

Banyalla (*Pitosporum bicolor*)

White Bottlebrush (*Callistemon saignus*)

Honey Myrtle (*Melaleuca armillaris*)

Weeping Bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*)

Red Gum (*Angophora costata*)

Queenland Kauri Pine (*Agathis robusta*)

Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*)

Watergum (*Tristaniaopsis laurina*)

Waterbush (*Banksia occidentalis*)

Hearth Banksia (*Banksia ericifolia*)

Brush Turpentine (*Choricarpia leptotetala*)
Cheese Tree (*Golchidion ferdinadi*)
Broad Leafed Paperbark (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)
Long leafed Paperbark (*Melaleuca leucadendron*)
Black Wood/Black Wattle (*Acaria melanoxylon*)
Red Kamala (*Mollotus philippensis*)
Red Turpentine (*Syncripia glomulifera*)
Native Frangipani (*Hymenosporum Flavum*)
Lilliy Pilly (*Acmena smithii*)
Blue Lilly Pilly (*Syzygium oleosum*)
Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*)
Bleeding Heart (*Omalanthus populefolius*)
Macademia (*Macademia integrifolia*)
Leopard Wood (*Flindarsia maculosa*)
Sandpaper Fig (*Ficuas coronata*)

Wet Subtropical Rainforest Zone:

Yellow Carabeen (*Sloanea woollsii*)
Blue Quandong (*Elaeocarpus grandis*)
Candlenut Tree (*Aleuritis moluccana*)
Lacebark Tree (*brachychiton discolor*)
Kurrajong (*Brachychiton popuneaus*)
Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifokius*)
Fire Wheel Tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*)
Red Carabeen (*Geissois benthamiana*)
Cedar (*Toona australis*)
Silky Oak (*grevillea robusta*)
Rosewood (*Dysoxylum fraseranum*)
Teak (*Flindarsia australis*)

Black Bean (*Castanospermum australe*)
Fineleafed Tuckeroo (*Lepiderema pulchella*)
White Cedar (*Melia azedarach*)
Tulipwood (*Harullia pendula*)
Tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*)
White Booyong (*Heritiera trifoliolata*)

How do I plant rainforest trees?

Step 1:

Weed around the spot where the tree has to come

Step 2:

Make the hole and collect the left-over soil in a boomerang shape at the lowest side. This boomerang shape collects the water and holds it for the trees.

Step 3:

Fill the hole with water and then plant the tree

Step 4:

To keep the soil around the tree moist, it's good to put some 5-8 layers of wet newspaper around the trees.



Step 5:

To protect the trees against wild life we put a tree-guard around the trees so the animals can't reach them.



Step 6:

To hold the moist and water near the tree we put a thick layer of mulch (grass clippings) On slopes this mulch is best if it's in boomerang shape.



Used Literature:

Internet, div. Search Engines

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