



Barossa Wine Region

Case Study, July 2022

Henschke's Eden Valley Vineyard, Eden Valley, SA

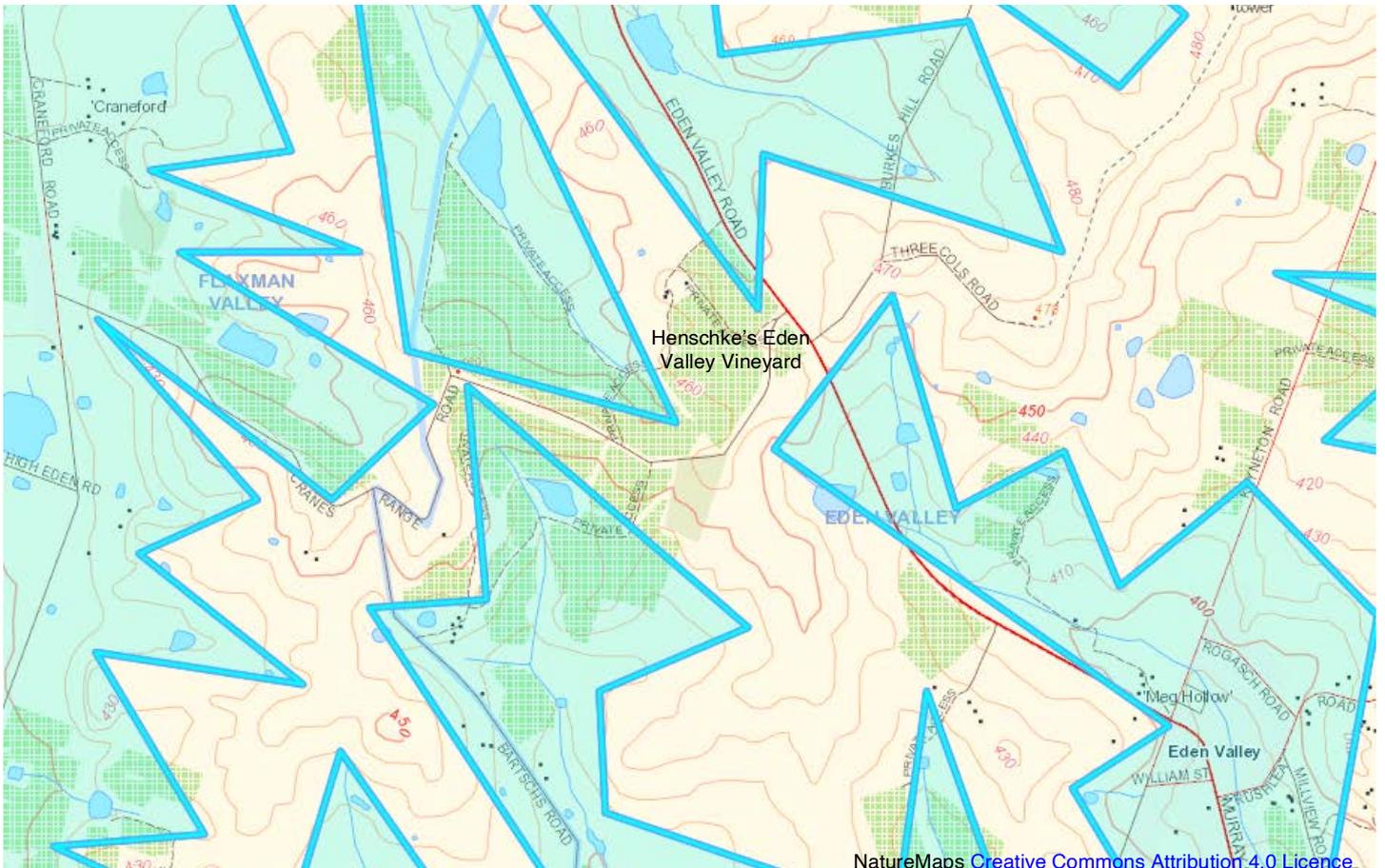
EcoGrowers: Adam Pietsch and Prue Henschke, Henschke Cellars

“EcoVineyards assisted us in establishing a diverse insectary planting within our Eden Valley vineyard, adding to the vineyard’s biodiversity and encouraging natural control of vineyard pests.”



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Plant community (marked in blue): Red gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* var. *camaldulensis* woodland (surrounded by blue gum, *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* ssp. *pruinosa* woodland)



Case study

What worked well?

Mulching the area prior to planting did a great job at conserving soil moisture.

Pitfalls to avoid

Investigate using a handheld mechanical auger to drill the 1000+ holes for planting the tube stock (rather than shovels).

Use a stronger, more robust stake for the tree guards (rather than bamboo stakes).

What are you more aware of now?

The significant time commitment that a project like this takes - don't take on more area than you can afford to commit to.

Are there any outstanding knowledge gaps you would like filled?

Options for ways to plant tube stock faster.

What has been the most valuable aspect of the program for you personally?

Contributing to increased biodiversity in our vineyards.



Progress (June 2019 to 2022):

What were you hoping to achieve and why?

Planting 0.25 ha area within our Eden Valley vineyard as an insectary with a variety of native plants endemic to the region. This will provide a diversity of habitat and food sources (flowering plants) to support beneficial insects which will help provide natural control of vineyard insect pests.

Additionally, *Bursaria spinosa*, Christmas bush or sweet bursaria were planted on row ends, providing a flowers/food source for beneficial insects through late spring to summer.

What did you do and when?

The planting of the EcoVineyards site was originally planned for 2019, however 2019 and 2020 were drier than average years and the decision was made to delay planting. The seasonal outlook for 2021 was for good rainfall in winter/spring which eventuated. This provided a full soil profile to plant into and rainfall after planting to assist with successful establishment.

Timing	Task
Early June	Slash to knockdown summer weed bulk
Late June	Weed control (herbicide)
Mid July	Broadcast compost
Mid July	Rip across the slope to ~ 600 mm depth
	Weed control (herbicide)
	Install pipeline (with tap risers) through the area
	Disc to level out and incorporate compost
	Broadcast shredded pine mulch
Late September	Planting and guarding <i>Bursaria spinosa</i> on row ends
Mid October (ideally earlier)	Plant tube stock, hand dig hole, incorporate a handful of fertiliser suitable for native plants, install a cardboard tree guard
Following planting	Install electric fence around the perimeter

Where to from here?

This planting:

- Weed control as required.
- Hand watering as required.
- Hope to remove the electric fence (once kangaroo pressure reduces).

Future:

- Continue planting *Bursaria spinosa* on row ends.
- Target additional areas within the vineyard (as identified in the BAP) for insectary plantings using tube stock

This is likely to happen once the current area is more established (less weed management/watering commitment and electric fence unit is made available for another location).

Photo above: A mixture of native insectary plants (Photo: Adam Pietsch).

Photo left: *Bursaria spinosa*, Christmas bush or sweet bursaria planted adjacent to the strainer post (Photo: Adam Pietsch).



Before: View from the photo point - before preparation June 2021 (top left), compost applied July 2021 (top right), ripping in compost October 2021 (bottom left), planting October 2021 (bottom right) (Photos: Adam Pietsch)



After: View from the photo point – planting and guards on October 2021 (top left), planting complete October 2021 (top right), plant growth May 2021 (bottom left), plant growth June 2021 (bottom right) (Photos: Adam Pietsch)



Before: 4 November 2021 (Photo: Mary Retallack)



After: 23 June 2022 (Photo: Adam Pietsch)

This project is supported by the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment through funding from Australian Government's National Landcare Program





Bursaria spinosa, Christmas Bush or sweet Bursaria planted adjacent to the strainer posts and protected using mallee mesh guards (Photo: Mary Retallack)



Fallen logs are left in situ amongst the new plantings to provide additional habitat for native fauna (Photo: Mary Retallack)



Prue Henscke sharing her knowledge at the EcoVineyards field session in November 2020 (Photo: Mary Retallack)

EcoGrowers: Adam Pietsch and Prue Henschke,
Henschke's Eden Valley Vineyard

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Native plant list:

Scientific name	Common name	Quantity	Source
<i>Enneapogon nigricans</i>	Blackhead grass	10	Barossa Bushgardens
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo grass	20	
<i>Bulbine bulbosa</i>	Bulbine lily	24	
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	Stiff iron grass	300	
<i>Wahlenbergia stricta</i>	Tall bluebell	24	
<i>Glycine rubiginosa</i>	Twining glycine	48	
<i>Vittadinia spp</i>	New Holland Daisy	60	
<i>Podolepis spp</i>	Podolepis daisy	4	
<i>Plantago spp</i>	Plantain	17	
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Climbing saltbush	20	Kersbrook Landcare Nursery
<i>Allocasuarina muelleriana</i>	Slaty sheoak	100	
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Red gum	2	Prue Henschke
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden wattle	206	
<i>Acacia retinodes</i>	Hills wirilda	50	
<i>Dodonea viscosa</i>	Hopbush	130	
<i>Acacia acinacea</i>	Round-leaved wattle	200	
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet bursaria	180	Prue Henschke / Barossa Bushgardens
TOTAL		1,395	

Other interesting information

Mulch was sourced from a stockpile at our Lenswood vineyard – this mulch was produced from pine trees damaged during the Cudlee Creek bushfire and felled and mulched as part of the bushfire clean-up.

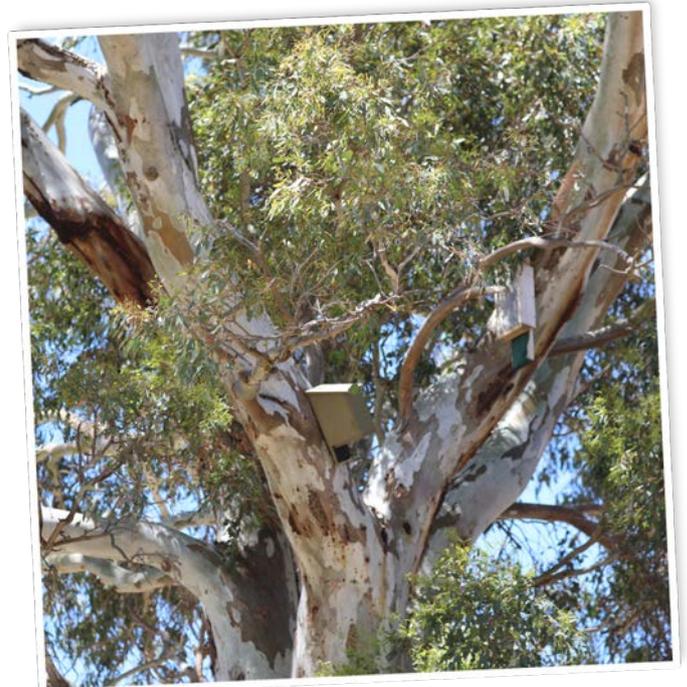


Photo left Raptor perch ready for action (Photo: Mary Retallack).

Photo bottom right: Microbat boxes installed to provide additional habitat on site along with tree hollows (Photo: Mary Retallack).

Expenses (cash and in-kind)

Name: Henschke Cellars Eden Valley		Region: Eden Valley, Barossa Wine Region		
Date	Activity	Grant cash expenses	Additional cash co-contribution	In-kind time captured
25/05/2021	Purchase tree guards	\$ 2,239	\$ 274	
8/06/2021	Slashing project area			2 hrs
22/06/2021	Compost	\$ 1,000	\$ 436	
22/06/2021	Herbicide (weed control)			2 hrs
29/06/2021	Purchase/propagate tube stock	\$ 761	\$ 1,700	
12/07/2021	Spreading compost			5 hrs
20/07/2021	Soil ripping			4 hrs
1/08/2021	Herbicide (weed control)			2 hrs
20/08/2021	Irrigation (risers/taps) - parts purchased		\$ 1,344	
14/09/2021	Discing of area			8 hrs
20/09/2021	Irrigation (risers/taps) - installation			24 hrs
23-29/9/21	Freight of mulch (own small truck 7x 10m ³ loads)			22 hrs
23-30/9/21	Planting Bursaria & installing tree guards			98 hrs
6-7/10/21	Freight of mulch (contractor 3x 50m ³ loads)		\$ 1,440	
	Mulch - no cost		\$ -	
6-8/10/21	Spreading mulch			24 hrs
11-13/10/21	Planting insectary & installing tree guards			131 hrs
11/10/2021	Fertiliser for planting		\$ 173	
14/10/2021	Electric fence - equipment purchased		\$ 704	
15/10/2021	Electric fence - installation			28 hrs
TOTAL		\$ 4,000	\$ 6,070	350 hrs

Thank you to our project partners!



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and Water



This project is supported by the Northern and Yorke Landscape Board (previously the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board) and is funded by the landscape levy.

Acknowledgement of country

The EcoVineyards project acknowledges Aboriginal people as the First Peoples and Nations of the lands and waters we live and work upon and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and respect the deep spiritual connection and the relationship that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have to Country.

The Peramangk, Ngadjuri and Kaurna people are the traditional custodians of the Barossa region and have an ongoing connection to the land.

Disclaimer

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For more info about the National EcoVineyards Program see www.ecovineyards.com.au

This case study was collated by Dr Mary Retallack, Retallack Viticulture Pty Ltd