

# PERENNIALS PASTURES FIELD WALK

30TH NOVEMBER 2021

**Theme of the day:** Amelioration before sowing Perennials

**Location:** Warradarge

**Total Farms Visited:** One

**Total Attendees:** 45

## Paddock 1 & 2: Characteristics

- Either unameliorated or poorly ameliorate soil
- White, non-wetting sandy soils with high soil erosion risk
- Poor perennial productivity and recruitment
- Inconsistent Groundcover

## Key Discussion Points

- Soil turnover during amelioration is essential to reduce the non-wetting characteristics of the soils
- Variability in rainfall during the first year of perennial establishment can have a big impact on the productivity of the pasture
- Groundcover needs to be a high priority in this region

## Farm 3 & 4: Characteristics

- Ameliorated soil
- White, sandy soil that was well covered with plants, and therefore a lower erosion risk
- Rotationally grazed with sheep
- High self-seeded portion of the paddock (the seeder had been blocked during seeding)

## Key Discussion Points

- Without grazing the perennials become overgrown, and less productive
- If perennials are overgrown, cattle could be the best option for grazing
- Moisture is being used in the soil more effectively than paddocks 1 & 2

## Questions from the event - what is next?

- What could we plant with perennials that aid their productivity?
- What is the best intensity of grazing to ensure that the perennials are managed correctly?

