

Integrated Vegetation Management Project (IVMP)



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A Collaborative Research
and Development Project
2008 - 2010













FLAMINGO DRIVE



➤ The current situation



WIN: Cyclist Steve Aston sued Redcliffe City Council after glass cut his tyre

\$60,000 to rider sent flying by broken glass

By KAY DIBBEN

A CYCLIST, injured in a crash when a piece of glass thrown up by a council ride-on-mower wrecked his front tyre, has won a \$60,800 payout.

Labourer Steve Aston, 32, speared into the footpath when the front tyre of his BMX bike burst and the handlebars twisted.

He injured his shoulder and knee and could not work for three months. An orthopedic surgeon said he had permanent loss of some of his shoulder

function as a result of the 2002 accident at Rothwell.

Redcliffe City Council this month lost its appeal against a personal injury award made to Mr Aston in June.

District Court Judge Ian Wylie had found the council worker did not obey an instruction to stop the mower and disengage the blades until approaching pedestrians or cyclists passed. The Court of

Appeal judges unanimously agreed the council was negligent in exposing Mr Aston to a risk of injury of which it was well aware.

It found the council should have taken steps to reduce the risk of injury by putting up a notice closing the footpath and directing pedestrians and cyclists to the other side of the road.

Appeals Court Justice Pat Keane said some form of temporary barrier could have been

cheaply erected to protect people.

Lawnmower operator Robert Fielding, who had been wearing earmuffs, told the court he did not see any bottles or glass.

Mr Aston said the worker had not looked up from what he was doing as he cycled towards him.

"That's when I heard the glass. All of a sudden my tyre blew out and I looked down and it had come off the rim. The bars turned and I went off the edge of the concrete," he said.

Irukandji spread

THE deadly irukandji jellyfish is a threat to beachgoers worldwide, an expert has warned.

Leading marine stinger researcher Dr Lisa-Ann Gershwin said the jellyfish, seen from Cape York to Fraser Island, had now been found in Victoria and Britain.

"It's a myth that they are limited to northern Australian waters," she said.

Dr Gershwin, an adviser to Surf Life Saving Australia, said three of the 10 species were killers.

1 in 4 Australians don't know their

 **technigro**

for smarter solutions

➤ The current situation

1. **Desirable monocultures**
2. **Mixed species - predominantly desirable**
3. **Mixed species - predominantly undesirable**

Each of the above classifications are represented across all managed environments including, roadsides, parklands, natural areas & amenity turf.

➤ Tall growing undesirables

Bahia grass

Rhodes grass

Paspalum (common)

Setaria

Crowsfoot grass

Johnson grass

Wire grass

GRT

➤ Desirable grasses

✓ Green couch

✓ Qld Blue Couch

✓ Kikuyu

✓ Buffalo

✓ Carpet grass

✓ Centipede grass

✓ Seashore Paspalum

? Bahia grass

➤ Different problems need different solutions

- Not all **undesirables** can be managed in the same way
- Some **desirables** can be damaged more easily than others
- Some **undesirables** are in the same family as **desirables**
- In some situations the **undesirable** becomes a **desirable**
- Conclusion... there is no silver bullet!

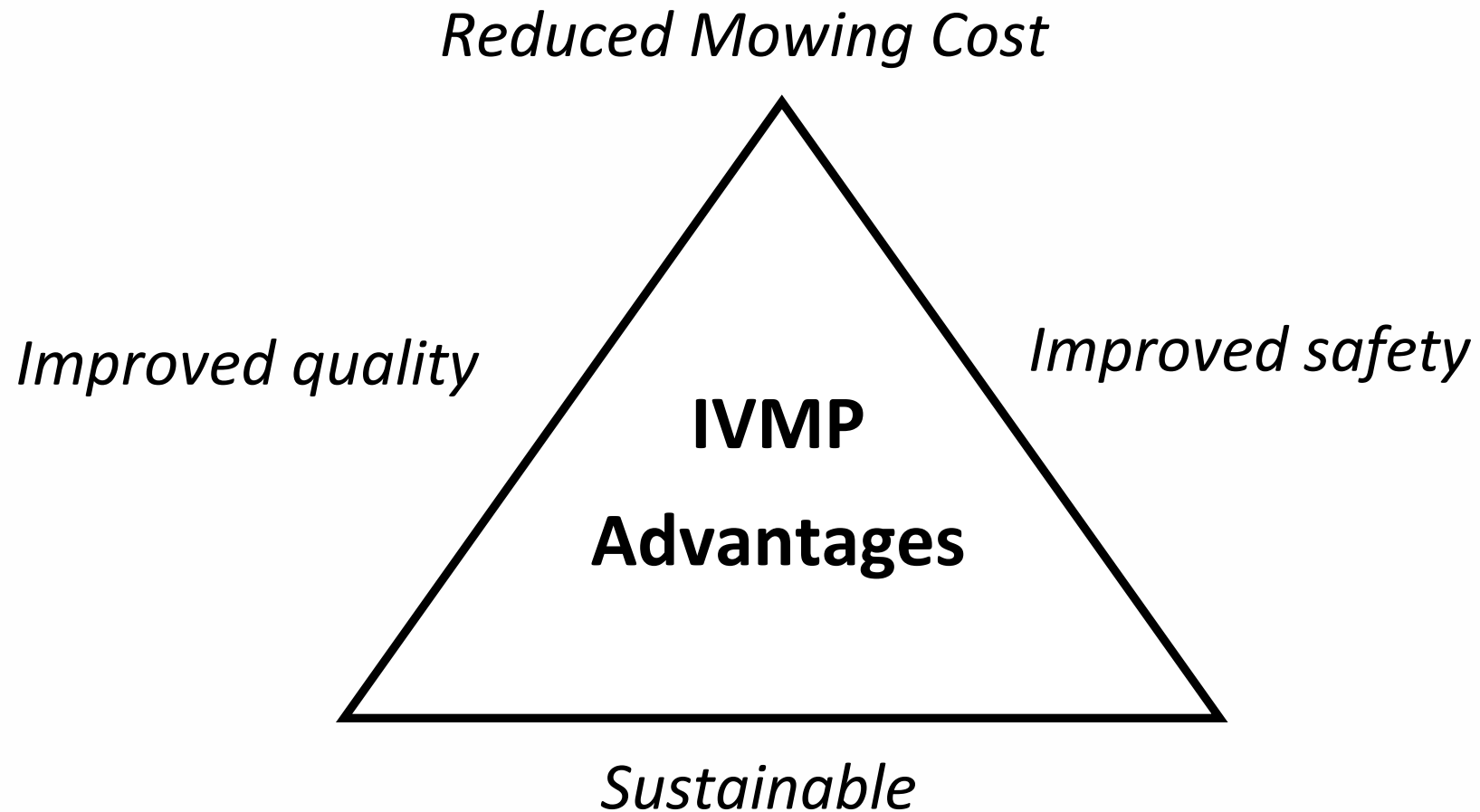
➤ A need for change

Current practises are not sustainable. Mowing is a costly, dangerous, time consuming and needs to be repeated often, particularly in periods of rapid growth (November – February).

Innovative new ways to manage undesirable vegetation must be developed.

An integrated vegetation management program (IVMP) is the most effective and efficient approach to making parklands and roadsides safer and more aesthetically appealing.

➤ Integrated Vegetation Management Model



➤ IVMP Objectives

1. A sustainable model for managing mown vegetation in public open spaces
2. Proven strategies for improving the quality of the managed area
3. Proven strategies for the cost effective management of mixed species
4. Cost effective management strategies for areas populated by predominantly undesirable grasses
5. Identification of the plant species most appropriate to a given situation thus reducing inputs, ongoing maintenance requirements and the risk of erosion

➤ IVMP Benefits

The benefits to the asset owner / manager include:

- ✓ Decreased costs for vegetation management
- ✓ Reduced mowing activities = safer operation
- ✓ Decreased mowing labour costs
- ✓ Reduced equipment and maintenance costs
- ✓ Opportunity for Operators to complete other work

➤ IVMP Benefits

The public benefits include:

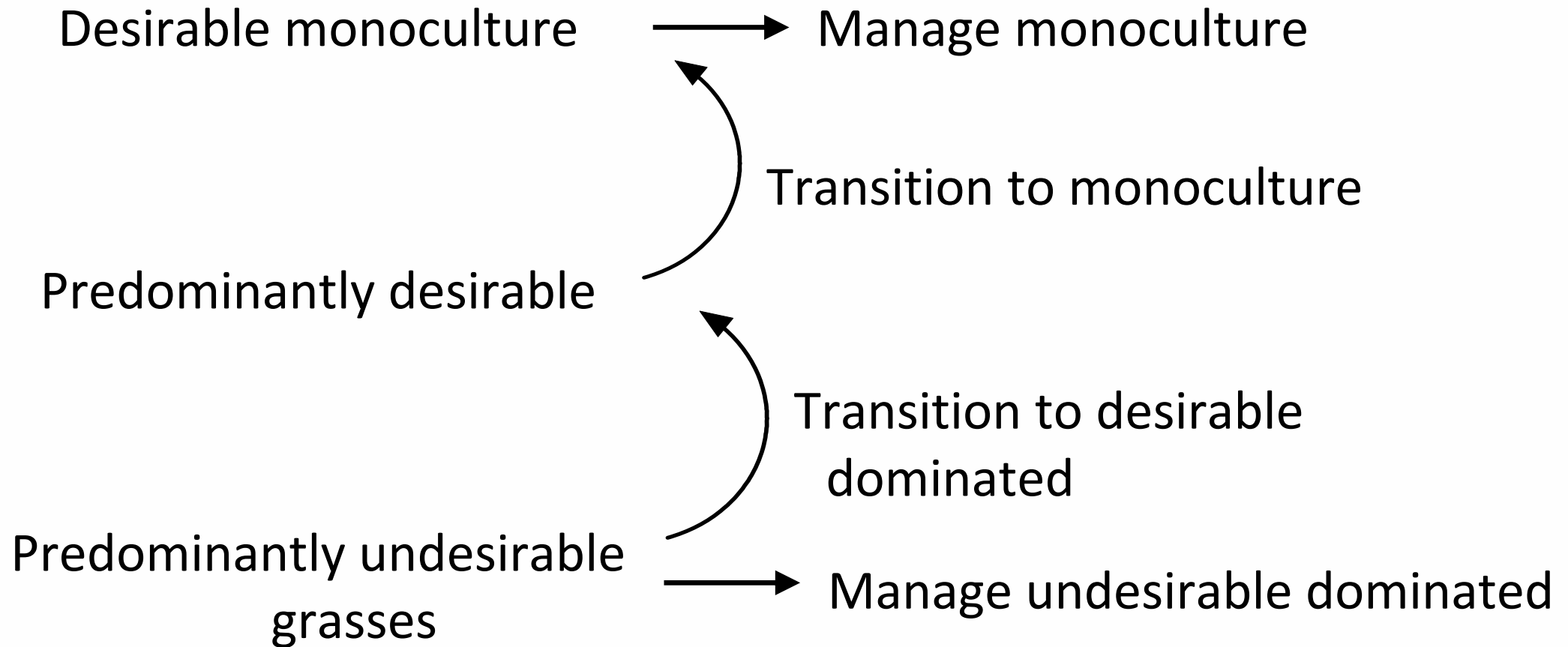
- ✓ Improved aesthetics
- ✓ Improved visibility on and around roads and footpaths
- ✓ Fewer distractions for motorists
- ✓ Reduced possibility of mowers throwing debris
- ✓ Reduced risk of accidents

➤ IVMP Benefits

The environmental benefits include:

- ✓ Reduced carbon emissions
- ✓ Reduced waste
- ✓ Reduced biomass
- ✓ Improved erosion control
- ✓ Less dust & debris
- ✓ Reduced weed seed spread
- ✓ More efficient water use

➤ IVMP = Site Specific Strategies



➤ Trials to start this Growing Season

There is a need to produce a management model at project end as well as hard quantifiable facts to support this model and the need for change.

Multiple products/replications over sites in SEQ and NSW including:

- ✓ Open Space Parks
- ✓ Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- ✓ Roadside vegetation

Sites are situated in Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sydney regions with State and Local Government asset ownership.

➤ Project Outputs

Specific outputs created by the work being undertaken will include:

- Best Practise Manual
- New Application Guidelines
- Management System
- New and expanded chemical registrations

➤ Project Outcomes

Three key measurable outcomes have been identified :

- A 25% reduction in the cost of managing mown vegetation measured by the cost of managing mown vegetation using IVMP model against conventional practises currently in use.
- A reduction in the risk for all stakeholders (asset owner, manager, user) measured by a risk scorecard methodology.
- Better environmental management and resource usage measured by reductions in carbon emissions, vegetation biomass and erosion.

➤ Project Partners

- ✓ Bayer Environmental Science
- ✓ Brisbane City Council
- ✓ Gold Coast City Council
- ✓ Horticulture Australia Ltd
- ✓ Sydney Environmental
- ✓ Syngenta
- ✓ Technigro

➤ Technical Team

Dr Fred Yelverton

North Carolina State University

Dr Henk Smith

Syngenta Australasia

Jyri Kaapro

Bayer Environmental Science

Rod Wood

Brisbane City Council

➤ Product selection criteria

- ✓ Availability
- ✓ Cost
- ✓ Efficiency
- ✓ Mode of action
- ✓ Environmental impact
- ✓ Resistance potential
- ✓ Poison schedule
- ✓ Phytotoxicity
- ✓ Compatibility
- ✓ Activity spectrum

➤ Possible products

Clethodim

Monument

Ethephon

Maleic hydrazide

Uniconazole

Metsulfuron

Primo Maxx

Chlorsulfuron

Paclobutrazol

Ethofumesate

Nutrition

Sethoxydim

Imazapic

Flurprimidol

Glyphosate

➤ Project Funding

Activity Group Description	HAL Component	Full Cost
Project Management, Administration, Compliance and Audit	\$67,000.00	\$133,855.44
Trial Placements	\$27,500.00	\$54,000.00
Trial Research, Monitoring and Replication	\$117,500.00	\$211,828.00
Technical and Analytical Services	\$7,500.00	\$15,000.00
Plant and Equipment Hire	\$9,300.00	\$18,600.00
Collaborative Expenditure	\$24,000.00	\$48,000.00
Project Totals	\$252,800.00	\$481,283.44

With in-kind contributions, project value is \$1 Million over 3 years

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About IVMP

Research objectives

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Research methodology

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Project partners

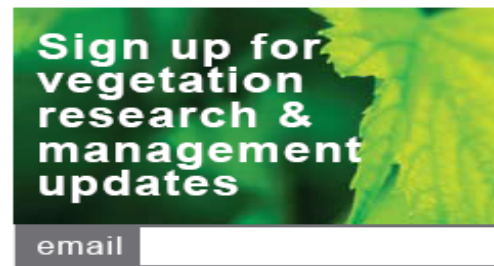
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Project Partners



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Questions?