

Corowa Propagates Community Nursery

Corowa District Landcare's Grow Local, Thrive Local

The Corowa Propagates Community Nursery Program empowers the community to grow low-cost, drought-tolerant native plants for revegetation, enhancing biodiversity and resilience. It offers training and propagation kits, helping participants reduce costs and strengthen landscapes through community efforts.

In a changing climate, the program aims to:

- Equip individuals with native plant propagation skills
- Strengthen urban-rural connections via plant sharing
- Increase biodiversity and support sustainable landscapes
- Provide drought preparedness methods
- Foster community connections through shared learning

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Funding

This project was supported by
FRRR Future Drought Fund
Helping Regional Communities
Prepare for Drought –
Community Impact Program.



How it works

Participants receive:

- A mini greenhouse
- Locally sourced native seeds
- Seed-raising mix
- Step-by-step propagation and plant care instructions

Seeds are sown in hiko trays and nurtured in the mini greenhouses. Once seedlings mature, participants can plant them on their properties, gift them to others, or return them to Corowa District Landcare for community revegetation projects. The program promotes backyard-friendly propagation using affordable, locally available materials.

Community Impact

Participants built confidence in native plant propagation through hands-on learning, even without prior experience. Workshops and events, such as the Corowa Show, increased participation and awareness. The program's accessible model can be easily replicated in other communities. Growing native plants boosts biodiversity, offers wildlife habitats, and curbs invasive species, promoting community-led landscape restoration and encouraging contributions to environmental sustainability and drought resilience.

Scaling the Model

Other Landcare groups and environmental organisations can adopt this approach by:

- Hosting hands-on propagation workshops
- Offering low-cost propagation kits with accessible materials
- Reducing revegetation costs - this project provided up to 1,400 plants in its first year

Individuals can enhance local ecosystems and climate resilience by propagating native plants at home, while the program helps landholders restore vegetation lost to storms, floods, or droughts.

A community-driven solution

The Grow Local, Thrive Local program demonstrates how small-scale initiatives can have a big impact on landscape resilience, biodiversity, and sustainability. By equipping people with practical skills, we empower them to take meaningful action for their environment - one seed at a time.



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