RESTORING A FUTURE:
The Ridgefield Tree Experiment

> ***"Trees are living symbols of peace and hope.***
> ***A tree has roots in the soil yet reaches to the sky."***
>
> Wangari Maathai, Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, 2003

The Ridgefield Tree Experiment consists of a long-term study of ecological restoration in which trees and shrubs have been planted in various combinations to examine how these different combinations perform a variety of services, including carbon sequestration, in the face of ongoing environmental change.

This is one of the biggest such experiments in Australia, and links into a growing worldwide network of experiments that is moving the research on how diversity affects function from small-scale plots looking mostly at grasses and herbs to larger scales involving woody plants.

The experiment aims for a lifespan of at least 50 years, providing a much needed long-term experimental platform and a "living legacy" of research investment. It already supports 4 PhD projects and involves numerous collaborators and many volunteers.

ERIE
Ecosystem Restoration & Intervention Ecology Research Group

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Situated in the University of Western Australia Future Farm, the Ridgefield Tree Experiment was initiated in 2010. It focuses on questions relevant to ecological restoration and sustainable farm enterprises, while also addressing fundamental ecological questions.

We aim to address questions relating to the trees themselves, carbon sequestration, soil processes, pollination, fauna use, and more. We welcome potential collaborators!

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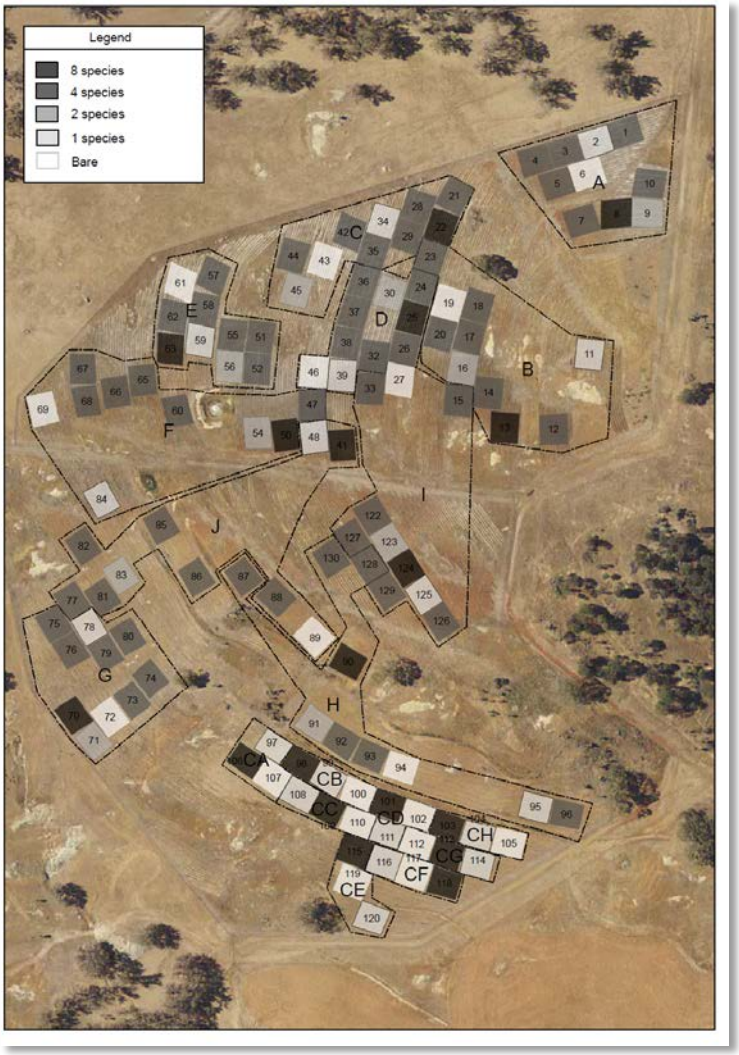
The Ridgefield Tree Experiment is part of the international network TreeDivNet
http://www.treedivnet.ugent.be/

For details of the experiment, see:
Perring et al. (2012) The Ridgefield Multiple Ecosystem Services Experiment: Can restoration of former agricultural land achieve multiple outcomes? *Agriculture, Ecosystems & Environment 163: 14-27*



Locally-relevant research connected to national and international networks