



# The Drylands Permaculture Farm

*“inspiring and empowering our  
communities with the practical  
permaculture knowledge to build  
healthy, sustainable livelihoods  
in dryland environments”*

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We established The Drylands Permaculture Farm in 1989. It is a 3 hectare permaculture enterprise located in Geraldton, Western Australia.

Our aim was to showcase permaculture design based on our successful experiences in dryland projects overseas and in regional Western Australia.

In our challenging semi-arid climate, with low rainfall, infertile sands and limited income, we believed if we could set up a thriving permaculture system here, we could do it anywhere in the world.

The long term commitment to fulfil this vision has involved thousands of hours of dedicated work and refined design that has transformed a degraded semi-rural property into a productive Permaculture demonstration facility and social enterprise operated by our charity The Drylands Foundation.



## ***What is Permaculture?***

*Permaculture is a design system for creating sustainable human environments which provide food, energy, shelter, material and non-material needs, as well as the social and economical infrastructures that support them.*

*Permaculture means thinking carefully about our environment, our use of resources and how we supply our needs and the needs of others. It aims to create systems that will sustain not only our present but also our future generations.*



## ***What We Do to Make a Difference***

- ◇ Protect and restore local biodiversity through an acclimatised provenance seedbank and nursery.
- ◇ Regenerate soils and fertile dryland environments using soil conservation and soil biology.
- ◇ Educate and conduct research in sustainability within a supportive demonstration facility.
- ◇ Demonstrate and promote minimised resource use and efficient organic production.
- ◇ Partner and support initiatives for sustainability in dryland environments.



## ***Engaging in Sustainability Through Enterprise***

Our on-farm enterprises activities include:

- ◇ A specialist plant propagation nursery, offering a large range of local native and multi-use plants, for gardens, farms and revegetation projects.
- ◇ Farm tours, accredited training and workshops in seed saving, organic gardening, property design, composting and natural building.
- ◇ Environmental and botanical consultancy for successful natural area conservation.
- ◇ Yilgarn Seeds, a GMO free, non-hybrid organic vegetable and herb seed business, growing and selling heirloom varieties acclimatised to our dryland climate.





### ***Participation is the Key to Learning***

People of all ages and backgrounds have visited or spent time to work alongside us.



Participants use the experience to share and develop their own skills and contribute to the sustainable development of our dryland communities.



## How You Can Contribute to Our Shared Success

There are many ways to be actively engaged with our work at The Drylands Permaculture Farm.

- Stay informed with our activities and help spread the good word on our work by becoming a Friend of The Drylands Permaculture Farm.
- Subscribe annually and become a Supporter of the Drylands Permaculture Farm and receive benefits including discounts on our quality plants, workshops, and heirloom seeds.
- Become a volunteer, and get a highly rewarding experience in drylands permaculture.
- Donate to our Drylands Foundation. We accept donations and grants to improve our capacity to offer subsidised training.
- Take a farm tour, attend one of our workshops or purchase our quality plants, seeds, gift vouchers and other on-farm produce.

Send us an email at [info@drylands.org.au](mailto:info@drylands.org.au) or call us on 9938 1628, to express your interest and we'll get right back to you.

