

Resources for learning more about your farm, tree planting and Carbon sequestration

Provided by Hugh Stewart, Forest Scientist and Consultant

In the video – Trees and Farming: Perfect Partners Watch the video with Hugh and Graeme Anderson (Agriculture Victoria) to see Hugh walk through these resources.

Property information

VicPlan: <https://mapshare.vic.gov.au/vicplan/>

VicPlan is a tool that you can use to view, query and create your own property reports. More than a mapping tool, it's a gateway to a whole range of planning information. Type in your property or parcel and access information on planning scheme zones and overlays.

Remnant Vegetation

Nature Kit 2.0: <https://maps2.biodiversity.vic.gov.au/Html5viewer/index.html?viewer=NatureKit>

Find your property and turn on Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) layers and access information on the vegetation type and cover on your property pre-1750. A look up interpretation of the EVC numbers provided on your map are found at <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity/bioregions-and-evc-benchmarks>. This will give a comprehensive list of large trees; canopy cover, understory and grasses etc,

Geology and Soils

Geology maps of Victoria can be found at: <http://earthresources.efirst.com.au/categories.asp?cID=4>

The whole state is covered by geology maps at scale 1: 250,000 and larger scale for some parts of the state.

For soil information, visit Victoria Resource Online at <https://vro.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/soil-home>

Climate

Current and historic data for your area at the Bureau of Meteorology:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/data/>

Information on 'future' climate at My Future Climate: <https://myclimateview.com.au>

Look at historic records (1994-2023) compared to future predictions (2050s) on seasonal rainfall; temperatures and other issues such as cold and heat stress events (relevant to your enterprise).

Fauna

Information on bat species in your area <https://www.ausbats.org.au/batmap.html>

Sequestration tools

LOOC-C: <https://looc-c.farm/introduction>

LOOC-C is a CSIRO tool that calculates an estimate of the potential carbon sequestration on your farm (over a 25-year period) from maintaining or establishing native vegetation (trees or shrubs). An estimate for soil C percentages is sourced from soil carbon results within 100km radius.

Full-Cam (Full Carbon Accounting Model): <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/full-carbon-accounting-model-fullcam>

is a calculation tool for modelling Australia's greenhouse gas emissions from the land sector. It is used to make the simplified estimations of Carbon sequestration from trees on your farm in the SB-GAF calculators based on average regional soil; climate; tree type and age. Using the full model may provide more accurate results but requires some skill and training and so may be better accessed by getting a consultant to run.

Trees on Farm

The Trees on Farm project investigated the benefits and risks associated with integrating trees into farm enterprises and how to include in decision making.

<https://www.piccc.org.au/research/project/TreesOnFarm.html>

Climate Active Guidelines- Draft guideline: Accounting for carbon removals from tree plantings <https://www.climateactive.org.au/be-climate-active/tools-and-resources/accounting-for-carbon-removals-from-tree-plantings>

Climate Active is an Australian Government program that supports national climate policy by driving voluntary climate action by Australian businesses. The brand represents Australia's collective effort to measure, reduce, and offset carbon emissions to lessen our negative impact on the environment. (Read more in the 'about us' section).

Other Tools (always evolving)

Carbon Scout software <https://www.carbonscout.online>

Use carbon heatmaps to look at potential carbon sequestration (doesn't include soil C).

Agriculture Victoria- Understanding carbon and emissions.

[Climate and weather | Agriculture Victoria](#)

There are many useful resources here to help understand carbon and emissions for farmers such as: Making cent\$ of carbon and emissions on farm booklet; soil C and tree resources; understanding weather climate and forecasting; access to webinars and newsletters and more.