

# The Traprocket

Edition No 7 – 20<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**Items to come from the Traprock Management Meeting** held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

## Date Claimers for 2023

**Traprock Meeting with Australian Wool Innovation** on Woolclip classing ETag Tech to be held on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023 at 4.00pm at the Inglewood Hotel.

**Traprock Annual General Meeting** to be held on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2023 at Terrica Woolshed

**Traprock Christmas Party** to be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at Terrica Woolshed

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## Report from the Traprock Meeting held at Terrica on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2023

We had three very diverse and interesting speakers for the afternoon.

### Goondiwindi Regional Council Mayor

The Goondiwindi shire is working on developing several major projects to make the shire more sustainable environmentally and economically:

- a green hydrogen plant – to power some of the shire
- a cotton spinning facility (this would be the only one available in Australia)
- a Goondiwindi hub for the inland rail – this would create a major economic boost for all industries in the region.

Questions were asked about waste facilities and how to improve them. Lawrence took the questions on board. Waste is a major issue for the Council and together with other Queensland councils is working with the Queensland Government on how to manage always increasing volumes.

### Report on Dung Beetle Project

Peter is a Traprock group member and together with his neighbours has introduced dung beetle on his property to deal with a major Buffalo flies problem. This year he has not had any buffalo flies and has also noticed an improvement in his pasture health and productivity.

Peter highlighted the five benefits of dung beetles

1. Sequester carbon in the soil, assisting producers to reduce emissions
2. Improve soil health in grazing systems

3. Reduce the spread of diseases and insect pests, including flies and parasites
4. Increase pasture health and productivity
5. Reduce nutrient run-off into waterways.

Lessons learned

- Dung beetles are a low-maintenance system for land improvement.
- Identifying seasonally active dung beetle species will ensure year-round benefits are achieved.

It was agreed that next time John Feehan visits Peter's property for new release, The Traprock group would organise a meeting for members.

More information about Dung beetle and their benefits to sustainable farming is available on the Meat & Livestock Australia website – [www.mla.com.au](http://www.mla.com.au)

### Update on the Traprock Regen Farmers Mutual Pilot Project

Whilst no carbon transaction has yet been completed, the pilot has made good progress with identifying potential carbon and biodiversity projects that might be of interest to government or private entities that need to offset some of their carbon. They have done so with the help of Southern Queensland Landscapes that have generated very useful maps. Participants were able to measure their farm carbon footprint with the help of RFM's project officer and the use of their Digital Twin software.

The methodology for carbon projects are well defined, not so for biodiversity credits. However, the policy and legislative landscape has changed enormously in the last year, with the Introduction of the Nature Repair Bill, with provisions for a biodiversity market and the review of the Biodiversity Conservation Act. Therefore, the group is hopeful carbon projects with biodiversity add on will be identified by the pilot participants very soon. Members are encouraged to read the project report.

Members reported that some of their large customers have started to ask questions about their carbon footprint and help is required in this space.

The afternoon concluded with the a very enjoyable BBQ, refreshments and fellowship.

### Thought for the day:

I remember that as a child my family's menu consisted of two choices: take it or leave it.

Till next time.

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*Stuart Goodrich* - Editor

