

case studies

Daryl & Kylie Jordison

Acknowledgements

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Barnagrotty, Central NSW

Daryl and Kylie Jordison live on 'Barnagrotty' located approximately 25 km east of Gulargambone in Central NSW. Daryl and Kylie purchased the 1300ha property in June 2002. Daryl has since removed all the internal fences and, with the aid of a GPS, set up continuous 100ha and 120 ha cropping blocks and a system of roadways to handle grain and access.

The property is slightly undulating and predominantly red loam with clay at depth.

Motivating factors

After spending years reading and talking with the growers he contracted for, Daryl came to the conclusion that conservation farming was "just commonsense". All conservation farmers seem to be positive people. These are the people that Daryl wants to interact with and he believes they've got something to be positive about.

Benefits

For Daryl and Kylie, timeliness of sowing is the most critical aspect of cropping. Under their no-till system they are able to sow everything on time into conserved moisture. To conserve moisture the Jordinsons retain all crop stubbles and control weeds. Doing this aids infiltration, controls erosion and alleviates rain drop impact. Daryl has also noticed that his country is much softer and easier to manage. He sees this as a result of increased biological activity and using a controlled traffic system.

Excess capital is not tied up in machinery with conservation farming. This has allowed the Jordinsons to run a contracting business.

Unforeseen problems

Their need for labour is less than for a conventional system, but when needed the Jordinsons have found skilled labour nearly impossible to find.

The increased stubble loads were a problem until Daryl purchased a slasher to mulch stubble prior to sowing. To further improve stubble management and speed up operations, Daryl imported a Flexicoil 6000 disk seeder.

Plans for the future

Daryl and Kylie want to investigate summer crop options to utilise moisture from summer rainfall events. Due to the increase in chemical costs over recent years, they are considering purchasing a weedseeker sprayer.



Daryl Jordison – conservation farmers are positive people.



The imported disc seeder allows Daryl to work effectively at high stubble loads and ensure that he seeding at the best time.