

Seeding Natives Incorporated

In the Barossa Bushgardens, we share part of the site with Seeding Natives Incorporated, which is a not for profit organisation, specialising in the ecological restoration of native grasslands and associated ecosystems.



They use the fenced off area in the northern corner of the BBG and the patch of *Lomandra* and *Dianella* species next to the Labyrinth, (both areas are also utilised by the BBG) to produce seed for large scale grassland revegetation.



Opening Hours:

Garden: 7 days a week from sunrise to sunset

Community Nursery and NRC:

Monday by appointment

Tuesday 9am - 4.30pm

Wednesday 9am - 12.30pm

Thursday 9am - 4.30pm

Friday by appointment

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Follow us online for information to
upcoming events and workshops

Facebook: www.facebook.com/barossabushgardens

Web: www.barossabushgardens.com.au



**Government
of South Australia**

Northern and Yorke
Landscape Board



Barossa Bushgardens

Place Plants People



Seed Orchard



The Barossa Council

The Barossa Bushgardens (BBG) was established in 2001, by a small group who were concerned about the diminishing native vegetation in the region.

Most of it was restricted to reserves, road-sides and creek lines. Habitat and species numbers were dwindling at an alarming rate.

The first volunteers started revegetation with native plants around the Old Gum Tree and planted rows of trees and shrubs, local to the Barossa, to use as a 'seed orchard'.

Seeds from this are still used to grow plants in the nursery on site. These plants are supplied for parks, home gardens, shelter belts, bush, native grassland restoration and to benefit orchards, vineyards and other agriculture.

Seed orchards versus wild seed collection

Seed orchards are established for many reasons. Firstly, the ease of collection. We just need to walk outside and check if the seed is ready to collect. Think checking on your ripening tomatoes at home. Are they ripe or do you need to wait?

Whereas when we collect from the wild, we drive there and if the seed is not ready, we may need to return several times until the seed is ready.

Secondly, collecting seed from the wild takes away a food source from birds and other animals. Also, seed orchards tend to have healthier plants than wild plants and this leads to more seed and better germination.

Disadvantages

Disadvantages include, that constantly collecting seed, and growing plants from the same plants, will lead to less biodiversity and potentially less resilient plants over time. To ensure we grow healthy plants in the nursery, we regularly visit private properties and use native vegetation on council land to improve the plants genetic biodiversity.



The map shows seed orchards still used in the BBG, but other plants are also used to collect seed and propagate plants.



- 1 Seeding Natives Incorporated
- 2 *Lomandra* and *Dianella* species
- 3 *Hakea* species
- 4 The Trellises for *Hardenbergia* and Old Mans Beard
- 5 *Banksia marginata*

