



Gossamer Down White Dorpers

Native Vegetation Laws

These laws and various additions are having a serious detrimental effect on our property and our business.

We live in an area surrounded by National Park and forest which has been “locked up” for the supposed benefit of native animals and community.

Our property is a haven for mammals, reptiles and birds in stark contrast to the surrounding area which is becoming void of the same. The restrictions imposed by the native veg act is causing our property to deteriorate and degenerate and my best guess is that in 25 years about half of our 4500 acres will become as useless as the surrounding national park.

I am aware that there are many who believe that “locking up “ areas is good for all however I am also aware that most of those never venture out of the city. I have been living and making a living farming for most of my life and on a daily basis watch the kangaroos and emus venture out of the parks to feed. Why , because there is nothing in there for them to eat.

Conversion of Home Farm Lease to Freehold

I applied to convert my home farm lease country to freehold 3 years ago with the encouragement of the government.

A month ago I received a reply which offered to do so subject to a restriction on the use of land (this is land covered by a home **farm** lease. The option to convert was accompanied by a clear threat that if I didn't convert my lease value would be increased 1000%, that's right by ten fold and that would take effect at the next payment.

A copy of the restriction is below in **red**.

The prescribed authority imposes restriction on the use of the land as set out in Schedule 1 upon the land set out in Schedule 2.

SCHEDULE 1

The following works must not be undertaken:

Clearing of native vegetation; or

Tillage or application of herbicide; or

Establishment of non-native crops or exotic pasture species; or

Clearing or removal of standing or fallen dead timber; or

Logging of native vegetation; or

Removal of soil or inorganic material such as bush rock.

These restrictions will have a serious deleterious effect on my property immediately and render that part covered by the lease totally useless within ten years. This is despite the fact that the CMA provided us with a \$100,000.00 grant two years ago to go with a further \$150,000.00 input by me to put in improved pasture species, control fencing, extra water points and fertilizer on part of the area.

We have been advised verbally that there will be no compensation for our loss of income or resale value and that the advise to the department of lands for **FARM LEASES is coming from National Parks staff.**

If they want to steal our land why don't they just say so instead of coming through the back door.

When we have no native animals and birds left and we are buying our "glow in the dark" food from China will they understand then? or will the Chinese be they ?

The restrictions on any improvement in grass production either introduced or native can only have a negative influence on production and soil health. Soil health in itself is mainly dependent on residual grass being converted to soil carbon which also improves water retention. Those people who think or believe that grass species introduced to a different area is a negative idea are ill informed. A lot of our native grasses have developed to adapt to land that has been neglected or in many cases exposed to regular fire etc and are unsuitable for soil repair and stock feed. They have evolved into quick germination with rapid maturity species intent only on survival, providing little litter for soil production or animal feed over a very short time.

In closing it is obvious that property rights are being eroded by many means unfairly and that if it is not reversed all farming enterprises are at risk of failure. It is hard enough to deal with the weather and the market place without the unmanageable burden of bureaucratic Interference and political piracy.

Yours faithfully