



EcoHort: Nursery Industry Environmental Management System



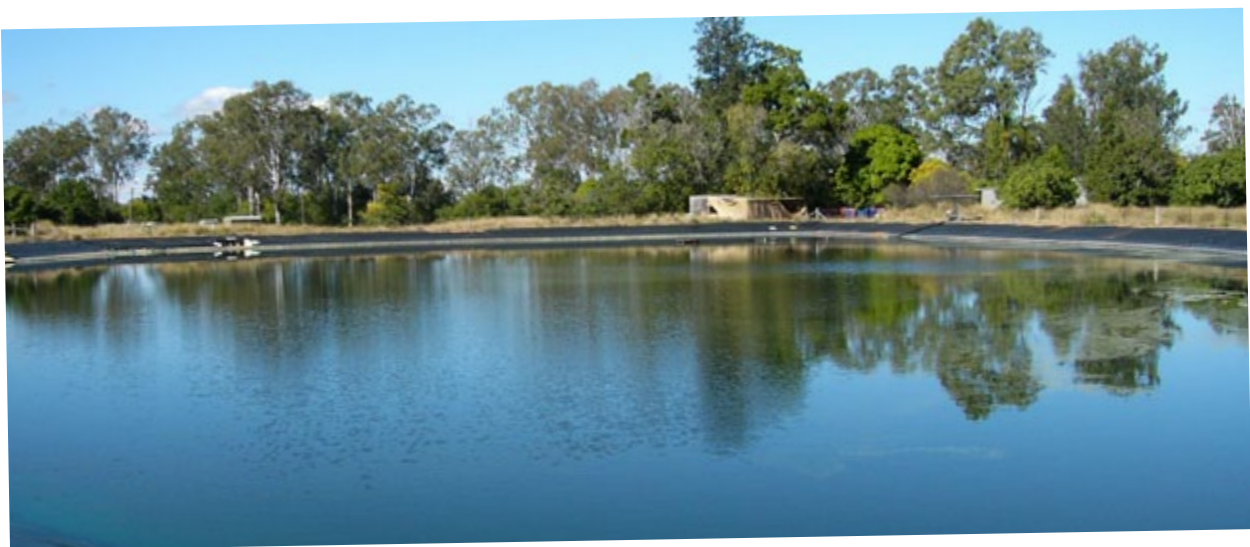
EcoHort is the industry specific Environmental Management System for NIASA accredited businesses to further improve business sustainability whilst addressing environmental and natural resource responsibilities.

This program provides businesses with the resources to ensure they can demonstrate to industry, government and the community their sound environmental and natural resource stewardship and compliance with the diverse range of environmental legislation.

EcoHort offers businesses with a risk assessment based pathway to continuously improve their management systems.

EcoHort Certification: The stamp of environmental excellence that provides businesses with:

- A systematic approach for assessing likely environmental and natural resource impacts
- Tools for managing impacts in a responsible and sustainable manner
- Confidence in addressing environmental and natural resource responsibilities
- Independent audits, guidance and technical support from Nursery Industry Development Officers (IDO)





EcoHort: Case Study



MANSFIELD'S Propagation Nursery:

Mansfield's Propagation Nursery is one of Australia's leading propagators; growing and supplying close to three million plants annually.



The nursery has designed a state-of-the-art purpose-built propagation facility with water reclamation and re-use in mind. The new facility has various water-saving measures such as the installation of thousands of metres of drains beneath the 9,000 sq metre growing area and the entire nursery being fitted with low volume sprinkler heads to minimize irrigation water usage. Even the eight toilet cubicles are connected to a reuse water supply system.

This new facility is already reaping enormous water savings. For the 2008/2009 period, Mansfield Propagation Nursery recorded a saving of 26.6ML of potable water, compared with the 2005/2006 period. It is anticipated that this saving will increase over the coming years, with a minimum saving of 36ML expected in the 2009/2010 period.

Mansfield's are committed to operating an environmentally friendly business and continue to grow plants for a healthier landscape for Australia. Mansfield's utilise Ecohort to monitor every aspect of their businesses environmental impact as well as identify opportunities where improvements can be made.

