Improving linear corridors

to increase farm productivity and support wildlife

What are linear corridors?
Shelter belts, wind breaks, watercourses, road verges, paddock trees, landscape plantings or any long narrow strip of plants.

Linear corridors are typically a narrow line of trees 10 to 25 m tall, 5 to 20 m apart with very little understorey and very few if any small birds.

This project is supported by Greater Sydney Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Programme.

How to plant a Habitat Haven

Plant local native shrubs and ground covers close together (about 30 cm apart) in as large an area as possible—preferably as a circle or rectangle (quantities are based on minimum size of 7 m diameter).

Inner sanctum—taller native shrubs

e.g. Acacia, saltbush, Grevillea, Ozothamnus, Leptospermum. Minimum 3 plants.

e.g. Hakea, Burana, Banksia. Minimum 17 plants.

e.g. Dianella, Enadia, Phylanthus, Lomandra. Minimum 36 plants.

A variety of shorter shrubs for added food opportunities

e.g. kangaroo and wallaby grass, Microseris, Pratia, native violets, native geranium. Minimum 44 plants.

Grasses and groundcovers

e.g. kangaroo and wallaby grass, Microseris, Pratia, native violets, native geranium. Minimum 44 plants.

Inner sanctum—taller native shrubs

Plant ‘habitat havens’ (also called ‘habitat islands’). These are a dense, diverse mix of native shrubs, vines, groundcovers and grasses—including spiky plants such as Hakea and Bursaria. Plant havens as close together as possible and no more than 50 m apart.

Protective circle of spiky plants

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Grasses and groundcovers

e.g. kangaroo and wallaby grass, Microseris, Pratia, native violets, native geranium. Minimum 44 plants.

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For more information contact Habitat Network info@iewf.org, see www.habitatnetwork.org, and talk to your local Landcare people landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups about suitable local native plants and how to obtain them.

References: What Makes a Good Farm for Wildlife and Wildlife Conservation in Farm Landscapes, both by David B. Lindenmayer (lead author).