

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development | Protect | Grow | Innovate

## **Agriculture and Emissions**

Jackie Bucat

### Nitrogen for very early sown canola at Xantippe in 2022





### **Benefits of farm carbon account**



### Do it for Albo

1. Customer pull- premium value

Do it for the world

- 2. Customer pull- market access
- 3. Supplier push- suppliers start to request farm carbon accounts to mitigate climate change risk for their businesses



Do it for your farm business

## **Measure your emissions in Agriculture**

- 1. Context
- 2. Anomalies in agricultural emissions reduction
- 3. Close look at agricultural emissions
- 4. Opportunities to reduce emissions on-farm
- 5. Measure your emissions with the Grains-GAF tool



### Most agricultural emissions are part of fast cycling system



### Most WA emissions from mining, manufacturing and electricity



NB: Scope 3 emissions not included

Jackie Bucat | DPIRD Source: National Inventory by Economic Sector 2020 - Data Tables

### **Emissions Reduction Anomalies in Agriculture**









## Scope 1 Emissions



What you are responsible for



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### Scope 2



Electricity

### **Scope 3**



Everyone else doing everything else along your supply chain

Commonly only pre-farm emissions in carbon accounts

### Australia has low emissions from canola production Value of carbon measured grain



Source- AOF factsheet, Australian Canola and the EU Biodiesel Market Data- European Commission (2018)

## WA Agriculture sector emissions

Not all gases warm the same



## Soil emissions lower in red zone

 $N_2O$  emission lower where evapotranspiration is at least 80% of precipitation

- Greatly reduced
  nitrification/denitrification
- Nil leaching and runoff
- Lower volatilisation



## **Urea emissions**



## **Opportunities to reduce emissions in WA**

Activities to reliably reduce emissions

Co-benefits/ likely intensity reduction (higher productivity)

- 1. Minimum/zero tillage (less fuel)
- 2. Controlled traffic (less fuel)
- 3. <u>Reduce</u> N fertiliser with better match to needs
  - Variable rate
  - Timing to crop demand
  - legume crop/manure and pasture rotations
  - slow release/reduced emission N fert
- 4. Using N fertilisers other than urea
- 5. Claying light soils (increase C storage)
- 6. Use inputs with lower carbon footprint

- Stubble retention
- Lime
- Strategic tillage
- Sustainable rotations (good weed control, disease management)

### Lower emission fertilisers emerging

Need emission reductions quantified as well as productivity

Urea SUSTAIN and NBPT showing significant efficiencies over Untreated Urea Three Springs 2022



### Recommended Farm Carbon Accounting Tool

### Grains-GAF Greenhouse Accounting Framework

### Crop data input page

### Download grains-GAF at //piccc.org.au/resources/Tools.html

DICCC Primary Industries Climate Challenges Centre



Enter your farm data			
Choose your region in Australia	SW WA	▼	
Farm cropping details	Wheat	▼	
Production System	Non-Irrigated Crop	•	
Is the crop in orange zone? (Ref Map. 1)	No	▼	
Average grain yield	3.00		t/ha
Area sown	1500		ha/farm
MAP Application	30		kg product/ha
DAP Application			kg product/ha
SOA Application			kg product/ha
Urea Application	100		kg product/ha
Single Superphosphate			kg product/ha
Urea-Ammonium Nitrate (UAN)			kg product/ha
Mass of Lime Applied	500		total tonnes/crop
Fraction of Lime as limestone vs dolomite	100%		Limestone/dolomite
Fraction of the annual production of crop that is burnt	0%		ha/total crop ha
Annual Diesel Consumption			litres/year
Annual Petrol Use			litres/year
Annual Electricity Use (State Grid)	4000		
If some <b>renewable energy</b> is used, what % of total electricity use is drawn from this source?	0%		
Allocation of total electricity use to each crop	20%		20%
General Herbicide/Pesticide use	6		kg a.i. per farm
Glyphosate use	3		kg a.i. per farm

### **Recommended Farm Carbon Accounting Tool**

### Grains-GAF Greenhouse Accounting Framework

#### **Some results**



Download grains-GAF at //piccc.org.au/resources/Tools.html Jackie Bucat | DPIRD

#### **Grains Greenhouse Accounting Tool**

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Сгор	Wheat	
Outputs	t CO <sub>2</sub> e/farm	
Scope 1 Emissions (on-farm)		
CO <sub>2</sub> - Fuel	0.1	
CO <sub>2</sub> - Lime	0.4	
CO <sub>2</sub> - Urea	28.6	
CH <sub>4</sub> - Field burning	0.0	
CH <sub>4</sub> - Fuel	0.000	
N <sub>2</sub> O - Fertiliser	3.8	
N <sub>2</sub> O - Atmospheric Deposition	0.4	
N <sub>2</sub> O - Field Burning	0.0	
N <sub>2</sub> O - Crop Residues	14.3	
$N_2O$ - Leaching and Runoff	0.0	
N <sub>2</sub> O - Fuel	0.0	
Scope 1 Total	48	

Scope 2 Emissions (off-farm)		
Electricity	0.0	
Scope 2 Total	0.0	

Scope 3 Emissions (pre-farm)			
Fertiliser	72.1		
Herbicides/pesticides	0.2		
Electricity	0.0		
Fuel	0.0		
Lime	0.0		
Scope 3 Total	72		

Less difference crop vs mixed farming when scope 3 (manufacturing) included



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Scope

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## **Total farm crop emissions**

3,700 t CO2-e average total cropping emissions (source: Carbon neutral grain pilot project report)



Average offset cost of \$10/t grain or \$25/ha

Emissions (CO2-e/t)		
Canola	0.55	
Wheat	0.25	

### Calculating Carbon Emissions in WA's Grain Industry

Findings from the Carbon Neutral Grain Pilot Project – a research partnership between CBH Group, Wide Open Agriculture and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)

agric.wa.gov.au/sites/gateway/files/Carbon%20N eutral%20Grain%20Pilot%20Report\_0.pdf

## Do it for your farm business

- 1. Engage with carbon debate
- 2. Count your emissions (Promote and assist your clients)
- 3. Look to reduce emissions while maintaining yields and productivity
- 4. Enhance biodiversity



# Thank you

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