WET TROPICS Restoration Alliance

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Atherton Tablelands seedling supply forecast 2026–2030

Discussion paper

July 2026

Not government policy. For discussion purposes only.

Acknowledgements

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Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners of the Atherton Tablelands

The Wet Tropics Restoration Alliance acknowledges the Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples who are the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Atherton Tablelands. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and acknowledge their enduring connection to Country, culture and community. We recognise and respect the ongoing role of Traditional Owners in caring for Country and value their knowledge, leadership and partnership in rainforest restoration across the region.

Disclaimer

This discussion paper has been prepared for discussion purposes only. It does not represent Queensland Government policy or any official government position. The information contained in this document is based on the best available information at the time of writing and is intended to support discussion and planning.

The Wet Tropics Restoration Alliance acknowledges the funding support of the Queensland Government.

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Foreword

This discussion paper outlines current and projected seedling production needs for the southern Atherton Tablelands to maintain and support restoration effort, together with the key constraints affecting supply.

Based on current supply there is an estimated annual shortfall of up to 20,000 seedlings to 2030, despite having adequate nursery infrastructure to produce sufficient seedlings. This shortfall is primarily due to supply chain flow and demands—ranging from seed shortages, funding uncertainty, workforce capacity and production planning— from seed collection through to planting delivery.

These issues are considered in this discussion paper with a number of recommendations to support restoration needs to 2030 and beyond. These include:

1. Better understanding of seed/seedling forecasting to coordinate project needs across the various stakeholders (nurseries and restoration practitioners).
2. Timely (in advance) commitments from project proponents to secure seedling supply orders with nurseries.
3. Training a capable and skilled workforce (to support nurseries and seed collectors).
4. Implementing a seed and seedling storage strategy to ensure species mix and quantities are site suitable.

By working collectively—sharing information, coordinating effort, and aligning investment—the restoration community can move from the current fragmented system to a more integrated, resilient supply network capable of meeting the scale and complexity of future restoration needs across the Tablelands.

Background and Regional Context

Wet Tropics Restoration Landscape

The Wet Tropics region is a narrow coastal strip in Queensland, stretching from just north of Townsville to south of Cooktown. It is best known for its tropical rainforests which are among the oldest continuously surviving rainforests on Earth. It is a globally significant biodiversity hotspot combining ancient ecosystems, unique species, strong cultural heritage and it provides vital ecosystem services. The southern Atherton Tablelands (the Tablelands) is a mosaic landscape with diverse regional ecosystems, where upland rainforests (over 700m) are the most common vegetation types occurring in restoration priority areas.

The region faces escalating pressures from climate change, habitat modification and fragmentation and invasive species. There is consensus that the best way to support ecosystem resilience at a landscape scale is by rehabilitation and restoration of land outside the protected estate.

Community groups, individuals, and government have been actively involved in restoring native forests on the Tablelands for more than 30 years through direct planting of advanced seedlings. Historically, most effort was at a smaller scale (1–2 hectares per project). This was mainly due to high costs ($34-39K per hectare[1]), short-term and *ad-hoc* funding and labour-intensive maintenance work required for up to four years after planting (e.g. weed control). In addition, most landholders cannot afford to forego large areas of good quality, grazing or cropping land. As a result, planting usually happens only along waterways or on 'less productive' land.

Between 2020 and 2025, the Queensland Government Land Restoration Fund (LRF) provided funding for carbon farming projects that also deliver co- benefits (environmental, social, and/or economic). This made it more financially viable to undertake large scale tree planting projects.

Other programs and initiatives that currently support restoration activities on the Tablelands include the Queensland Government Reef Assist Program, Terrain NRM's Green Connections Project and Cassowary Credit Scheme, Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, Crawford Rainforest Restoration Grant, and Land Management programs (e.g. Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program, Indigenous Protected Areas and Indigenous Rangers Program).

In the main, current restoration effort targets local and regionally significant corridors, habitat expansion, and climate refugia to create functional ecological linkages.

Tablelands Nursery Sector Overview

There are currently six nurseries operating on the Atherton Tablelands that grow local native plants primarily for restoration projects. This includes two government nurseries, two commercial nurseries and two private businesses that contract grow seedlings on a project basis. The business model for each nursery operation is varied and may restrict how and to whom the nursery can supply plants to; and the number of plants they can produce.

Most restoration projects on the Tablelands incorporate a diverse mix of local native species that are determined by the ecological requirements of the project site with many projects typically including more than forty species. Most seedlings are grown from fresh seed which is collected during a peak fruiting season from late spring through summer (November to February). Seedlings are typically grown in Supa Native Tubes (70mm x 70mm x 160mm) or Forestry Tubes (50mm x 50mm x 120mm) because of their proven success, ability to transport large numbers easily and ease of handling when planting in often difficult terrain.

Table 1. Atherton Tablelands Nursery Profile 2026

Nursery Name	Type of Organisation	Location
NQ Land Management Services	Private Business - contract grower	Atherton and Lake Barrine
QPWS – Lake Eacham Nursery	State Government	Lake Eacham
Tablelands Regional Council Community Revegetation Nursery	Local Government	Malanda
Wandana Waters	Commercial	Millaa Millaa
Mirrijin Seedlings	Private Business - contract grower	Topaz
Yuruga Nursery	Commercial	Walkamin

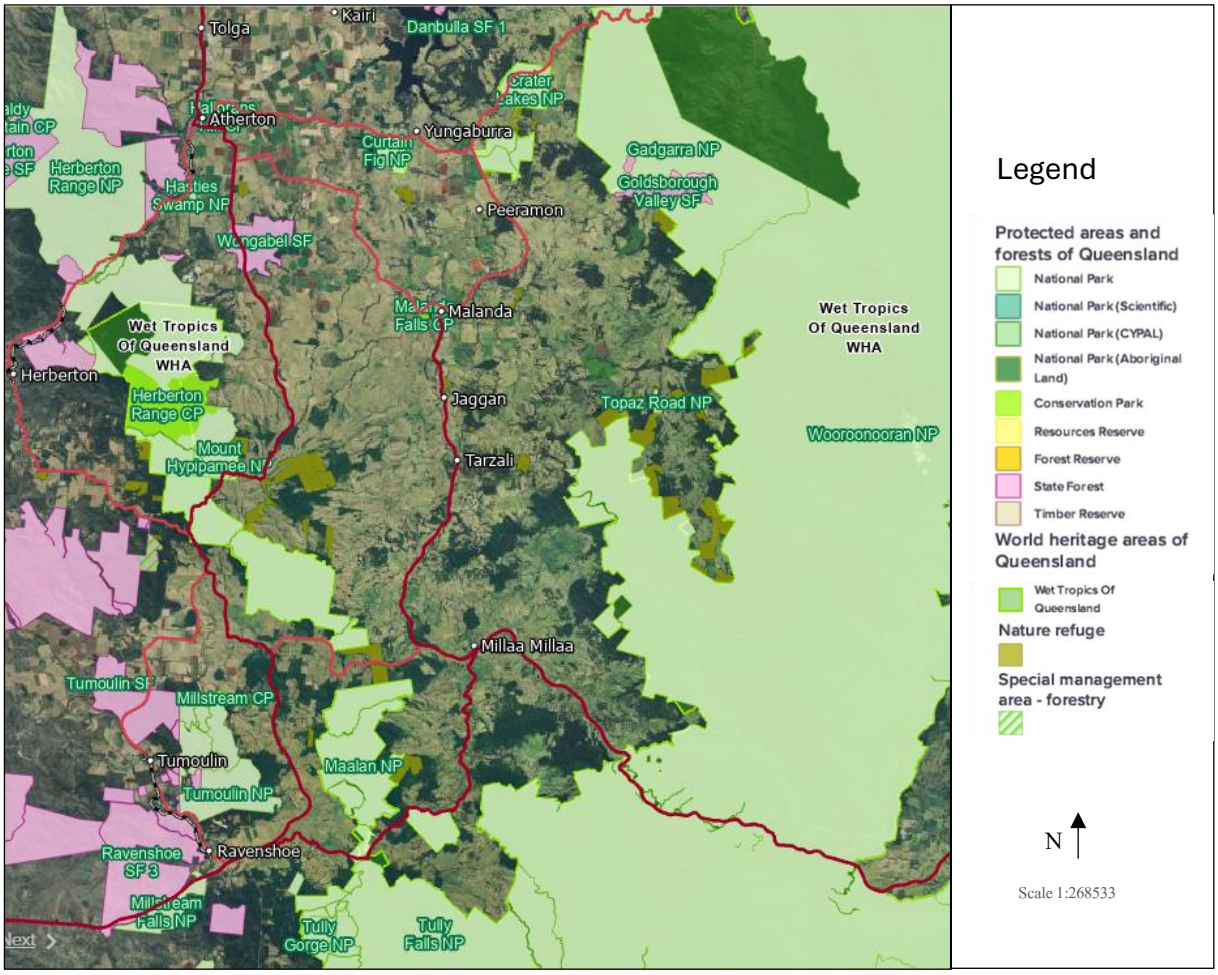
Maintaining consistent nursery capacity is a key challenge to scaling up seedling production. For nurseries that produce plants exclusively under contracts for funded projects, setting annual production targets is straightforward providing there is sufficient lead in time. However, nurseries without secured contracts or guaranteed sales must decide how much corporate (financial) risk they can take when producing seedlings, hoping there will be demand once the plants are ready.

This uncertainty is compounded by the long lead time required for production — typically twelve to eighteen months. The process involves seed collection and propagation, pricking out and potting seedlings, followed by growing and hardening them before they are ready for planting.

Scope and Objectives

This paper focuses on challenges associated with future seedling supply for restoration efforts on the southern Atherton Tablelands. Most existing and proposed projects are situated within an area broadly defined by the townships of Tolga and Kairi to the north, and the protected areas south of Ravenshoe and Millaa Millaa.

Map1. Tablelands restoration focus area



Current restoration projects have significantly increased tree planting effort across the Tablelands, driving high annual demand for seedlings. These projects are expected to require over 90,000 seedlings for the 2026–27 wet season. In addition, several projects in development could increase demand to more than 100,000 seedlings annually over the next five years, assuming on-ground delivery is not a limiting factor.

However, based on nursery production capacity over the past two to three years, there is a projected shortfall of 10,000–20,000 seedlings per year over this period. While nurseries are working to meet demand for the upcoming season, current capacity—together with anticipated future demand—highlights several constraints that are limiting nurseries from reaching their full production potential.

Forecast seedling shortages identified for the Tablelands are also relevant across the Wet Tropics, and this paper aims to explore strategies to meet rising seedling demand through to 2030 and plan production requirements over a potential ten-year period.

Approaches to overcome a seedling shortage may include the following options.

- Support existing Tablelands nurseries to increase seedling production.
- Forward plan seedling requirements.
- Source seedlings from outside the Tablelands.
- Coordinated seed collection and storage.

A combination of the above strategies may be the most appropriate way to ensure adequate seedling supply in future years. Without forward planning our efforts to scale up restoration will be hampered.

Current State of Seedling Supply

Production Capacity

In 2020, the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) surveyed 17 nurseries to assess regional seedling production capacity for scaling restoration under the then-emerging Queensland Land Restoration Fund. This identified that four nurseries on the Tablelands had a combined total average annual production of about 86,000 seedlings and the existing infrastructure had potential to scale up the combined annual production to 135,000 seedlings.

The Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) Lake Eacham Nursery has limited capacity to supply seedlings to the general restoration community. Seedlings are prioritised for QPWS on-park projects and TREAT (Trees for the Evelyn and Atherton Tablelands) community projects, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between QPWS and TREAT. Seedlings cannot be purchased from the Lake Eacham nursery. Therefore, the total average annual production of seedlings in 2020 for off-park areas (except for TREAT projects) is reduced to 41,000 with an estimated annual capacity production of 65,000 seedlings.

Since 2020 the demand for seedlings has increased, largely because of scaled up projects funded through the Queensland Government Land Restoration Fund. The average annual demand for seedlings has exceeded 75,000 over the past two seasons and sourcing sufficient numbers has been challenging[2] .The number of seedlings needed for projects varies each year due to several factors. Key influences include fluctuations in grant availability and the uncertainty of short-term funding which make it difficult for nurseries to plan and ensure they have an adequate supply of suitable seedlings for different projects.

Table 2. Nursery Production Capacity 2020 (WTMA, unpublished)

Nursery Name	Type of Organisation	Average Annual Production	Potential Annual Production
QPWS – Lake Eacham Nursery	State Government	45,000*	70,000*
NQ Land Management Services	Private Business - contract grower	15,000	20,000
Rainforest Reserves Australia^	Conservation Organisation	3,750	5,000
TRC Community Revegetation Nursery	Local Government	22,500	40,000
	Totals	86,250	135,000
	Total excluding QPWS	**41,250***	**65,000***

^Currently leased by NQLMS

Forecast Demand for Seedling Supply

The annual demand for seedlings is increasing. There are currently five funded restoration projects scheduled for the upcoming wet season requiring a total of 94,000 seedlings (Table 3). There may be a need for an additional 8,000 seedlings if more project sites are confirmed and sufficient stock is available (marked # in Table 3).

Projected seedling requirements are expected to exceed 100,000 seedlings per year over the next five years if project funding is not a limiting factor (Table 4). In addition, future carbon and biodiversity market schemes and landholder self-funded restoration projects will further increase seedling demands.

There is increasing uncertainty around the number of seedlings required in future years beyond the next planting season. To reflect this, seedling estimates have been grouped into three project categories—funded, unfunded and in-development, unfunded and aspirational— based on the likelihood of each project proceeding. This approach supports nursery production planning, particularly in determining the quantity of seed to collect.

Three nurseries that grow local native seedlings were not included in the 2020 nursery capacity estimates (marked * in Table 5). Collectively, the five nurseries can produce significantly more than 120,000 seedlings each year to support off-park restoration projects across the Tablelands. However, several constraints can limit a nursery's ability to actively produce seedlings for restoration projects.

Table 3. Tablelands seedling supply requirements 2026-27

Project	Organisation	No. Seedlings	Seedling Source
Land Restoration Fund	South Endeavour Trust & partners	75,000	Confirmed
Green Connections-Freeman's Forest	Terrain NRM	9,000	Confirmed
Green Connections-additional sites#	Terrain NRM	5,000#	Not confirmed
Reef Assist Traditional Owner Grants	Choorechillum Aboriginal Corporation	1,000	Confirmed
Cyclone Jasper Disaster Recovery funding	Choorechillum Aboriginal Corporation	6,000	Confirmed
General public sales	Tablelands Regional Council	3,000	Confirmed
Crawford Rainforest Restoration Grants+	South Endeavour Trust	3,000#	Not confirmed
	Totals	**102,000**	

Table 4. Summary forecast of future seedling requirements (2027–2030)

Projects	No. Seedlings			
	2027-28	**2028-29**	**2029-30**	**2030-31**
Funded	83,000	83,000	83,000	83,000
Unfunded - in development	7,000	7,000	13,000	13,000
Unfunded - aspirational or unknown	11,000	14,000	21,000	21,000
Potential Annual seedling requirements	**101,000**	**104,000**	**117,000**	**117,000**

Note – a detailed breakdown of potential projects and seedling requirements is provided in Appendix A.

Table 5. Current potential nursery capacity of Tablelands nurseries

Nursery Name	Type of Nursery	Potential Annual Production
NQ Land Management Services (2 facilities)	Private Business - contract grower	60,000
Tablelands Regional Council Community Revegetation Nursery	Local Government	40,000
Wandana Waters*	Commercial	20,000
Mirrijin Seedlings*	Private Business - contract grower	UNK
Yuruga Nursery*	Commercial	UNK
	Total	**120,000**

Seedling Supply Constraints

Nursery capacity

The available infrastructure, propagation space, skilled labour, and equipment set an upper limit on how many seedlings can be produced at any one time in a nursery. In addition, diverse types of nurseries (Government, Commercial, Private) face different operational constraints, mainly because of their funding sources, objectives, governance, and accountability requirements.

Nursery interviews in 2020[3] indicated that nursery infrastructure was not a limiting factor to increased seedling production and recent discussions with nurseries support this. As mentioned previously there is sufficient nursery infrastructure to produce more than 120,000 seedlings on the Tablelands. The QPWS Lake Eacham Nursery is not included in this calculation because of the previously explained operational arrangements.

Operational constraints

Operational constraints play a critical role in shaping nursery production capacity and directly affect the availability, quality, timing, and cost of seedlings. Each constraint interacts with others, often compounding bottlenecks across the production system. These constraints include:

- **Lead times** - Nurseries must forecast demand months or years in advance. Inaccurate forecasts lead to shortages or surplus.
- **Staffing levels** - Understaffing leads to lower production and delays.
- **Technical expertise** - Limited expertise restricts nurseries to easier, well-known species and can reduce both quantity and ecological suitability of seedlings.
- **Scheduling and production planning** - Timing mismatches create supply gaps or result in overgrown, poor-quality seedlings.
- **Pest and disease management** - Reduced survival and increased rejection rates directly lower usable seedling output.

Financial limitations

One of the key financial constraints limiting nurseries in the Tablelands from increasing seedling production is insufficient and uncertain funding. This affects their ability to maintain adequate staffing levels and procure essential materials (e.g. potting media and containers) needed to scale up production. This highlights the importance of project proponents engaging with nurseries early in the planning phase and providing upfront deposits to support reliable production.

The range of costs per seedling (from low-cost tube stock to more expensive, larger-advanced stock) has important implications for the nurseries producing seedlings and

restoration project proponents (buyers). It creates constraints, trade-offs, and risks on both sides. Fixed project budgets mean higher per-unit costs directly reduce total planting area or density. On the other side, nurseries face a tension between recovering true production costs (labour, infrastructure, seed collection) and remaining competitive with other seedling suppliers.

Seed supply challenges

Seed supply for restoration has been identified as a major bottleneck across Australia[4]. Multiple factors contribute to this challenge, including short and unpredictable collection windows, seasonal variability in fruiting, permit constraints, genetic and provenance requirements, limited seed viability, and a shortage of skilled seed collectors. Feedback from Tablelands nurseries suggests that the main seed limitation is the challenge of sourcing seeds from a diverse range of suitable species in quantities large enough to meet growing demand.

Local provenance strategy – is this our best bet?

In the last decade there has been pushback to concentrating on local provenance seed collection for restoration projects. It is argued that plantings must contain species that are not only adapted to the local geology, climate, and soil, but to future conditions to be resilient to climate change[5].

Seedling Supply Chain Characteristics

Contract Growing versus Open Supply

Effective restoration requires early planning and coordination with nurseries to secure the right species mix and quantities, often through contracts or deposits. Relying on open supply without early engagement can result in unsuitable species – or insufficient seedlings - and jeopardises project outcomes.

Species Demand Patterns

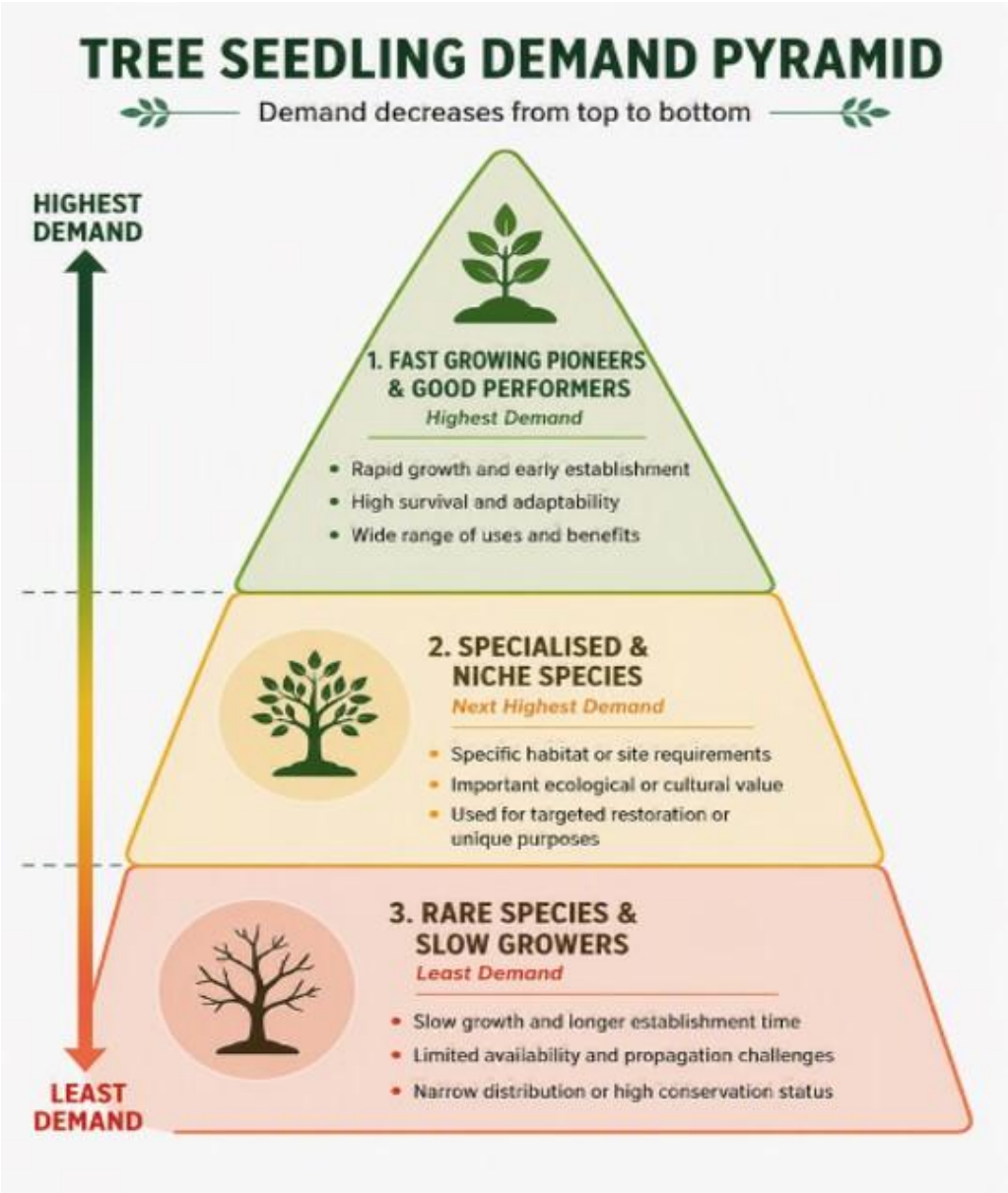
To maximise the success of a restoration project, practitioners and project proponents need access to local native seedlings that are well suited to the project site. These seedlings should establish easily, grow effectively, and tolerate the range of environmental conditions typical of the site, including specialised and niche species that will survive in difficult areas (e.g. flood zones).

An appropriate planting mix should consist of species drawn from the following groups:

- **Fast-growing pioneer species** – These rapidly colonise the site, help achieve canopy closure, and mature quickly, producing seed within a short time.

- **Good performer species** – These species establish reliably and grow well over time. They are typically early to mid-successional species that tolerate high light conditions and produce seed quickly.
- **Rare or endemic species** – A smaller number of these species can be included where appropriate for the project location to support local biodiversity.
- **Slow-growing mature-phase species** – These should be used in smaller numbers, as they generally prefer lower light conditions and may have higher mortality rates than pioneer or good performer species. Including some slow-growing large-seeded species is recommended, as they are unlikely to naturally recruit into restoration sites without nearby remnant forest and suitable seed dispersal agents (e.g. cassowaries).

Figure 2. Restoration seedling species demand pyramid



Proposed approaches to meet future seedling requirements

Support Tablelands nurseries to increase seedling production

Supporting existing nurseries to increase their seedling production to best meet the Tablelands future needs require proactive coordination, shared systems, and knowledge exchange. Early collaboration between project proponents and nurseries—through discussions about project sites, as well as the number and type of seedlings required—can significantly improve lead times and ensure adequate collection of suitable seed from appropriate species. This should be complemented by more coordinated and strategic seed collection efforts that target sufficient quantities aligned with upcoming project demands.

Establishing a shared planning and forecasting system that integrates all future projects, and participating nurseries would further strengthen this approach, enabling better alignment between projected needs, seed collection, and production capacity. In addition, creating opportunities for nurseries to share technical knowledge—particularly around propagation methods, production efficiencies, and scheduling—can enhance overall performance and resilience across the network.

Source seedlings from outside the Tablelands

If local nurseries on the Tablelands cannot meet seedling demand, seedlings can be sourced from elsewhere, provided species suitability and provenance are carefully considered. Facilities like Rainforest Rescue Nursery (Cow Bay) have capacity (up to 150,000 seedlings), but advance planning and deposits are needed to secure production. Additional infrastructure—such as temporary nurseries or holding areas equipped with benches and irrigation—may be needed to store large volumes of plants before planting, particularly if existing nurseries lack sufficient space. While transport costs are a concern, recent estimates suggest moving seedlings from Cow Bay to Atherton would add about $0.29–$0.36 per seedling, depending on truck size.

Seedling transport costs Cow Bay to Atherton: $0.29 to $0.36/seedling

Quotes were obtained from Mareeba Transport to estimate travel costs. These included travel time, return ferry charges, fuel levies, and GST. Cost calculations were based on transporting Supa Native Tubes (70 mm × 70 mm × 160 mm) in 20-cell air-pruning crates, using either a body truck (2.4 m × 8 m, approximately 4,000 seedlings) or a semi-trailer (2.4 m × 12 m, approximately 6,100 seedlings).

Coordinated seed collection and storage

A coordinated seed collection program for the Tablelands to increase seed supply would help address forecast seedling supply shortages for restoration projects. A key part of this approach is training collectors to ensure suitable species and seed quantities are gathered consistently and to a high standard across the region.

Collection targets would be guided by forecasting seedling demand, undertaken in collaboration with restoration stakeholders, to align supply with project needs. The program would also explore mechanisms for equitable seed sharing among nurseries supporting restoration efforts, improving efficiency and seed availability across the sector. Importantly, collection strategies would incorporate biosecurity considerations and the latest scientific guidance on seed sourcing strategies to produce seedlings that are resilient and capable of adapting to a rapidly changing climate.

Development of a seed and seedling tray storage plan will reduce the risk of seedling shortages during consecutive non-fruiting seasons and enable increased production when demand rises between fruiting periods. Many plant genera with dry seeds or hard seed coats can be stored successfully for one to five years in a domestic fridge, provided the moisture content of the seed is reduced before storage (see Appendix B). Additionally, a wide range of species can be germinated and maintained in seedling trays for at least one to two years.

A seed and seedling tray storage plan should include a high proportion of species that are widely distributed across multiple regional ecosystems on the Tablelands. This should include pioneer species and other proven, high-performing species that establish readily and contribute effectively to restoration outcomes (see Appendix C).

Recommendations

The key recommendations focus on improving coordination, resourcing, and seed supply to ensure nurseries can meet future restoration demands on the Tablelands. A central priority is establishing a shared forecasting and planning system, supported by early engagement between project proponents and nurseries, to better align seedling demand with production timelines and avoid shortages or oversupply.

Addressing financial constraints is also critical. Providing upfront deposits and more reliable funding commitments will enable nurseries to maintain staffing levels, secure inputs, and confidently scale up production. Alongside this, strengthening workforce capacity and technical expertise—through training and knowledge sharing—will improve both the quantity and ecological suitability of seedlings produced.

The main bottleneck identified is the availability of seed, particularly the challenge of collecting it in sufficient quantities. This requires a coordinated seed collection

program, including trained collectors, demand-driven targets, and mechanisms for seed sharing across nurseries.

To build system resilience, a seed and seedling storage strategy should be implemented to buffer seasonal variability and non-fruiting years. Finally, where local capacity is insufficient, strategic sourcing from external nurseries can supplement supply, provided provenance requirements are met and transport logistics are planned.

Table 6. Proposed approaches to meet future seedling requirements

	Approach	Advantages	Challenges
1.	Investigate what support existing Tableland nurseries require to increase seedling production to meet forecast seedling requirements	• Use of existing infrastructure • Reduced transport costs	• Adequate supply of suitable seed for a range of species • Sufficient seed collecting capacity • Adequate staffing to produce seedlings (consider partnerships)
2.	Identify seedling production targets for a 5–10-year period	• Provides clear understanding of seed collection and seedling production requirements • Provides earlier certainty of seedlings available at planting time	• Requires a body of work that identifies suitable species and numbers required for projects • Identify potential for storage of seed and seedling trays
3.	Engage nurseries outside the Atherton Tablelands to produce additional seedlings	• Requires no immediate investment in additional infrastructure	• Unknown costs of seedling transport (currently being investigated) • Perceived negative concerns about seedling provenance and diversity • Determine best stage to transport seedlings • May be insufficient seed for immediate production to meet upcoming season demands
4.	Stockpile seed and seedling trays	• Provides capacity to scale up production between seed collecting periods	• Requires identifying extra quantities of seed to collect and extra collection effort
5.	Blended strategy combination of the 1-4)		

Conclusion

There is sufficient nursery capacity to meet increased seedling demand on the Tablelands, provided the restoration supply chain is strengthened. This requires better coordination, resourcing, and forward planning between nurseries and project proponents. Improved demand forecasting, secure funding, and workforce investment will support growing needs. Critically, seed availability must be addressed through coordinated collection, storage, and sharing. Together, these actions will improve the reliability, scale, and quality of plant supply, supporting resilient, long-term restoration outcomes.

References

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Appendices

Appendix A: Project based forecast of future seedling requirements for Tablelands 2027-2030

		No. Seedlings			
Project	**Organisation**	**2027-28**	**2028-29**	**2029-30**	**2030-31**
Land Restoration Fund	South Endeavour Trust & partners	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
General public sales	Tablelands Regional Council	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Crawford Rainforest Restoration Grants	South Endeavour Trust	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Subtotals - funding secured		**83,000**	**83,000**	**83,000**	**83,000**
Dairy for Diversity	Wet Tropics Management Authority, Bega Group, and the North Qld Dairy Development Association	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Cassowary Credits Scheme	Terrain NRM	3,000	3,000	9,000	9,000
Subtotals - unfunded (projects in development)		**7,000**	**7,000**	**13,000**	**13,000**
North Johnstone River projects	Choorechillum Aboriginal Corporation	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
State and Federal Government Environmental Market/Stewardship projects	Unknown	0	3,000	5,000	5,000
Unknown new projects	Terrain NRM, Barron Catchment Care, Boonjee/Topaz cluster, privately funded landholders.	5,000	5,000	10,000	10,000
Subtotals - unfunded (aspirational/unknown projects)		**11,000**	**14,000**	**21,000**	**21,000**
Potential Annual seedling requirements		**101,000**	**104,000**	**117,000**	**117,000**

Appendix B. *Seed storage periods for rainforest species commonly used in plantings on the Atherton Tablelands*

(yrs = years, mths = months)

Family	*Genus*	*Seed storage period*	*Fruit type*	*General seed moisture description*
Myrtaceae	*Eucalyptus*	20yrs	nut	dry
Myrtaceae	*Lophostemon*	20yrs	capsule	dry
Myrtaceae	*Xanthostemon*	5yrs	capsule	dry
Casuarinaceae	*Casuarina*	20yrs	capsule	dry
Casuarinaceae	*Allocasuarina*	20yrs	capsule	dry
Rhamnaceae	*Alphitonia*	8yrs	drupe	dry
Fabaceae	*Acacia*	8yrs	pod	dry
Myrtaceae	*Melaleuca*	8yrs	capsule	dry
Proteaceae	*Buckinghamia*	5yrs	follicle	dry
Proteaceae	*Lomatia*	5yrs	follicle	dry
Proteaceae	*Stenocarpus*	5yrs	follicle	dry
Cunoniaceae	*Karabina*	3-4yrs	capsule	dry
Cunoniaceae	*Ackama*	3-4yrs	capsule	dry
Anacardiaceae	*Blepharocarya*	3-4yrs	capsule	dry
Apocynacaeae	*Alstonia*	3-4yrs	follicle	dry
Rutaceae	*Flindersia*	3-4yrs	capsule	dry
Meliaceae	*Toona*	3-4yrs	capsule	dry
Moraceae	*Ficus*	3-4yrs	fleshy	dry
Rutaceae	*Melicope*	1-2yrs	capsule	fleshy
Euphorbiaceae	*Homalanthus*	1-2yrs	capsule	fleshy
Fabaceae	*Castanospermum*	1-2yrs	follicle	fleshy
Combretaceae	*Terminalia*	1-2yrs	fleshy	dry
Fabaceae	*Pararchidendron*	1-2yrs	follicle	fleshy
Myrtaceae	*Syzygium kuranda, S. australe, S. gustavoides*	3-12 mths	fleshy	fleshy
Lauraceae	*Cryptocarya oblata, Endiandra sankeyana*	3-12 mths	fleshy	fleshy
Sapindaceae	*Diploglottis bracteata*	3-12 mths	capsule	fleshy

Source: Outcomes report: Wet Tropics Nursery Production Workshop ,15 August 2025. Wet Tropics Restoration Alliance)

Appendix C. Tablelands widely distributed and high performing restoration species.

Species Name	Common name	Family
Acacia celsa	Brown Salwood	Fabaceae
Ackama australiensis	Rose Alder	Cunoniaceae
Acronychia acidula	Lemon Aspen	Rutaceae
Alphitonia petriei	Sarsaparilla	Rhamnaceae
Alphitonia whitei	Red Ash	Rhamnaceae
Alstonia scholaris	Milky Pine	Apocynaceae
Argyrodendron peralatum	Red Tulip Oak	Sterculiaceae
Argyrodendron trifoliolatum	Brown Tulip Oak	Sterculiaceae
Athertonia diversifolia	Atherton Oak	Proteaceae
Beilschmiedia tooram	Brown Walnut	Lauraceae
Buckinghamia celsissima	Ivory Curl Tree	Proteaceae
Cardwellia sublimis	Northern Silky Oak	Proteaceae
Carnarvonia araliifolia var. araliifolia	Caledonian Oak	Proteaceae
Carnarvonia araliifolia var. montana	Red Silky Oak	Proteaceae
Castanospermum australe	Black Bean	Fabaceae
Castanospora alphandii	Brown tamarind	Sapindaceae
Cerbera inflata	Cassowary Plum	Apocynaceae
Cryptocarya murrayi	Murray's Laurel	Lauraceae
Darlingia darlingiana	Brown Silky Oak	Proteaceae
Dysoxylum mollissimum	Miva mahogany	Meliaceae
Dysoxylum parasiticum	Yellow Mahogany	Meliaceae
Elaeocarpus grandis	Blue quandong	Elaeocarpaceae
Emmenosperma alphitonioides	Bonewood	Rhamnaceae
Endiandra insignis	Hairy Walnut	Lauraceae
Endiandra sankeyana	Sankeys's Walnut	Lauraceae
Ficus congesta var. congesta	Red-leaf Fig	Moraceae
Ficus crassipes	Round Leaf Banana Fig	Moraceae
Ficus destruens	Rusty Fig	Moraceae
Ficus leptoclada	Atherton Fig	Moraceae
Ficus obliqua	Small-leaved Fig	Moraceae
Ficus pleurocarpa	Banana Fig	Moraceae
Flindersia bourjotiana	Silver Ash	Rutaceae
Flindersia brayleyana	Queensland Maple	Rutaceae
Flindersia pimenteliana	Maple silkwood	Rutaceae
Guioa lasioneura	Silky Tamarind	Sapindaceae
Homalanthus novo-guineensis	Bleeding Heart	Euphorbiaceae
Karrabina biagiana	Red Carabeen	Cunoniaceae
Litsea leefeana	Bollywood	Lauraceae
Lomatia fraxinifolia	Lomatia Silky Oak	Proteaceae
Melicope vitiflora	Northern evodia	Rutaceae
Melicope xanthoxyloides	Yellow Evodia	Rutaceae
Mischocarpus lachnocarpus	Woolly Pear Fruit	Sapindaceae

Pilidiostigma tropicum	Apricot myrtle	Myrtaceae
Polyscias elegans	Celerywood	Araliaceae
Prunus turneriana	Almondbark	Rosaceae
Pullea stutzeri	Hard alder	Cunoniaceae
Sarcopteryx martyana		Sapindaceae
Sloanea macbrydei	Northern Yellow Carabeen	Elaeocarpaceae
Stenocarpus sinuatus	Wheel-of-fire	Proteaceae
Syzygium australe	Creek Cherry	Myrtaceae
Syzygium canicortex	Yellow Satinash	Myrtaceae
Syzygium cormiflorum	Bumpy Satinash	Myrtaceae
Syzygium kuranda	Kuranda Satinash	Myrtaceae
Syzygium leuhmannii	Small-leaved Lilly Pilly	Myrtaceae
Syzygium papyraceum	Paperbark Satinash	Myrtaceae
Vanroyena castanosperma	Poison Plum	Sapotaceae
Xanthostemon chrysanthus	Golden Penda	Myrtaceae
Xanthostemon whitei	Red Penda	Myrtaceae