

# Cairns Regional Council Stratford Nursery

Being adaptable to balance with  
differing priorities

15<sup>th</sup> August 2025



## Acknowledgement of Country

Cairns Regional Council acknowledges and pays our respects to the Traditional Custodians of our region, the Djabugay; Yirrganydji; Buluwai, Gimuy Walubara Yidinji; Mandingalbay Yidinji; Gunggandji; Dulabed and Malanbara Yidinji; Bundabarra and Wadjanbarra Yidinji; Wanyurr Majay; Mamu and NgadjonJii peoples.

We extend this respect to all elders past, present and future,  
and other First Peoples within our region.

# Shaping the future

## Our Values



### Trust

Honouring the trust of our residents, each other and staff



### Responsibility

Transparency and responsibility to our community



### Cairns-ness

Safeguarding what makes Cairns, Cairns

## Our Focus



### Robust economy

Supporting a diversified and resilient economy that backs business innovation, growth and jobs



### Natural assets

Promoting, protecting and enhancing our iconic natural environment now and for generations to come



### Design for liveability

Creating a safe, sustainable and connected place that supports a quality life



### Community and culture

Fostering a vibrant and healthy community where everyone feels they belong



### Focused Council

Being a leader in local government

## How do we plan our week?

- Orders?
- Production?
- Maintenance?

## How do we plan our day?

- Orders?
  - Production?
  - Maintenance?
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- All need to be considered and then placed in current order of priority.
  - The day always starts with a nursery walk through to achieve an overall view of current conditions
  - If issues have been found e.g. dry sections
  - Assess the level of priority and then plan accordingly

# Morning walk through



- Looking for weed and pest infestations levels
- Stock levels
- Dry or wet sections and determine cause
- Maintain hygiene by eliminating spent stock
- Following our zero tolerance Myrtle Rust procedures

# Taking Stock while picking stock



- When picking orders I use this as a opportunity to check stock at all stages of growth.
- Do I have seedlings and/or seed for depleted species?
- Source seed.

# Maintenance Or Production?



## Weekly decisions

- Pest and weed levels from morning walk though are fully assessed and action taken accordingly.
- Review end of month stock levels and plan production needs.
- Start a plan for the week with when to do maintenance and what to add into production.
- Planning production to be finished by Thursday.

# Maintenance

**Keep up with maintenance.**

**Allocating time and people to potting, pruning and weeding.**

**Prune lower leaves hard to ensure nutrients to apical growth, optimal airflow and water penetration.**

**Fill high value shade space with 'prime' growing stock before the weekend to maximise growing time.**



# Seed Collecting + Germinating

- Quality ripe seed
- Records
- Check seed trays daily
- Investigate anything that does not look “right” and change one factor at a time for ease of elimination
- Use as many natural biological controls as possible



# Seedling Production



- Maximising production efficiency.
- Use low nutrient germination media.
- Stagger batches when potting.
- Maintain species diversity.

# People Power



## Value

Value the power of people!  
Volunteers and always networking



## Eyes everywhere

Don't be afraid to ask for help watching seed ripening. People love the hunt!  
The more people who know what seed we need the better!



## Education

The more people that know about conservation the better it is for conservation!





**Thank you! Any questions?**

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