

Summary of Linkage Projects Applications for Funding to Commence in 2006

Western Australia

Murdoch University

LP0668195 A/Prof GE Hardy; A/Prof B Dell; Dr BJ Bowen; Dr MC Calver; Dr RH Froend; Mr DA Haswell; Mr GA Behn; Dr C Stone; Mr BC Edwards; Dr PA Fleming

Approved Project Title **The cause(s) and management of the Eucalyptus gomphocephala decline epidemic in Western Australia.**

2006 : \$237,000

2007 : \$185,000

2008 : \$185,000

Primary RFCD 3006 FORESTRY SCIENCES

APA(I) Award(s): 3

Partner Organisation(s)

Alcoa World Alumina Australia

BEMAX incorporating Cable Sands

City of Rockingham

City of Mandurah

Shire of Busselton

Department of Conservation and Land Management

SPECTERRA SYSTEMS

Administering Institution Murdoch University

Project Summary

Tree declines are prevalent throughout rural and metropolitan Australia. Apart from loss of habitat, biodiversity, shade and aesthetics, tree death is a financial burden to land managers. This project will increase our understanding of factors that drive tree declines by: (a) understanding changes in hydrological processes that occur through declining rainfall or ground water use; (b) exploring tree nutrient requirements in relation to soil fertility and land management; (c) identifying revegetation strategies for disturbed lands; and (c) through linking environmental correlates with tuart decline. It will provide the community with tools to mitigate decline such as though improved revegetation strategies

LP0668429 Prof MG Jones; Dr R Jones; Dr GI Dwyer; Mr MB Holland

Approved Project Title **Molecular tools for controlling pathogenic viruses in the seed potato industry**

Project Title

2006 : \$49,300

2007 : \$49,300

2008 : \$49,300

Primary RFCD 2704 BOTANY

APA(I) Award(s): 2

Partner Organisation(s)

Department of Agriculture WA

Saturn Biotech

Agricultural Producers Commission Potato Producers Committee

Administering Institution Murdoch University

Project Summary

In this project, molecular diagnostic tools will be generated that will improve the ability of testing laboratories to deliver cost-effective virus diagnostic services to seed potato certification authorities in Australia. There will be economic benefits from increased yields of fresh and processing potatoes, higher prices in domestic and export markets, expansion of current and development of new markets, and licensing of tests. There will also be economic and social returns to the broader rural community by better management and control of virus pathogens, and less reliance on environmentally undesirable chemical control measures. The project will provide expert training of two PhD students in practical and molecular plant virology.