

**From:** Greg Ford [gregf@qmdc.org.au]  
**Sent:** Monday, 20 August 2007 10:39 AM  
**To:** phipps1@bigpond.com  
**Subject:** Cypress in Qld Murray-Darling Basin

Dear Greg

Thanks for your email enquiry of 8 July 2007, forwarded to me by our business manager. My apologies for late reply.

Your venture in cypress-based relocatable buildings is a great example of the innovative use of natural resources and could certainly provide opportunities for land-holders in this region to diversify their enterprises into sustainable forest products.

As you are no doubt aware, a large proportion of Qld's cypress resources occur in our region; and there is a large and growing interest from land-holders and forest-industry people alike in managing and developing the resource on private lands for sustainable cypress production into the future.

We have partnered with AgForests Qld over the past year to deliver a number of field days/workshops with landholders in our region, focussing on sustainable forest production. Key messages presented at these events included the importance of the resource on private lands and approaches to managing cypress in a diversified agricultural enterprise.

In our ongoing work with land-managers in the region, the management of forest resources for ecological outcomes and sustainable, diversified primary industries will remain a strong focus. With businesses like yours offering income diversification opportunities for land-holders, they are more likely to explore alternative land-use options as they strive for improved environmental outcomes from their traditional agricultural enterprises. The availability of markets and appropriate advice on sustainable development of the resource are key components of capacity-building for diversified sustainable production in the regional community.

If you have any further enquiries regarding the native forests extension program in our region, you should contact AgForests Qld on 07 3254 3098.

***Greg Ford***

Regional Ecologist

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