



Office Use Only

Project Code	
Project Type	

GROWER GROUP FINAL REPORT 2021

Applicants must read the *SAGIT Group Application Guidelines 2021* prior to completing this form. These guidelines can be downloaded from www.sagit.com.au

Final reports must be emailed to admin@sagit.com.au as a Microsoft Word document in the format shown **within 2 months** after the completion of the Project Term.

PROJECT CODE	: MSF220G
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EVENT TITLE	(10 words maximum)
WA frost/ low rainfall farming speaker for SA spring field days	

EVENT DURATION

*These dates **must** be the same as those stated in the Funding Agreement*

Event Start date	1st July 2020	
Event End date	30 th December 2020	
SAGIT Funding Request	(year)	\$3000

PROJECT SUPERVISOR CONTACT DETAILS

The project supervisor is the person responsible for the overall project

Title:	First Name:	Surname:
Ms	Tanja	Morgan
Organisation:		
Mallee Sustainable Farming Inc		

EVENT REPORT

Provide clear description of the following:

Executive Summary (200 words maximum)

A few paragraphs covering what was achieved, written in a manner that is easily understood and relevant to SA growers. Report on the attendance at the event, relevant photos could also be attached. A number of key dot points should be included which can be used in SAGIT communication programs

It was hoped that Bill Crabtree would be available to attend the MSF Spring Field days in September 2020 as a draw card speaker on farming in a very low rainfall region.

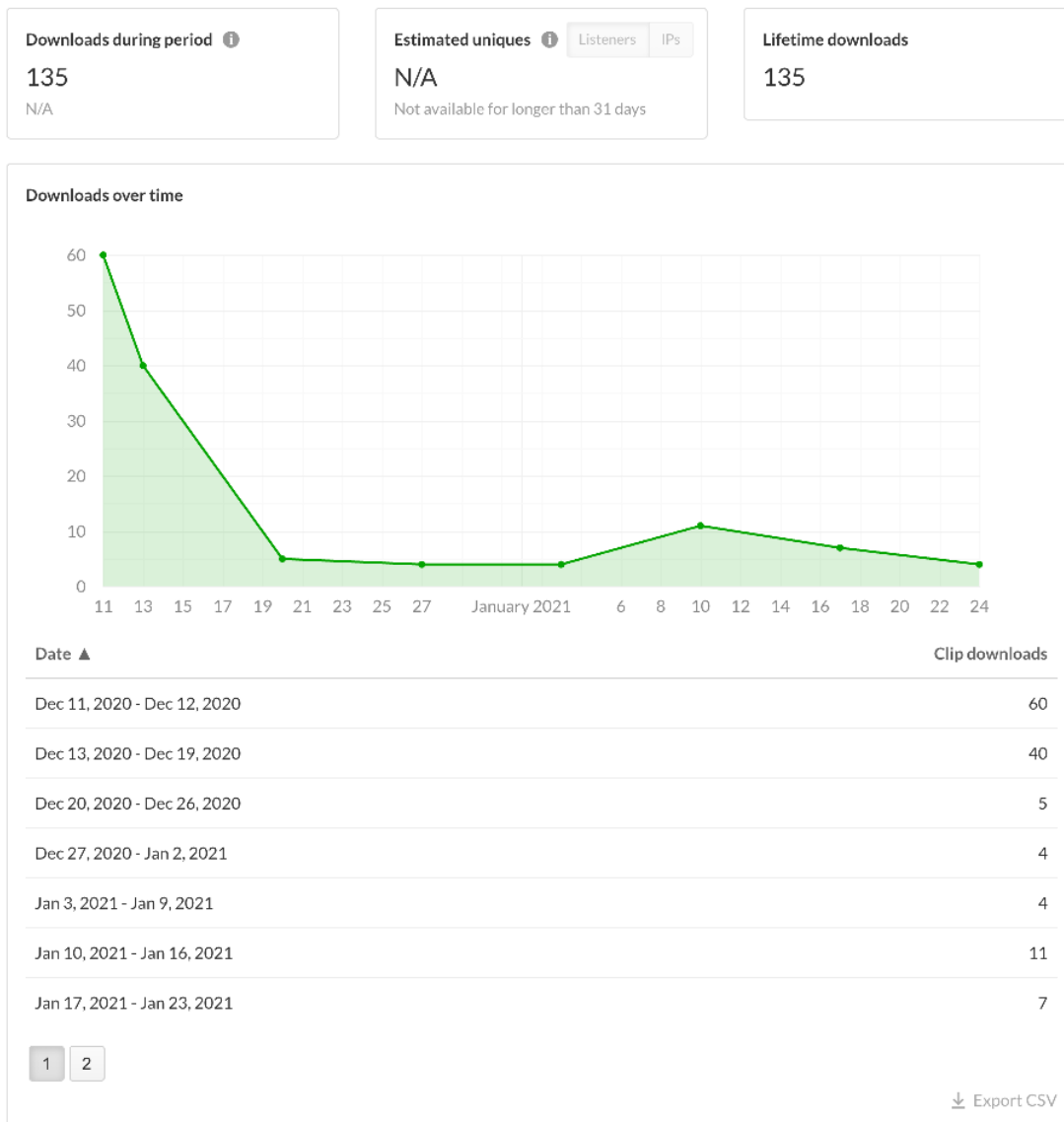
Unfortunately travel restrictions meant that this was unable to take place but Bill was willing to be interviewed for a podcast which was taped in December and promoted via MSF social media. The following questions were asked in the interview and a 20 minute podcast was recorded.

1. Your no-till career - what's been the most rewarding aspect?
2. Let's talk about the dry years and how you have managed farming on the edge of the desert. Tell us about what drew you to the challenge. What have you learned about farming in low rainfall country in the west that you can share with our low rainfall farmer listeners?
3. What in your experience are the key drivers of successfully farming low rainfall areas?
4. Going back to your experience with no-till and retaining stubble - most Mallee farmers are no-till farming some even zero till, we are seeing a lot more legumes come in to the rotation which is great for improving soil health and species diversity but it also comes with the trade off of less stubble cover. We then have years of drought which can wreak havoc in a low groundcover season. How do you think we can manage this into the future to keep our farming systems robust and reduce erosion risk?
5. I hear you have sold the farm now, so what's next for you and your wife Monique?

The podcast is available on a number of streaming services and can also be accessed from the MSF website.

Overall Performance

A concise statement indicating the extent to which the objectives were achieved, a list of personnel who participated in the Event including co-operators, and any difficulties encountered and the reasons for these difficulties.



The podcast was launched on 11th of December and has been downloaded 135 times. MSF has a growing subscriber list to the FarmTalk podcast channel therefore the number of listeners and downloads will keep growing over time.

Tegan Buckley, MSF Communications and Media Manager, taped the interview with Bill over Zoom and then spent time editing and reviewing. Prior to the interview MSF called for questions for Bill from Twitter to

The cost of developing the podcast has been half the cost of flying Bill to SA and having him present at field days.

We propose to develop an additional podcast on the research outcomes of the SAGIT frost project as an additional output to expend the remainder of our grower group funding.

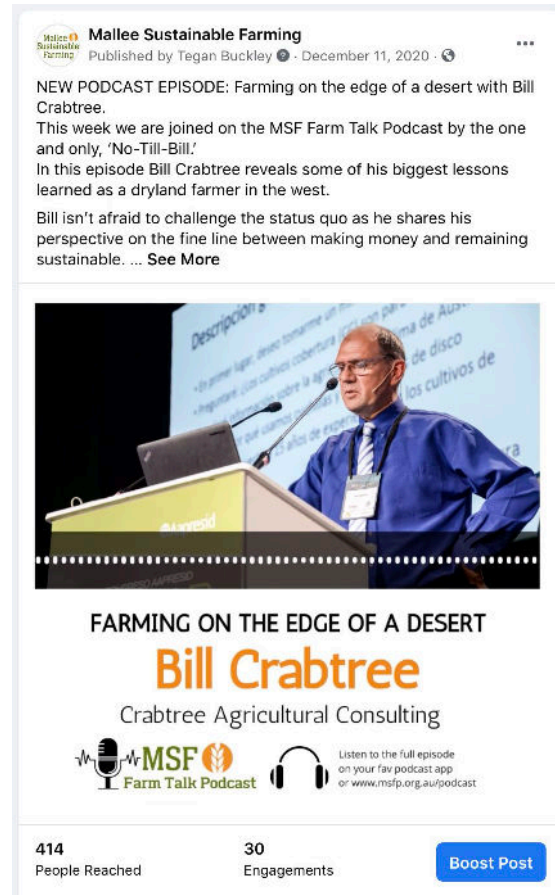
Application / Communication of Results

A concise statement describing activities undertaken to communicate the results of the event to the grains industry. This should include:

- Main findings of the event in a dot point form suitable for use in communications to farmers;
- Publications and extension articles delivered as part of the project


Note that SAGIT may directly extend information from Final reports to growers. If applicable, attach a list of published material.

The podcast was promoted on MSF social media platforms – Facebook and Twitter. Examples of the published posts are below.





Mallee Sustainable Farming
Published by Tegan Buckley · December 11, 2020

NEW PODCAST EPISODE: Farming on the edge of a desert with Bill Crabtree.
This week we are joined on the MSF Farm Talk Podcast by the one and only, 'No-Till-Bill'.
In this episode Bill Crabtree reveals some of his biggest lessons learned as a dryland farmer in the west.
Bill isn't afraid to challenge the status quo as he shares his perspective on the fine line between making money and remaining sustainable. ... [See More](#)



FARMING ON THE EDGE OF A DESERT
Bill Crabtree
Crabtree Agricultural Consulting

  Listen to the full episode on your fav podcast app or www.msfp.org.au/podcast

414 People Reached 30 Engagements [Boost Post](#)



Mallee Sustainable Farmi... · 11/12/20

Hear from @notillbill on what it's like farming on the edge of the desert. MSF Farm Talk Podcast: bit.ly/3oEEiKS
[#MalleeFarming](#) [#SustainableFarming](#) [#AriseAfricanAg](#) [#NoTillBill](#)

420 views

Mallee Sustainable Farmi... · 11/12/20

Hear from Bill Crabtree @NoTillBill on what it's like farming on the edge of the desert in the latest episode on the MSF Farm Talk Podcast. LISTEN HERE: bit.ly/3oEEiKS Thank you @SAGIT for your Grower Group funding to help us develop this podcast. [#DrylandFarmer](#) [#MSF](#)



414 People Reached 30 Engagements [Boost Post](#)



Mallee Sustainable Farming · 3/12/20

We're interviewing Bill Crabtree @NoTillBill on the #MSFFarmTalkPodcast! Send in your questions for Bill and we will ask him in the interview this Friday.
[#AskTwitter](#) [#AgChatOz](#) [#NoTillBill](#) [#BillCrabtree](#) no-till.com.au



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Got any questions for **Bill Crabtree**?

We're interviewing Bill on the MSF Podcast soon. Send in your questions!

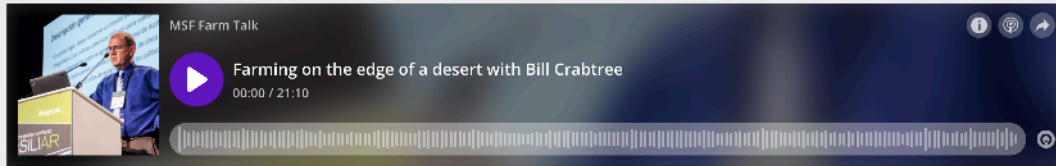


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The Podcast can also be viewed from MSFs website by visiting the following link.
<https://msfp.org.au/podcast/bill-crabtree/>

EPISODE 7: MSF FARM TALK | FARMING ON THE EDGE OF THE DESERT WITH BILL CRABTREE

December 1st, 2020 - 10:27 am



This week we are joined on the MSF Farm Talk Podcast by the one and only, 'No-Till-Bill'

In this episode Bill Crabtree reveals some of his biggest lessons learned as a dryland farmer in the west.

Bill isn't afraid to challenge the status quo as he shares his perspective on the fine line between making money and remaining sustainable.

We also cover:

- Bill's experiences on successfully farming in low rainfall areas
- How termites have played a major role in his crop rotation
- Crop residues for improving soil structure
- Stubble retention and managing erosion

We also chat with Bill about his next mission in life – taking his Australian farming experience and approaches to Africa!

Big shout out to SAGIT for their Grower Group funding to help us develop this podcast.

#MSFFarmTalk #MalleeFarming #SustainableFarming #AriseAfricanAg #NoTillBill

POSSIBLE FUTURE EVENTS

Provide possible future plans of your Group arising from the project including potential for further work and partnerships.

It has been a great opportunity to be able to tape the podcast in the absence of a visit from Bill. This platform also gives us an opportunity to develop a resource that can be tapped into by all interested listeners at any time. We will re-promote the podcast in the coming months and continue to monitor consumer analytics.

It would be great if this type of funding would allow for digital extension outputs (including videos) to be developed into the future especially where funding is not available from other projects to tackle certain topics of interest to growers. MSF receives ongoing feedback from growers that online digital content is easier to access than having the time to attend field days and workshops.