

Bringing It All Together



By Colin Nicholl

“Sibford Estate”

Hyden WA

Completed courses

- Chemcert
- St John's ambulance first aid
- Fire fighting & fire management
- Risk management & corporate governance
- Strategic planning
- Arc & Gas welding short courses
- High risk machinery
- Heavy vehicle accreditation



Accountability

- Farming business requires greater accountability
- Formal qualifications are now becoming more important
- I am strong advocate for prior learning recognitions.



Skills Recognition, How it started

- Aimed to make skills recognition more achievable in regional Australia
- A trial was conducted in 2011 in:
- NSW , VIC, SA , QLD &WA
- Regional skills Training Pty. Ltd provided mentoring & assessor support
- The activity was funded by Agrifood Skills Australia/ Rural Training Council of Australia Training Fund
- Farmers are rich in skills but poor in formal qualifications



Processes that are involved

- Initial interviews, explanation and induction RPL
- Familiarisation
- Selection of units
- Providing information and evidence of prior learning

Key Messages

- RPL needs to be promoted in regional Australia
- Farmers are rich in skills but poor in formal recognition of those skills
- This imbalance can be addressed
- RPL is key to success of this programme
- It is now up to farmers and their employees to take up the opportunity.
- I wish to thank all the organisations involved in giving me the opportunity to achieve the formal recognition.