



Case Study

Grower Support



LANDHOLDER	Glen Fasano
LOCATION	Mossman
CATCHMENT	Mossman
RAINFALL	2500 - 3500mm
PROPERTY SIZE	474ha
ON-GROUND PROVIDER	Mossman Ag Services

Project Catalyst is a grower led, sugar cane innovation and adoption project that explores, develops and validates farm management practice change to improve the enduring water quality of the Great Barrier Reef.

BROADER ADOPTION VALIDATION & GROWER SUPPORT

Founded in 2009, the project operates in the Mackay Whitsunday, Burdekin and Wet Tropic regions to deliver valued practice change outcomes and develop methods for industry adoption. Under the Broader Adoption and Grower Support program, professional on-ground service providers assist selected growers to adopt and validate appropriate change practices. Service providers continue to monitor implementation benefits and derived environmental performance improvements. Through targeted extension activities, the program seeks to accelerate the uptake and broader adoption of improved farming practices at local, regional and industry levels.



Glen Fasano with Stool Splitter



Spraying peanuts



Great Barrier
Reef Foundation



●●●● Goal

The goal is to continue supporting Glen Fasano as a Project Catalyst grower, having had an EEF trial in the past.



Peanut crop in Mossman

●●●● Overview

MAS has worked with Glen Fasano in the past through Project Catalyst on their Enhance Efficiency Fertiliser trials. Glen has begun the move to wider row spacing over the past few years, moving to 1.9m, to best match their harvester width. They are also now incorporating a Peanut crop rotation in their fallow period.

Glen and his sons, Michael and Scott are interested in trying new ideas that may suit their farming operations and goals.



Whole stick, clean seed

●●●● Action

Nutrient Management Plan updated, with inclusion of N discount, with discounts to plant crops where the block has had peanuts supplying an N contribution.

The Enhance Efficiency Fertiliser Trials in this case did not show results that encouraged further use across the farm. With further information or research there could be a place for them, but without further information it is difficult to determine where they can be used. Continue to provide support to Glen Fasano and assist where necessary with extension advice.

●●●● Outcome

Advice provided by MAS on reduced rates on plant cane, following a their legume crop.

2020/2021 is their third year of peanuts in the fallow, which has so far proven to be successful with the rigorous spray program, and timing with wet weather events.

Before planting Peanuts they need to ensure the block is suitable and has good drainage, wet areas and waterlogging will significantly limit the yeild of not only the cane crop but the Peanuts too. Glen has taken up the use of the GPS controlled scoop, to level blocks and determine where drainage is required. Blocks are checked with GPS levels, and then a GPS plan is created where needed. The levelling is then done using a hired GPS controlled scoop.