



AgKI - Request for Quote

**STAGE 1 - STRESS TESTING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE
PRACTICES MULTI YEAR TRIAL 2026-2029**

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Version Control

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AgKI Request for Quote Stage 1 – Stress Testing Regenerative Agricultural Practices Multi Year Trail (2026-2029)



INTRODUCTION

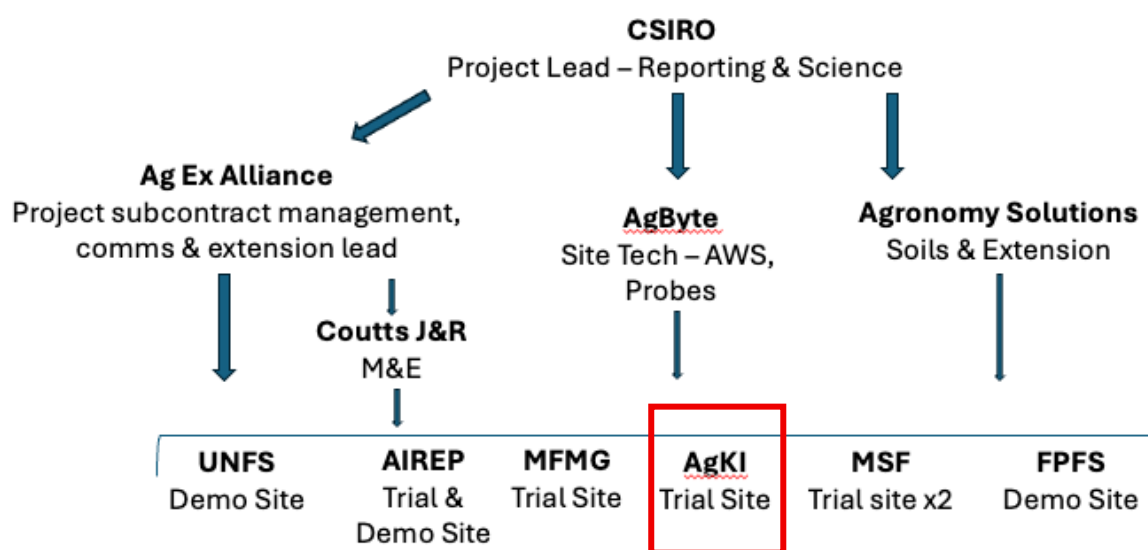
Agriculture Kangaroo Island Incorporated (AgKI) is the peak body for agriculture and primary production on Kangaroo Island since 1996. With approximately 150 primary producer members, we represent members across the breadth of the island, including both livestock and grain producers, along with other farming and production activities.

Agriculture Kangaroo Island Inc plays an essential role in supporting primary production and agriculture development on Kangaroo Island. We support our primary producer and industry members through advocacy, research, policy development and education, training and skill development with a proven track record in delivering research and development programs on Kangaroo Island.

OVERVIEW

AgKI are seeking to contract a consultant to deliver a multi year trial site on Kangaroo Island as part of a comprehensive, state wide evaluation of novel regenerative agriculture practices in Australia's southern grain growing areas.

The project aims to rigorously study regenerative cropping and pasture management to boost drought resilience in southern Australia's dryland farming systems. It is farmer-led with scientific support from CSIRO and full economic analysis, involving five long-term trials across key eco-climatic zones and four large demonstration trials. The data collected will be modelled to predict outcomes of different management scenarios, helping stakeholders visualize impacts on soil resilience and sustainable productivity. A robust monitoring, evaluation, and communication strategy will ensure transparency, stakeholder engagement, and value delivery throughout the project.



AgKI Request for Quote Stage 1 – Stress Testing Regenerative Agricultural Practices Multi Year Trail (2026-2029)



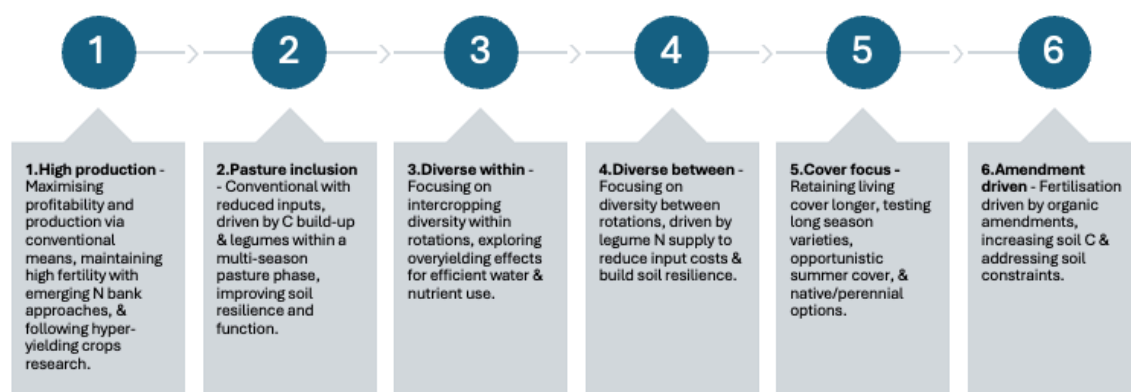
The project involves a diverse group of partners, each playing specific roles. CSIRO leads the project, while Ag Excellence Alliance coordinates research trials, demonstrations, extension, and monitoring with regional farming groups that will implement the long-term and demonstration trials, ensuring local relevance and farmer engagement.

Technical partners Agbyte and Agronomy Solutions will provide environmental sensing and soil analysis expertise. A soil probe weather station will be installed at the trail site for the duration of the project. This collaborative approach integrates scientific research with practical farming knowledge and extension services.

The trial and demonstration sites will be extensively measured and monitored over the course of the project. Advanced techniques like stable isotope analysis will quantify legume-fixed nitrogen and fertilizer use efficiency. Soil chemical and microbial properties will be monitored to assess health and resilience, greenhouse gas emissions will be evaluated, and drought stress responses will be measured using cutting-edge methods. Economic analysis will evaluate both systems and CSIRO modelling tools will scale these findings across southern Australia

SCOPE OF WORK

The Kangaroo Island trial site will test four of the six core treatments below to improve drought resilience. There will also be two continuous wheat plots with one fertilised and one with no fertilizer treatments. These varied approaches will help identify the most effective practices for dryland farming systems. Each treatment will be replicated 4 to 6 times and will be randomised complete block design, plots to be approximately 4 m x 25m with 2 m buffers between plots. No grazing to occur on the replicated trial. Demonstration plots (one plot of each treatment) will be established outside the trial area to enable farmers to see the grazing impact on the demo sites.



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The successful consultant(s) will work with AgKI Steering Committee and in turn CSIRO to finalise the core treatments for the Kangaroo Island pasture focused trial.

Core Treatment		Proposed KI Trial Site Approach
1. Continuous wheat	To enable KI results to be correlated with data from all sites	Fertilizer applied throughout the 4 phases/years
2. Continuous wheat	To enable KI results to be correlated with data from all sites	No fertilizer applied throughout the 4 phases/years
3. High production (Conventional farming)	Maximising profitability and production via best practice conventional means.	Conventional pasture under best practice – fertiliser, species mix etc
4. Diverse within (Regenerative Ag)	Reduced inputs, driven by C build up & legumes within a multi-season pasture phase, improving soil resilience and function	Multi species pasture mix
5. Amendment driven (Regenerative Ag)	Fertilization driven by organic amendments, increasing soil C & addressing soil constraints	Whilst this will depend on the final trial site location and the identification of key limiting factors, however there is keen interest in potentially trialling the use of Biochar
6. Consultant(s) to work with AgKI to determine the fourth core treatment (Regenerative Ag)		

This Request for Quote (RFQ) is being awarded in two (2) stages:-

Stage 1 – Long Term Trials planning & set up

Stage 2 – Trial site management, measurement & sampling (including reporting and extension)

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For Stage 1, the project is looking to bring on a consultant to work with the AgKI Project Steering Committee to finalise:-

- trial site selection,
- finalise the 'core treatments' to be trialled on KI
- treatment approach for KI trials,
- protocols (in conjunction with AgEx consortium and CSIRO) for data management, data capture, site characterisation, trial site layout management practices, soil sampling, crop data and timing.

The trial sites will commence in March 2026.

The successful consultant will provide a quote for the delivery of Stage 2 by the end of February 2026. AgKI will reserve the right to go back to the market if the successful consultant selected for Stage 1 submits a price for Stage 2 that is not within budget or otherwise deemed non-compliant.

The successful contractor will be required to provide regular updates to the AgKI Project Steering Committee and must obtain their approval on methods, management practices, draft reports and extension.

Communication strategies and implementation for this project are being outsourced to a 3rd party provider.

TIMEFRAME

- Contractor to commence Stage 1 by early December 2025
- Successful contractor for Stage 1 to submit a quote for Stage 2 by end of February 2026. (Note: a separate Request for Quote for Stage 2 will be issued to the successful consultant)
- Trail sites to commence March 2026 for four (4) years on Kangaroo Island (2026 – 2029)

BUDGET

A budget of between \$20,000 to \$22,000 (ex GST) has been allocated to the delivery of Stage 1 (Long term trials planning). Stage 2 has a budget of \$400,000 to \$415,000 (ex GST) over four (4) years for trial site management, measurement & sampling including reporting and extension.

The quote submitted for Stage 1 must include all travel and accommodation requirements for Kangaroo Island, as will Stage 2. Stage 2 request for quote will need to include field trial equipment, data recording and management equipment (ie laptop or tablet), travel and accommodation for trial site management, measurement and sampling plus cost for sending samples to CSIRO (ie foam esky to CSIRO via SeaLink within 48 hours) which will be detailed as a requirement in the Stage 2 Request for Quote.

QUOTE REQUIREMENTS STAGE 1

Quote provided must include:-

- Understanding of the requirement
- Price (including payment schedule)
- Proposed approach and delivery method
- Field trial equipment to be used (must be provided by the Contractor). *Note: soil probe weather station for the trial site will be provided separately by AgByte.*
- Experience delivering similar projects
- Availability and capacity of consultant(s) with a proposed timeline to deliver stage 1 over the Christmas/New Year period.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The following assessment criteria and weighting will be used by the Steering Committee in their assessment with the final approval to award the contract coming from the AgKI Board.

- Price (25%),
- Experience delivering similar projects (25%),
- Proposed approach and delivery method for Kangaroo Island including availability and capacity of consultant(s) (25%),
- Understanding of the requirement (25%)

SUBMISSION

Requests for quote need to be submitted to

Anna Kelliher, Executive Officer AgKI

by 4.00pm Wednesday 26 November 2025

admin@agki.com.au (confirmation of receipt of submission will be sent)