

DigiFarm: A digitally enabled durable agroecosystem

Biodiversity

Brief Project Summary:

Investment over the past century by the University of Sydney is culminating in an integrated approach to its farming education and research activities. DigiFarm is an important stage in this activity, bringing together the community, farmers and environmental stakeholders.

We aim to develop a digitally enabled network which will monitor native flora and fauna to inform sustainable agricultural practices. A unique combination of methods will be used: We will test new methods in camera trapping and acoustic recorders (birds and bats) in quantifying on-farm biodiversity and develop spatial models to identify biodiversity hotspots.



L'lara, Narrabri. Photo by Kieran Shephard

The project is part of a larger initiative that aims to develop a digitally enabled network which will simultaneously monitor crop and animal production, and soil and ecosystem health. Building on current investments in Narrabri, we shall build a physical and virtual DigiFarm hub and satellite farm network for north-west NSW providing digital dashboards of 'health, production and social' metrics. We will create an education platform at Narrabri for farmers, agribusiness, schools, environmental stakeholders to experience the latest ag-innovation thinking. The project has in-kind support from the [Sydney Institute of Agriculture](#).

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