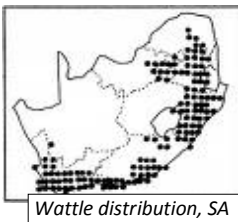




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**Jacklin Organic produces ECOPOST® compost, potting soil, lawn dressing and mulch from invasive wattle trees.**



Wattle distribution, SA

Black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*) is an Australian tree that has invaded South Africa's water-rich river catchments mainly in the eastern sector of our country, drying up our natural water resources. Wattle grows in dense stands with larger trees guzzling up to 800 litres of water per tree per day.

Rural communities use wattle for firewood and straight poles for building. Opportunist wattle charcoal makers often import migrant labour to work on production in-field. None of these processes uses the slash (comprising side-branches, leaves, flowers and seeds) which is left to dry in field, creating a fire hazard. Wild fires contribute to loss of property, livestock and indigenous fauna and flora each year. Fire causes wattle seeds to germinate and rapidly increases wattle re-growth. Another serious problem with wattle slash fires is that they burn hotter than grass veld fires, cooking the top layer of soil and killing off what's left of the natural biodiversity.



Fire hazard: conventional clearing methods leave slash in-field. Ideal conditions for wattle seeds to germinate.

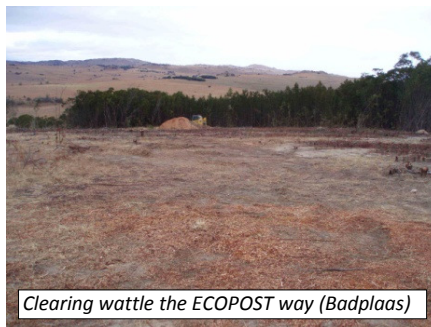


Whole trees & slash chipped in-field

During **ECOPOST®** production, we process whole trees, including side branches so no slash is left behind. Slash is a valuable biomass which can be used to improve the soil. Where wattle has been removed, dried up streams start to flow again. With slash removed, indigenous veld grass species grow back and wild-life returns. Wattle seeds are broken down during the composting process, reducing wattle seed populations in the environment. Wattle is a legume which fixes nitrogen and is naturally pH balance, so it produces a highly nutritious growing medium perfect for vegetable and indigenous gardening.



Wattle chips ready for composting



Clearing wattle the ECOPOST way (Badplaas)



Grassland restored (Badplaas)

**ECOPOST® puts back what wattle has removed by freeing up precious water in river catchments, restoring biodiversity, producing a highly nutritious growing medium and creating employment.**

We have over 8 years experience in woodchip production and hire out our chippers to land restoration projects and for biomass solid fuel production. Based in Badplaas, Mpumalanga we work throughout South Africa and in neighbouring countries. Contact Brendan 0828800773 or Avena 0824568886