

Good Graze

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A two year cattle grazing project on Malabar Resources' rehabilitation of the now closed Drayton open-cut mine has reared exceptional results for local farmers, Kell and Rob Parish.

Kell and Rob have partnered with Malabar since November 2018, originally introducing 50 steers onto pasture rehabilitation. The trial continued in 2019 and 2020 and was expanded to include heifers being strategically rotated between four paddocks located on the site.

"Grazing cattle on Malabar's rehab over the last two years has been a productive and viable venture," Kell and Rob said.



“Our cattle have thrived on the rehab and produced high yielding results, putting on roughly 1kg per day during their time on site.

“The rehab has also benefited from the grazing and held up well in all conditions – in both dry and wet times – aided by our ability to rotate stock and adjust numbers from pasture to pasture.”

In September, the farmers’ Angus x Charolais heifers that grazed on the rehabilitation topped the market at the Singleton sale yards selling for \$1998 a head. A month earlier, the Angus steers that originally came to the mine site in 2018 were sold to a local abattoir and met all primary marketing criteria.

Malabar Chairman Wayne Seabrook said: “It has been a joy to partner with local farmers, Kell and Rob, on a project that has provided important ecological benefits, such as improving the diversity of native grass species, and outstanding results in the quality of the cattle.

“As we continue to restore the former open-cut mine – now known as Maxwell Infrastructure – to pastures and native woodland, we look forward to more conversations with local farmers about how we make the land productive and sustainable for future generations.”



Open cut mining operations were undertaken at the site between 1982 and 2016. Since Malabar took over the site, it has progressively rehabilitated the land, with the primary objective being a landform that is compatible with surrounding land use practices such as cattle grazing.