

# Australian Plants

Registered for posting as a periodical —  
Category B

June, 1976—Vol. 8, No. 67  
Volume 8 will comprise Issues 61-68

75c



Photography by Eric Gordon

**GREVILLEA BAUERI**

---

**GROW AUSTRALIAN WILDFLOWERS**

---

## GROWING WILDFLOWERS

This publication is dedicated to the presentation of articles on the cultivation of the Australian flora and the development of its horticultural potential. Every effort is made to include as many articles as possible.<sup>1</sup> They are presented in a clear and simple manner so that every one, from the young person who is just beginning to appreciate the beauty of the world around him, to the home gardener, may join in this exciting hobby.

Why not grow a few wildflowers in your garden?

There are many who are convinced that the pressures of civilisation and population will increase to the extent that most natural habitats will be invaded and alienated so that wildlife, creatures or plants, will need to be nurtured for the species to survive.

Those who have had some experience with the cultivation of much of our Australian flora will readily acknowledge that there is much to learn. We do not pretend that we can preserve the flora in our home gardens but we are learning how to propagate, cultivate, develop the best forms and have fun in the frontier of horticulture. Rather than be impatient<sup>2</sup> if some of the articles appear too technical, be grateful to writers such as Dr. Byron Lamont, of the Western Australian Institute of Technology,<sup>3</sup> and Dr. Laurie Johnson, Director of the Botanic Gardens, Sydney,<sup>4</sup> for their offer to help us to a wider understanding.

### NOTES:

1. All articles of a simple nature directly related to growing wildflowers in the garden are published. I am the first to acknowledge that we do not publish enough of them so, experienced growers, or even the not so experienced, please send me an article on your triumphs and failures at growing wildflowers.

2. I am well aware that some readers want more of the simple articles on cultivation. You get all I receive so if you want more of this type then it is up to you to do your part and send some notes. I wonder sometimes how well the ones that are printed are read. For instance, in our No. 65 issue on *Boronia*, the bulk of the issue could be described as technical (although from the correspondence received it is a most popular issue), but the article by Max Hewett on the cultivation of *Boronia* was outstanding and the issue was good value for this authoritative and well-presented article on its own. If you are having trouble growing the more difficult small plants then I suggest you re-read it carefully. In the present issue there are a number of articles, each containing as much information on growing wildflowers as appears in each issue of "Your Garden" where the type is spread out to complete a page. "Your Garden", I hasten to add, is an excellent gardening magazine and those who purchase it regularly will be treasuring the many articles by Roger Elliott and others. Articles in each issue are excellent, such as those in the May, 1976, issue on "Propagating Banksias From Cuttings" and "Landscaping of Steep Slopes".

3. See "The *Hakea Sulcata* Group"—page 298.

4. An official release of results of recent research in simple terms serves as a valuable bridge between professional botanist and the interested public. Articles in this issue reporting on work by research botanists at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, will help to resolve many problems that existed in the past over the correct naming of plants.

### PROTEACEAE — The Principal Contents of This Issue

As the Australian flora is so vast and the large family of *Proteaceae* so diverse, any attempt to present other than a small segment adequately would fail. Our approach is that the articles in the previous 66 issues, supplemented by the information in this issue, and in future issues as our knowledge broadens, will give the reader the most comprehensive report available.

*Propagation*—Two excellent articles here supplement others published.

*Cultivation*—Two reports here supplement others previously published.

*Research*—See notes 3 and 4 above.

### BEGINNERS' GUIDE

If you are new to wildflowers, that is to their recognition and cultivation, then it is suggested that you might start from the back of this issue and work forward.

"Our Pretty Bushland Spiders"—page 335—will open up a new world of interest by examining our spider flowers.

"Isopogons"—page 331—will introduce you to propagation.

"*Grevillea* From Seed"—page 330—describes a very interesting method.

"New Australian Wildflower Cultivars"—page 325—officially registers a number of beautiful garden plants.

Now start reading from the beginning with the article opposite.





































































































