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GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS ^{FOR} ~~IN~~ CONTAINERS
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WELCOME TO THE REACTIVATED GROUP!!!!

This is the first Newsletter of the reformed "AUSTRALIAN PLANTS IN CONTAINERS" GROUP. We are still attempting to set up, and are short members, we would like to invite active as well as non-active members to join our group. I thought the best way to begin is to ask a few questions in a short survey at the end of this first newsletter.

CHANGE OF SEASONS:

Now that the hot, dry summer is behind us it is time to get to work and start thinking about the next growing seasons. Time to look at the plants in the containers, and what has to be done to fortify the natives to survive winter months head and prosper next year.

Something that is forgotten with plants growing in containers, is that the soil base is very limited. Therefore, it is a good time now that the growing season is over, or at least slowed down, to re-pot or replace the soil in the potted plants. This is especially critical for those native that use little or no fertilizers. The minerals and nutrients in the potting soil, soon get utilized then plant will then start having difficulties. This re-potting will improve the plant's ability to retain water and more efficient use the water. This also gives you the change to see how the roots are doing and trim them back if needed, and to look for any little friends that may have invaded the plant roots or potting soil.

Watering is a big problem, at least in NSW this year it has been. The drought this year has caused more problems than normal. Routine watering becomes extremely important. Many natives have died in pots this year, when asking about this problem, many of the professional nursery people, admit the lack of rain has been the problem, if the plant was in the ground it stand a better chance. This doesn't mean we have to give up, just work harder, and remember to water the natives at least twice a week with a good heavy watering not a glass full. This is very important in the areas where frost may occur and if the plants have not been watered you may lose them.

MAIL AND CORRESPANCE

This will be question and answer area, so we can help each other, with comments, problems, and solutions. Therefore, if you have comments, problems, or answers to potential problems, please send. In the next newsletter we will print them and attempt to obtain solutions for you.

SURVEY

If you could answer the following it will help us through the next few months. This includes the passive or non-active members as well. It will give some idea of what type of plants you would like to attempt to grow in pots or are already doing so. It will also help aim our work in an area were everyone is interested.

What have you attempted to grow any native trees in pots _____

If yes, what type _____

What type of problems did you have _____

Would you like to grow native trees in a pot ? _____

What type _____

How much sun will the plants receive every day _____

What type of scrub have you attempted to grow in a pot _____

If yes what type _____

What type of scrub would you like to grow in a pot _____

Do you presently grow any _____

Have you attempted to grow any rainforest trees or plants in pots?

If yes what ones _____

And what type soil problems did you have _____

What type would you like to grow _____

Are you interested in doing research as a group _____, independent reading results _____, or others _____.

Can you help with problems? _____

Thank you for filling this out please remeber to mail it back to me at the address on the first page of the newsletter.