

To enable members to prepare lists of seed requirements for next spring, I have decided to send newsletters in April and early August. My husband and I are planning to be away from the end of August until the end of October. Any requests for seed need to be sent for attention by mid-August at the latest.

Stocks of new seed have been received from different sources. I have purchased some, from seed services, with money from our group funds.

SEED LIST DELETIONS:

Ac. biflora
cuneata
decipiens

ADDITIONS:

Ac. alpina
aphylla
chinchillaensis
debilis
decipiens (now A. truncata)
divergens
glaucocarpa
granitica
ligulata (prostrate)
luteola
nyssophylla
oncinophylla
pentadenia
pubescens
pustula
quadriflorata
ramosissima
salicifolia
spilleriana
subcaerulea
varia var. affinis

Seed lists are still available, should any member need another.

It has become clear that seed has been issued to members from the seed bank, which may have been wrongly named. Should any member find that this is so, would you please notify me, so that corrections can be made.

A quiet period has been experienced with A.S.G. since Christmas, with only a few requests for seed received -- no complaints!

I would like to acknowledge receipt of two large lots of seed received from Burrendong Arboretum, thanks to Mr. George Althofer. Thanks also for seed received from Mrs. T. Stead and members, Mrs. McHaffie, David Shiells, Alan Gibb, Trevor Blake and Fred Bienvenu. As well we were fortunate to receive seed from Mrs. V. Hando of Chinchilla in Queensland, who is a keen grower of native plants.

Welcome to those who have joined or rejoined us since the last newsletter, and thank you for your subscriptions.

Mrs. P. Buick, 27 Cecil St., Gordon, N.S.W. 2072
Mr. A. Feurer, Gruntest 8, D.8966, Krugzell, Allg. West Germany
Mr. R. McDonald, P.O. Box 9, Upper Ferntree Gully, Vic. 3156
Mr. L. Forsberg, Lot 2 Fabian Rd. MS1-1311, Carbrook, Qld. 4130

Change of address for: Gary Phillips. This is now:
C/- Shire Council,
P.O. Box 43,
RAVENSTHORPE...WA. 6346

We have received exchange newsletters from the Eucalypt and Beaufortia Study Groups and will send our newsletter in return. I would like to thank them for the information.

REQUEST FROM W.A. HERBARIUM

The W.A. Herbarium wishes to expand its collection of Acacias and has asked if any member could assist by sending pressed specimens to them.

These would need to be pieces 30 cm (12") long. Both flowering and fruiting specimens of the same plant are required, with appropriate collecting data, such as date, locality, collector's name and (if possible) habit of shrub or tree, and habitat information.

I am sure you will realise how important this work is, and if you can help will you send pressed specimens to:-

Mr. B. Maslin,
W.A. Herbarium,
George St.,
SOUTH PERTH, W.A. 6151

NOTES FROM MEMBERS:

A. volubilis : Mrs. Betty Chandler is growing this rare Acacia from the W.A. heathlands. Betty's plant is three years old, it flowered and set one seed in 1977, flowered again in 1978, but did not set seed. At Carlingford W.S.W. it is not prostrate, but "rather low growing, 'leafless', interesting in flower, four flowers on solitary heads on long threadlike stems, good colour and large, considering only four flowers. Seed case is a four-sided box."

More notes on A. pubescens: Jill Dark from Glenbrook W.S.W. commented on fire damage in her area and noted that most of the local acacia species were killed by fire, but that *A. pubescens* was one acacia which suckered freely and survived.

There are two distinct colonies in the area, one at Mountain Lagoon, near Bilpin, which suckered freely after fire, but seldom set seed; the other colony at Pitt Town, near Windsor seeded freely. Jill has no information regarding this one's behaviour after bush fire.

A. truncata: Note from Trevor Blake : "Flowers September - October. Under cultivation this small compact bush flowers quite well, but is not as prolific as many wattles - the flowers are pale yellow on long peduncles. It exists in open sunny positions as well as an undershrub in heavy grey clay loam soils, slightly acid. It survives with little morning sun with large competing bushes and receives no artificial watering at all. It has been doing well for almost 5 years and is 40 cm x 40cm and looking pretty fit". The bed is built up several inches and does get drainage. Trevor sums it up as a pretty hardy small shrub.

Acacias from cuttings: David Shiells from Shepparton has written that his interest in trying acacias from cuttings was first aroused by Dr. Ross Macdonald. David has been successful and considers the results equal to any other genera. He lists 35 different species which he has propagated from cuttings. Some were the same as those listed by Ross, but others were interesting too:-

A. argyrophylla
amblygona (prostrate)
brachystachya
bynoena
colleticoides
glaucoptera-alata hybrid
gracilifolia
gunnii

A. inophloia
luteola
loxophylla var nervosa
laricina
plicata
rhetinocarpa
scirpifolia
stenophylla

David is growing A. lasiocalyx, another W.A. beauty. It is growing in clay loam in a position which dries out hard in summer and which can be quite wet in winter. The shrub is about 4 years old, 3m (10') high and 3m wide and very bushy.

Thank you to those members who have contributed notes for the newsletters. Please keep them coming, as I feel it is an important part of our newsletters.

Ross Macdonald has mentioned that he has not been approached for Acacia cuttings as yet.

POINT RESERVE, COLERAINE, VIC.

Members visiting Coleraine should not miss a visit to the Points Reserve. I have been informed that an area of approximately 50 acres is becoming a real showpiece of Australian plants with over 350 Eucalypts, nearly all the Banksias, many Hakeas, Grevilleas, Melaleucas, and about 40 different Acacias. More plants are being added to the planting as they become available. A.S.G. member, Mrs. A. Coxon, in particular, is deeply involved with this project.

We have received from Bruce Copley three interesting old badges using Acacia blossom as the main part of their design. One is an Anzac Day badge dated Apr. 25, 1915 with Acacia flowers and phyllodes decorating the outer rim; the second is of unknown origin, dated 21.12.17 and features a pinnate-leafed Acacia; the third is obviously featuring A. pycnantha and is a "Wattle Day League" badge.

Wattle Day League originated in South Australia in May 1890, when the Adelaide Branch of the Australian Natives' Association initiated a "Wattle League" with 61 members. However, enthusiasm lapsed, and it ceased to exist after a few months.

On 30 August 1909 at a Sydney public meeting, the idea was revived by early Australian botanist, Mr. J. H. Maiden, and 1st August was fixed as the first "Wattle Day". The formation of State branches followed and the first Australian conference of the League was held in Melbourne, in January 1913.

In Tasmania, at least, one of the Wattle League's aims was to support the needy and local T.B. patients. The Tasmanian League still raises money for diabetics and other worthy causes.

Wattle Day has long been observed all over Australia on either 1st August or 1st September according to the flowering time of the local wattles. If wonder if this day is still observed ?

After I had studied quite a number of plant recording sheets, the attached sheet which finally emerged is only marginally changed from our earlier one. However, I feel it should cover our requirements.

I would be pleased if all members who have not sent in an initial report covering the headings, could do so and after that, report once a year at a regular time. Have no fear, I shall remind you !

W.A. HERBARIUM

A revision in part of the Uninerves-Triangulares of Western Australia has been published in Fuytsia Vol. 2 (5) 1978. Eight new species and one new variety are described. These are:-

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| A. delphina | A. pycnocephala |
| littorea | robinae |
| phaeocalyx | semitrullata |
| phlebotopetala | ulignosa |
| " var pubescens | |

and a new name for A. biflora var aurea is given. It is now A. chrysocephala.

Three names previously used have been reduced to synonymy :-

- A. cuneata and A. decipiens are now included in A. truncata.
- A. vernicosa has been included in A. incrassata.

There are 17 species in the group all of which are endemic to south-west of West Australia. Most are small, rigid, erect shrubs, at the most about 1 metre tall, although A. littorea and A. truncata reach 2-3m in height. Exceptions include A. inops, which is a very weak scrambling shrub, A. hastula, A. pycnocephala and A. ulignosa which although more robust than A. inops, sometimes grow entangled in surrounding vegetation.

N.S.W. HERBARIUM

In Telopea Vol. 1 (5) 1978 the Herbarium has described five new species of Acacia and listed two new records for N.S.W.

- New species:
- A. pickardii found along the Birdsville Track in South Aust. Fruit is still to be collected and described.
 - A. ingramii, allied to A. neriifolia and found in Southern Tableland area of N.S.W. This species has been named in honour of Mr. C. Keith Ingram of Mt. Tomah, who is an A.S.G. member.
 - A. guymeri, closely allied to A. whitei of Queensland, and found in the vicinity of Spring Creek in the Cook District, Queensland.
 - A. chinchillensis, closely allied to A. polybotrya and found in the Darling Downs District, near Chinchilla, Queensland.
 - A. debilis, closely allied to A. pruinosa, occurring on sandy soils in Leichhardt and Darling Downs Districts, Queensland and on North Western Slopes and N-W. Plains of N.S.W.

Two new records for N.S.W.:-

- A. phasmoides - rather like A. genistifolia - one bush has been found in the Dora Dora State Forest, north of Talmalmo, N.S.W. In Victoria it grows on Pine Mountain, but I believe is difficult to locate.
- A. blakei grows over a wide area in Queensland and now has been found in N.S.W. east of Tenterfield.

QUEENSLAND HERBARIUM

From Austrobaileya Vol. 1(2) 1978, I have listed the new Acacia species and varieties which have been described:-

Juliflorae:

- A. jackesiana NSW of Townsville
- spania NE of Emerald
- striatifolia N of Chinchilla
- tenuinervis Glenmorgan area
- hyaloneura in North Terr. & Burke
- oligophleba & Mitchell District
- grandiflora nr. Pentland, Mth.
- Kenndy District
- S of Mundubbera

varieties:

- A. julifera subsp. gilbertensis -Burke & Cook districts
- longispicata subsp. velutina , near Kingaroy
- crassa subsp, longicoma - coastal areas particularly Monto - Gin Gin area.
- leiocalyx subsp. herveyensis - Port Curtis, Wide Bay districts.

Plurinerves:

- A. microcephala N of Aramac
- maranoensis Roma-Mitchell area
- ammophila W of Charleville
- melvillei Clermont-Emerald area
- to Dalby & inland NSW
- & at Mildura, Vic.
- melleodora Inland Qd; S part of
- North Terr. and extreme
- E of W.A.
- fleckeri Pascoe River, Cook Dist.
- hylonoma SE of Cairns " "
- legnota Cooktown, Cape Flattery
- leptoloba Laura to Herberton

- A. nuperrima subsp. cassitera - Chillagoe
- Herberton areas
- excelsa subsp. angusta - S of Cloncurry

NAME CHANGES:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------|-------------------------|
| A. aulacocarpa | includes | A. lamprocarpa |
| calyculata | " | vilhelmi |
| hammondii | " | sphaerogemma |
| hemignosta | " | cloncurrrensia |
| kempeana | " | sibirica |
| leptostachya | " | capillosa |
| platycarpa | " | fragrantissima |
| sophorae | " | longifolia var sophorae |
| tenuissima | " | luerssenii |
| torulosa | " | armittii |
| venulosa | " | lanigera var venulosa |

During the coming winter, would all members keep careful check of frost damage to your Acacias, and include on your report ?

Regards,

Marion Simmons