

Greetings,

The growing season will soon be here and there are many seeds to be sown and no doubt, many plants in pots waiting to be planted in the garden. To renew your interest, even your enthusiasm, our new seedlist is enclosed with quite a lot of newly acquired species included. A proportion of them are smaller W.A. species, some of them rare. As requested by a member, I have marked the additions with an asterisk.

Welcome to new members and those who have rejoined after a spell.

New members:

Barry Arthur, "Kaygun" 39 Madison St., Woodridge, Qld. 4114  
George Bright, 32 Maxwell Ave, Milperra, N.S.W. 2214  
Mrs. Mary McEvoy, c/- P.O., Dunalley, Tas. 7177

Rejoined:

Mrs. Jill Dark, P.O. Box 7, Hazelbrook, N.S.W. 2779  
Neil R. Marriott, 17 Tuson St., Ararat, Vic. 3377  
J. Neil Parker, P.O. Box 844, Evandale, Tas. 7212  
Mrs. Rhonda White, 6 Cooloon Crt, Queens Park Nth., W.A. 6107

Thank you for your subscriptions. Thank you, too, to those who have sent their subscriptions in early. We are quite financial at present so there is no need for me to call for them until the November newsletter.

I would like to acknowledge receipt of exchange newsletters from S.G.A.P. Victorian Region, Hakea and Melaleuca Study Groups.

ADDITIONS to our BOOK LIST:

"ACACIAS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA" by D.J.E. Whibley of the S.A. Herbarium. A very clearly written book, illustrated by beautiful line drawings and photographs (some in colour) which will be invaluable to anyone interested in Acacias. There are 97 species included.

"THE FLORA OF MT. ARTHUR RESERVE" by G.W. Althofer and G.J. Harden, published by Trustees of Mt.Arthur Reserve, Wellington, N.S.W. Beautifully illustrated with line drawings and colour photographs and listing all the flora of the reserve; 19 Acacias are briefly described.

---

Would members please list those Acacias which have either succumbed to frost or have been damaged during this winter? Would you include the age of the plants too, please? A report about October would be appreciated.

There has been little response from members regarding suitable species for growing in tubs. Could you please help with a note of any you have grown yourself or any you have seen used as such at a wildflower show or demonstration?

MEMBERS' NOTES: Several members have reported the results of severe pruning of Acacias. I would be interested to hear of failures, too. Gladys Holmes of southern Tas. reports that after last winter, she chopped A. podalyriifolia down to near ground level and found that it shot away again.

Ern Currie has written regarding A. rotundifolia (A. cyclophylla). It was badly split by heavy snow and was cut back, then it was run over by a car which did not help its recovery. It was cut back to the bare trunk about 0.6 m high. That was in late 1978, it is now 2m x 2.5m and ready to flower.

It seems that some of the Acacias will take this type of treatment and recover. Its a matter of whether one is brave enough. Mrs. Jill Dark has reported that she had no success with A. acinacea in the ground at Glenbrook, N.S.W., but she has a healthy 3 year old plant in a large tub. It flowered last year and was ready to do so again this year, although it has not set seed as yet. Jill's cuttings of A. georginae (reported in December newsletter) have been planted out at Hazelbrook, one has died but the other is growing on.

Since last newsletter Alan Gibb has supplied information on some of Victoria's 'at risk' Acacias and I thank him for his assistance.

A request has been received from Tasmanian Region of S.G.A.P. for an Acacia Study Group display at their Wildflower Show in Hobart in October (16-18). I have undertaken to present a display with the help of my husband. Any ideas from members would be greatly appreciated.

---

#### NAME CHANGES and NEW SPECIES:

Six new Acacias have been described from N.S.W, in 'Telopea' Vol 1 (6) 1980 by Dr. M.D. Tindale of National Herbarium of N.S.W.

A. constablei Tindale (allied to A. mearnsii). A whipstick like shrub 1.3-2.6(-5) m; young tips hairy, yellowish or orangey; bipinnate leaves with 5-11 pairs of pinnae; pale yellow globular flowers in racemes in June - August; pods black. South coast N.S.W. Nadgee State Forest.

A. covenyi Tindale (allied to A. barringtonensis). Shrub or tree 1.5-7.5 m with bluish foliage; phyllodes crowded,  $\pm$  elliptical 3.7-4.5 cm x 5-9 mm, light blue-green; bright yellow globular flowers in racemes in August - September. Pods 2-7.3 cm x 9-13 mm. Bendethera district, east of Kybean in southern tablelands of N.S.W., in thickets, usually on limestone.

A. kydrensis Tindale (closely allied to A. amoena). Shrub to 1 m high; phyllodes thick,  $\pm$  oblanceolate 1.8-5.6 cm x 5-14 mm; yellow globular flowers on short racemes in November. Kydra Reefs region, south-east of Cooma, N.S.W.

A. floydii Tindale (allied to A. betchei). Shrub or small tree to 4.5 m tall; phyllodes linear, dark green, 5.5-11.3 cm x 1-2.5 mm; cream globular flowers in racemes in January - March. Between North Coast and Northern Tablelands of N.S.W. in Malara State Forest area, east of Tenterfield at an altitude 800-1100m.

A. costiniana Tindale (allied to A. lucasii). Multi-stemmed spreading shrub to 2 m with pendulous branches, green glossy phyllodes 5-20 mm x 3-10 mm, crowded on stems; deep yellow flowers, globose to shortly cylindrical, solitary or in racemes in August - October. Pods roughly hairy 1.5-4.8 cm x 7-10 mm. Tinderry Mountains, Southern Tablelands, altitude 1190-1230 m, usually on granite.

A. georgensis Tindale (somewhat resembles A. cheelii). Shrub or tree 3-10 m tall with corrugated bark at base of older trees; phyllodes slightly glossy, 7.4-16.8 cm x 1.5-3 cm with 3 main veins; pale yellow spikes in August - October. South Coast N.S.W., confined to Dr. George Mountain near Bega, on granite.

One new Acacia has been described in the Journal of Adelaide Botanic Garden Vol 2(2) 1980 by D.J.E. Whibley of the S.A. Herbarium.

A. symonii Whibley. Tall shrub or small tree 3-4(-8) m high with a single trunk or several stems; linear flat phyllodes 8-14 cm x 1.5-3 mm with several resinous nerves, ending in a delicate hook; yellow interrupted spikes in August - February. Pods 3-6 cm x c. 2mm broad. Known only from two localities around Victory Basin in Everard Ranges and from Mt. Lindsay in Birksgate Range, amongst granitic rocks.

Some well-known species have been reduced to synonymy; these have been published in "Acacias of South Australia" by D.J.R. Whibley.

A. calamifolia Sweet ex Lindl.

Synonym A. euthycarpa (J.M. Black) J.M. Black

A. papyrocarpa Benth.

Synonym A. sowdenii Maiden.

A. brachybotrya Benth.

Synonym A. spillerana J.E. Brown.

A. prainii Maiden

Synonym A. prolifera J.M. Black.

A. burkittii F. Muell. ex Benth.

Synonym A. randelliana W.V. Fitz.

Extracted from 'Austrobaileya', Vol 1(3) 1979 by L. Pedley of Queensland Herbarium. Two new species :

A. ditricha Pedley . Tree, possibly deciduous, with bipinnate leaves with 45-50 pinnae; globular flowers on long stalks, flowering in summer; from Kowanyama Aboriginal Reserve, Mitchell River, Qld. It is a little known or collected species and more material is needed to establish its range of variation.

A. albizioides Pedley . A large liane armed with short prickles; it has bipinnate leaves with 16-24 pairs of leaflets; globular flowers, 1-3 in leaf axils. Known only from near Pandanus Creek on Cape York Peninsula.

---

PLACES TO VISIT: Yorke Peninsula - beautiful in spring.

A mallee type vegetation encompassing a wide variety of habitats and types. The roadsides are the reserves of many of the plants.. Stop and look regularly - there are about 20 Acacia species listed for the Peninsula.

A number of national or conservation parks have been set aside to preserve the remnants of a very rich and varied vegetation. These include Clinton Conservation Park of 397 hectares at the northern end of St. Vincents Gulf, north of Port Clinton. This consists of a narrow strip of coastal vegetation, mainly samphires and mangroves. Innes National Park on south west corner of the peninsula, is the largest park with 6112 hectares, preserving a spectacular coastal scenery of dune and cliff vegetation backed by mallee and teatree scrub. Warrenben Conservation Park of 4061 hectares is located about the centre of the 'foot' of the peninsula. It includes a wide range of mallee, teatrees, pines and associated smaller plants, found in sand over limestone

---

A NOTE from GEELONG GROUP NEWSLETTER:

Tony Cavanagh believes that there are Acacias which are quite easy to grow and which are infrequently cultivated. He feels that Acacias like those described should be more widely grown.

A. mooreana a prickly shrub with triangular leaves and pale yellow flowers and A. restiacea which, without flowers, looks more like a reed. Its flowers are large bright yellow, globular. In Geelong both grow quite rapidly into small shrubs.

---

I have received a letter from W.A. member, Gary Phillips of Ravensthorpe who writes that he has a big house with beds if any members wish to call on him. His address is listed on the members list.

---

Marion Simmons.