

Dear Members

Thank you for the subscriptions and donations which have been received since last newsletter. Thank you, too, for the newsletters received from the regions and groups; these are always of interest.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Kevin Penny, "Dippydale" Gooch Rd. Stratford Vic 3862
Terry Tame, 26 Gilsmere St. Belmont North NSW 2280

The subscription rate is still \$3 a year and is due at 30 June. I regret to say that this will be the last newsletter for those who receive a red cross on their newsletter and who do not pay their subscription.

SEED BANK

One member mentioned that although she has success with growing from seeds received from the seed bank, she always has a number which fail to germinate. When this happens I would appreciate hearing which species do not germinate so that I can try them out as well.

A new seed list has been prepared and is enclosed. There are a number of species on the list which are new to it. I hope that these will inspire you to grow more acacias than you are at present. Usually there is room in your ^{garden} for one more small plant and seed of small Acacias is readily available to make a start.

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL FLORAL EMBLEM

I am sure most of you have heard that at last we have an official national floral emblem, Acacia pycnantha, the Golden Wattle.

In reply to our letter on the subject I have received a reply from the Assistant Secretary of Awards & National Symbols Branch thanking us for our contribution. Several information sheets with illustrations were enclosed for our perusal.

Wind storms have played havoc with our gardens in Tasmania this year. We have had, one large A. mearnsii (Black wattle) blown right out of the ground and the tops blown out of several others. Apart from that there are several shrubs with large branches badly damaged which will need to be cut out and still it blows.

MEMBERS NOTES

New member, Terry Tame, has been involved in studying and collecting acacias for many years. Recently, because of involvement in the establishment of an Acacia area in the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens, he has become more actively involved in growing our favourite plants and has received seed from the seed bank to increase the range being grown there.

Thomas Ross has written to say that West Germany has experienced a

very nice summer with many days near 30 degrees Celsius. The garden he is developing in Spain has been suffering from the attention of a young dog with a vigorous digging habit! In spite of this some of the acacias have survived and seem to be adapting well to the coastal climate and saline conditions. These include A. calamifolia, sclerosperma, linariaifolia, trineura and heteroclita.

Leon Steinhardt from Laidley, Qld. wrote about a clump of A. saligna which he was using for erosion control around a dam on his property. These trees had their roots submerged for 5 months and then survived the drying out period and now a further 2 months of hot, dry weather. It seems they must be a most adaptable plant. A. fimbriata in the same position and suffering the same conditions has died.

Leon has a wonderful collection of acacias which have flowered really well this year. He mentioned A. oldfieldii from W.A. Is anyone else growing this species? He was pleased to flower A. oxyclada from W.A. and A. handonis, both of which have set a quantity of seed.

Leon was measuring Acacia phyllodes and came up with one 65 cm long on A. stenophylla; the largest was A. dunnii 44 cm x 16 cm. Anyone do better than this?

Alan Gibb from Milawa Vic. has sent a note on acacias which sucker in his garden. The most prolific was A. muelleriana, then A. salicina, melanoxylon, boormanii and pubifolia. The latter had several suckers which did not seem to re-occur after having been cut back.

In the wild Alan had noticed that the following species sucker: A. salicina, omalophylla, melvillei and difformis. Although he did not dig around the last two, he is fairly sure that some of the population were suckering.

Jeanette Cross of Hobart, leader of Dodonaea Study Group, is growing Tasmanian endemic A. pataczekii. Her shrub was 2 metres tall and suckered freely (a common characteristic of this species). Jeanette cut and potted up some of the suckers but a fortnight later she noticed her fine tall shrub had started to turn a dull fawn colour and was obviously dying. All was not lost, she had another plant ready to replace the casualty. However, there must be a lesson here for us!

AN ACACIA COLLECTING TRIP

John and I had a most enjoyable and successful three week's trip following the Acacia trail in Queensland.

Our first stop was 'Myall Park' at Glenmorgan, where over the years Dave Gordon has planted an amazing range of Acacia species as well as other genera. Some of the Acacia shrubs and trees which are many years old flower profusely and set seed regularly. At the same time Dave is growing from seed numerous other acacias, many of which were ready to be planted out in the plantation when we were there in August.

Our next stop was Chinchilla where rain caught up with us, up to 7 inches in some nearby areas we were told. The heavy rain caused some tracks to become impassable, which meant we missed

photographing and collecting A. eremophiloides which grows on 'Manar' Station south of Gayndah. A pity - perhaps another time!

Our round-about route took us along main and back roads between Proston, Gayndah and Mundubbera. There are some beautiful acacias in these areas; one which was notable and common along roadsides was A. grandifolia and another more rare and unusual one, A. holotricha, which we located following directions from Tony Bean, Eucalyptus Study Leader.

We travelled west from Eidsvold to Dracow, then south-west on a back road through 'Fairy Dell' to Taroom. This was followed by a trip to 'Glenhaughton' Station on the road to Robinson National Park to find an unnamed, but beautiful Acacia which was in full flower, much to our delight.

After a few detours we travelled north through Wowan on our way to Blackdown Tableland. Here we camped for several days and with the help of the ranger located a number of acacias, like A. gittinsii, resinocostata, brachycarpa etc.; some were in full flower, others in pod and some had nothing more than phyllodes. Blackdown is a superb area for photography with lovely waterfalls, views and varied and interesting plants. From there we travelled to Blackwater then north-west to Capella and Clermont. On the way we had to contend with muddy, slippery roads and strongly running rivers which were a bit scary to cross.

With the help of the property owners we were lucky enough to find a rare acacia, A. spania, which grows only on 'Fairhill' Station. It was in full flower which was great for photography, but I was disappointed that I was not able to find any pods for drawing.

From Clermont we started the trek southwards via a back road to Alpha where we found, among others, lovely stands of Acacia rhodoxylon which has a distinctive dark grey bark.

From Alpha we drove west to Barcaldine, visiting Busthinia quarry west of Jericho and Red Mountain, north of Lochnagar. There were many Acacias to be seen, some of which were A. stipuligera, leptostachya, dietrichiana, tenuissima and melliodora. From Blackall we drove through Adavale, Quilpie, Thargomindah to Hungerford where we found we were following in the footsteps (if that is the correct word!) of the Wynn's Outback Safari. The road was very rough, to say the least, with water across it in some places. We learned that red lettered signs left on posts from the trial were to be noted, for instance, red exclamation marks meant that there was some road hazard ahead. They were always right!

PRODUCING & PROPAGATING TROPICAL ACACIA HYBRIDS- extracted from ACIAR Forestry Newsletter, September 1988.

Two tropical Australian acacias (A. mangium and auriculiformis) are currently being grown in industrial plantations and agroforestry programmes in southeast Asia. Some spontaneous hybrids were produced between the two in Sabah, Malaysia which tended to combine the desirable properties of the two species.

A new ACIAR project involving Malaysian and Australian scientists will lay the groundwork for further study by developing reliable techniques for hybrid seed production and the mass propagation of the plants produced.

Detailed investigations of floral development and anatomy together with methods for pollen handling and controlled pollination are to be carried out in Australia. Field trials in Malaysia will be used to study flowering phenology, pollen vector activity and rates of spontaneous hybridisation.

SALINITY RESEARCH

A serious problem which is common to many semi-arid and arid areas of the world, including Australia, is being studied in a new ACIAR forestry project 'Australian Woody Species for Saline Sites in Asia'.

A previous study identified several species with high potential for planting in salt-affected land. The present project plans to extend the range of tree and shrub germplasm for saline and saline-sodic soils often subject to seasonal waterlogging and to identify nutritional and other constraints that limit establishment. The one Acacia mentioned is A. auriculiformis which is economically important species.

FINANCIAL REPORT TO 30 JUNE 1988

Balance May 1987	267.26	
Subscriptions & donations	279.21	
Interest	13.00	\$559.47
EXPENSES		
Seeds	18.95	
Post	97.63	
Copying & Stationery	57.27	
Bank Charges	1.17	\$175.02
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acinacea		calantha	drummondii
acradenia	*	calyculata	ssp. elegans & 'grossus'
aculeatissima		cana	dunnii
acuminata		cardiophylla	elata
adsurgens		caroleae	elongata
adunca		celastrifolia	empelioclada
aestivalis		cheelii	enterocarpa
alata		chinchillensis	ephedroides
alpina		chisholmii	eremaea
amblygena		chrysellia	eremophila
ampliceps		chrysocephala	aff. ericifolia
amoena		chrysotricha (hybrid)	erinacea
anaticeps		cincinnata	* eriopoda
anceps		citrinoviridis	estrophiolata
ancistrocarpa		clunies-rossei	* everestii
andrewsii		cochlearis	* excelsa
aneura		cognata	exilis
angusta		collettioides	extensa
aphylla		cometes	falcata
aprepta		complanata	falciformis
argyrophylla	*	concurrans	farinosa
arida		conferta	farnesiana
ashbyae		confluens	fauntleroyi
aspera	*	continua	filicifolia
assimilis		aff. coolgardiensis	filifolia
aulacocarpa		coriacea	fimbriata
ausfeldii		cowleana	flavescens
baeuerlenii		craspedocarpa	flexifolia
baileyana		crassa	flocktoniae
bakeri		crassicarpa	floribunda
bancroftii		crassiuscula	fragilis
barattensis		crassuloides	
barringtonensis		cultriformis	* galeoides ssp. glabriflora
baxteri		curvata	genistifolia
beckleri		curvinervia	georginae
betchei		cuthbertsonii	gilbertii
bidentata		cyclops	gillii
bidwillii		cyperophylla	gittinsii
binata		dawsonii	gladiiformis
binervata		dealbata	glandulicarpa
binervia		deanei	glaucocarpa
bivenosa		debilis	glaucoptera
blakei		decora	gnidium
blakelyi		decurrens	gonoclada
boormanii+affin.		delphina	gonophylla
brachybotrya		denticulosa	gracilifolia
brachystachya		dentifera	grandifolia
brassii		aff. desertorum	granitica
browniana		dictyoneura	grasbyi
var. intermedia		dictophleba	gregorii
" endlicheri		dielsii	guinetii
brownei		dietrichiana	* guymeri
brunioides	*	diformis	hakeoides
burkittii		dimidiata	hamersleyensis
burrowii		divergens	* hemsleyi
buxifolia		dodonaeifolia	hamiltoniana
caesiella		doratoxylon	hammondii
calamifolia		drepanocarpa	handonis
		drummondii	harveyi
		ssp. candolleana	havilandii
			helicophylla

hemignosta	longiphyllodinea	parramattensis
hemiteles	longispicata	parvipinnula
heteroclita	longissima	pellita
hilliana	loroloba	pendula
holosericea	loxophylla v.nervosa	penninervis
horridula	luteola	pentadenia
howittii	lysiphloia	perangusta
hubbardiana	mabellae	* peuce
humifusa	macradenia	phlebocarpa
hyaloneura	* maidenii	phlebopetala
imbricata	maitlandii	pilligaensis
implexa	mangium	pinguifolia
inaequilatera	* maranoensis	platycarpa
inophloia	mearnsii	plectocarpa
irrorata	* meiosperma	podalyriifolia
iteaphylla	meisneri	polifolia
ixiophylla	melanoxylon	* polybotrya
ixodes	melliadora	* prainii
jamesiana	melvillei	pravissima
jennerae	menzelii	prominens
jibberdingensis	merinthophora	pruinocarpa
johnsonii	merrallii	pruinosa
jonesii	microbotrya	pubescens
jucunda	microcarpa	* pubicosta
julifera	mitchellii	pubifolia
juncifolia	moirii v.dasycarpa	pulchella
kempeana	mollifolia	var.glaberriana
kybeanensis	montana	var.goadbyi
laccata	monticola	hairy form
lanigera	mooreana	pustula
lanuginosa	mountfordiae	pycnantha
laricina	mucronata +	pyrifolia
lasiocalyx	var.longifolia	quadrilateralis
lasiocarpa v.lasiocarpa	muelleriana	quornensis
var. sedifolia	* multisiliqua	ramulosa
lateriticola	multispicata +	redolens
latescens	murrayana	retinodes
latisepala	myrtifolia + affin.	retivenia
lauta	* nanodealbata	retinocarpa
lazaridis	neriifolia	rhigiophylla
leichhardtii	nervosa	rhodophloia
leiocalyx	neurophylla	riceana
leioderma	nigricans	rigens
leiophylla	nitidula	rivalis
leprosa	nodiflora v.ferox	rossei
leptoclada	notabilis	rostellifera
leptoloba	nuperrima +	rothii
leptoneura	ssp. cassitera	rubida
leptopetala	nyssophylla	rupicola
leptospermoides	obliquinervia +	salicifolia
leptostachya	'Buchan Blue'	salicina
leucoclada +	obovata	saligna
ssp. argentifolia	obtusata	schinoides
ligulata	oldfieldii	scirpifolia
limbata + prostrate	omalophylla	sclerophylla
linariifolia	oncinophylla	var.lissophylla
lineata	oraria	var.teretiuscula
linifolia	orthocarpa	sclerosperma
linophylla	o'shanesii	semilunata
littorea	oswaldii	semirigida
loderi	oxycedrus	sessilispica
longifolia	oxyclada	shirleyi
longipedunculata	pachyacra	* sibina
	papyrocarpa	siculiformis
	paradoxa	

silvestris	sessilis (sphacelata)	urophylla
simsii	tanumbirinensis	varia var. parviflora
sophorae	tenuissima	venulosa
spathulifolia	teretifolia	vernificlora
spectabilis	terminalis	verticillata
spinescens	+ Katoomba type	vestita
spondylophylla	tetragonocarpa	victoriae
squamata	tetragonophylla	viscidula
steadmanii	trachycarpa	wanyu
stenophylla	translucens	wardellii
stenoptera	trigonophylla	wattsiana
stereophylla	trinervata	wilhelmiana
stipuligera	trineura	willdenowiana
striatifolia	triptera	williamsonii
stricta	triptycha	xanthina
strongylophylla	truncata	xiphophylla
suaveolens	tumida	
subcaerulea	tysonii	
sublanata		
subtilinervis	ulicifolia	
subulata	ulicina	
sulcata +	umbellata	
var. platyphylla	uncifera	

SEED COLLECTING

We always welcome supplies of seed which are not already in the seed bank. Seeds from the bush are preferred because there is less likelihood of hybridisation taking place.

Please mark packets whether collected from the bush or garden.

Some useful guidelines for seed collecting extracted from 'How to Collect Native Tree Seed Easily' published by Department of Arts, Heritage & Environment.

Collect seeds only from healthy vigorous plants of good form. If possible, do not collect from a lone tree or shrub of a species as self-pollination often yields low quality seed.

To encourage genetic diversity, if possible collect a quantity of seeds from well-spaced plants, say about 100 metres apart.

If unsure of the identity or seed quality of tree or shrub, keep the seeds of individual plants separate until checked.

During collection, jot down in a notebook at least the site location and time of collection. With uncertain identity, collect two specimens with flowers and pods, if possible. Keep one specimen for your record and send the other to the herbarium in your state for identification.