



ISSN 1035-4638

ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS
ACACIA STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER No. 66
JULY 1992

Dear Members,

First my apologies for being late with this letter. I am getting a book ready for the printers and that has taken more time than anticipated. I have had a bout of the 'flu and the school where I get the letter copied has been closed for holidays.

Autumn was not a happy time for my acacia growing. After not getting much done in the way of propagation last year I made a big effort to plant small numbers of seed for about 100 species in late March. I then went down with appendicitis and in my absence the greenhouse was invaded by mice which dug out and ate most of the seed.

The first acacia blossoms of spring are now with us. *A. dealbata* and *baileyana* are out and a "purpurea" variety is very promising although somewhat later flowering. The earliest out however was an *A. willdenowiana* in a large pot which had been kept in the greenhouse. This has large flowers and an unusual rush-like form.

SEED BANK - I have checked and retyped the seed list. It now includes all seed held by the group although some of these are in short supply. I have not had time to check this so would be grateful if you draw my attention to any typing errors or names which have been changed. Now I have it stored on disc it will be easier to produce future lists.

Elizabeth George has sent seed of *A. restiacea* collected from her garden. Elizabeth writes: "In my sandy soil it has developed into a very bushy shrub 1.5 x 2m, very similar to the plants we saw growing naturally in heavier soil and rocks on Barbalin Hill near Mukinbudin."

"It would make an excellent low windbreak, hedge or barrier plant, but is also attractive planted as a specimen for its unusual leafless stems and branches, attractive bud bracts and showy golden ball flowers, and appears very hardy in cultivation."

"My plant was given trickle watering for the first summer only and no artificial watering since, despite periods of extreme heat last summer, and this season when some other plants have perished. I would not plant it in a confined situation or near foot traffic though, because the rush-like branch ends could cause eye injury to the unwary or children."

Jim McLeod, after seeking for many years, has collected seed of Tasmania's two rarest acacias - *A. axillaris* and *A. pataczekii*. He has sent a small sample of each for the seed bank.

The South Australia SGAP seed bank has also accepted surplus seed and in exchange we have prostrate forms of both *A. ligulata* and *redolens*.

New seed from commercial sources are:

		<i>A. acanthoclada</i>	
<i>ericifolia</i>	<i>euthycarpa</i>	<i>harpophylla</i>	<i>hastulata</i>
<i>inaequiloba</i>	<i>incurva</i>	<i>leptocarpa</i>	<i>polystachya</i> ,

Bank (cont.) quadrimarginea saliciformis stenoptera
and uncinella.

There are also small quantities of A. adenophora, atkinsiana, baueriana, obtecta, subflexuosa, subglauca for which I can find no reference in any of my books. Can anyone help with a description of these species?

Thank you to the seed donors.

MEMBER'S LETTERS - There has been a lot of mail from members since I took over the Study Group. The following selection of news from them is limited by space.

Leon Steinhardt has about 200 species of acacias growing on his 2 hectare block about 80 kilometres west of Brisbane. His is concentrating mostly on northern and inland species. 1991 has been a very dry year - just 73 mm over 10 months but over 100 mm for the last 2 months. Although some acacias were lost in the dry Leon writes it was surprising how many survived as his dam was dry for 4 months and nothing received any water.

By March Leon was waiting to see which plants survived the damp weather. He writes, "One species which flourished in the pots was A. bauerlenii. This shrub is a fast growing one in moist conditions. It has many stems rising up to about 2 m and produces large solitary white globular flower heads. It is really quite attractive but has a life span of only a few years before it tends to die off and become a bit open and woody. I feel it would grow well in southern gardens."

Frank Prichard writes of having established 140 acacia species at the 500 hectare Galore Hill reserve 15 km north of Lockhart NSW. The reserve, a Nature Reserve under the control of Lockhart Shire Council, contains over 600 species of Australian plants and Frank is endeavouring to establish further species.

Helen Bizzai is establishing a new garden at Gawler SA where she is trying to grow most of the dry land wattles of South Australia. She has 3 A. peuce the highest about 2 feet at 4 years.

Irene Champion (Mackay Q branch) clarifies the question of A. racospermoides. The plant was grown by a number of Mackay members and Irene describes it as, "a very attractive plant with its white trunk, blue-green phyllodes and conspicuous sprays of golden ball flowers in winter. Seedlings germinate in my garden without any treatment soon after they fall. The main problem with this species would seem to be it is very likely to fall over in windy weather." Irene has salvaged all 3 of her trees, which were blown half over, by cutting them back by about 2/3 and propping them up.

Marion Simmons is surprised by the number of species flowering in early June and lists A. iteaphylla, penninervis, flexifolia, chrysocephala, subcaerulea, stenoptera, retinodes and neriifolia.

Shona Sadlier (ASG member and Eucalyptus Study Group Leader) writes, "I feel that ASG & ESG are very much "sister" Study Groups: the genera are about as large as each other, with species as widespread and diverse; grown mainly from seed so the seed bank represents an important resource for members; similar public resistance to taxonomists changing the genus name for whatever legitimate reason." (There are quite a few who are members of both groups. B.C.)

Keith Ingram has "15 acres of basalt" on top of Mt. Tomah, near Bilpin so has "a lot of fun contending with the elements." Keith is glad to see A. ingramii available on the seed list. "I first collected it in the N.E. gorges in 1936, but it was not named by Dr. Tindale till many years later. I find it very easy to grow, vigorous and very floriferous. Apparently, it is quite common in the gorges of New England (on granite.)"

ACACIA SLIDES - There has been encouraging support from members interested in this project. Val Maher has suggested that "Acacias of Dry Inland Areas" be

Acacia Slides - (Continued) added to the titles I suggested. Alf Finch included a list of aspects of acacias, some of which I had not thought about.

Previous Acacia Study Group leader, Inez Armitage also supports the idea and sent a copy of a paper "The Genus Acacia" she presented at the Federal Seminar in 1979. It will form a sound basis for commentary to accompany slides.

The proposed sets are:

1- An Introduction to Acacias.	
2- Acacias of South - Eastern Australia.	3- Acacias of Northern Australia.
4- Acacias of Western Australia.	5- Small Acacias.
6- Acacias for Parks and Farms.	7- Acacias of Dry Inland Areas.

I have been through the ASG slides and listed the species represented. Selecting the sets of slides and preparing commentary will I expect take some years, although I hope the first set might be available by the end of 1993.

I suggest the following procedure:

1. Members send a list of species other than those listed for which they can provide GOOD QUALITY slides. Indicate the aspect of the slide (e.g. flowers, whole plant, pods etc.) and to which slide group(s) the species is appropriate. DO NOT SEND SLIDES UNTIL REQUESTED.
2. When a tentative set is determined members will be asked to forward slides and comments on each..
3. These will be assembled with a written commentary and will then be forwarded to someone with a special knowledge of the genus for checking of accuracy etc.
4. When checked the script will be read onto tape and the slides (2 boxes?), tape and written script be packed in appropriate containers ready for sending to groups wishing to borrow them.

The Acacia Study Group will meet the cost of copying slides as it would be unfair to expect members supplying a lot of slides to also meet the cost. The group is fairly well placed financially and I will seek assistance from other sources.

Current Species in Acacia Study Group Slide Collection.

A. adoxa	A. adunca	A. alata	A. alpina
A. ancistrocarpa	A. aphylla	A. arida	A. aulococarpa
A. bancroftii	A. binervosa	A. buxifolia	A. calantha
A. chisolmii	A. cincinnata	A. complanata	A. concurrens
A. continua	A. coriacea	A. crassa	A. crassualongicarpa
A. cretata	A. decora	A. denticulosa	A. dictylophleba
A. dunnii	A. farnesiana	A. fimbriata	A. flavescens
A. flexifolia	A. galioides	A. glaucoptera	A. gracilifolia
A. hilliana	A. handonis	A. holsericia	A. imbricata
A. implexa	A. islana	A. julifera	A. juncifolia
A. latisepala	A. leichardtii	A. leiocalyx	A. leptocarpa
A. leptostachya	A. leptoloba	A. lineata	A. macradenia
A. melanoxydon	A. nerifolia	A. notabalis	A. omalophylla
A. o'shannesei	A. pubescens	A. purpureapetala	
A. pyrifolia	A. retivenia	A. rigens	A. rotundifolia
A. ruppii	A. salicina	A. simsii	A. shirleyi
A. sphaerostachya	A. strongylophylla		A. sutherlandi
A. stipuliseria	A. tetragonophylla		A. translucens
A. triptera	A. truncata	A. tumida	A. ulicifolia
A. uncifera	A. venulosa	A. victoriae	A. xiphophylla



FINANCES - I had hoped to have a balance sheet for the financial year ready but as this is a rushed job it will have to wait until the next newsletter. Currently, including some 1992-3 memberships the group assets total \$547-32. Costs of producing and mailing this newsletter are not accounted for.

MEMBERSHIP - There has been a decline in individual membership numbers since the last list was issued. While this is disappointing, there has always been a turn over of members. Increased group and branch support has off set this.

HELP FOR CSIRO - A small quantity of A. galiodes seed was supplied to the CSIRO who are seeking a biological control for Mimosa pigra, a severe problem in NT. The test which is carried out in UK for safety reasons includes presenting other plants of ecological and economic importance to the pathogen to test its specificity, i.e. only feeds on the target weed. I gave CSIRO the names of several members who had obtained seed of this species from the seed bank several years ago and might be able to help if they require more seed.

Who

Bruce Clark.

* Members will have noticed the return of the " Sprig of Acacia" to the *
* last newsletter. Thanks to Marion Simmons for providing this *
* distinctive emblem for continued use on our newsletters. *
* *

"The Elms" PANMURE VIC 3265

Acacia Study Group Newsletter

SGAP Marondah Group
P.O. Box 33
RINGWOOD VIC 3134



ACACIA STUDY GROUP SEED LIST 1992.

12 PACKETS MAXIMUM WITH EACH ORDER. LIMIT OF 3 ORDERS PER MEMBER PER YEAR.

Orders must include a stamped addressed envelope 230 X 100 mm. (45¢ stamp)

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acanthoclada	acinacea	acradenia
aculeatissima	acuminata	adenophora
adsurgens	adunca	aestivalis
alata	alpina	amblygona
amoena	anaticeps	ampliceps
anceps	ancistrocarpa	andrewsii
aneura	angusta	aphylla
aprepta	araneosa	argyraea
argyrophylla	arida	arrecta
ashbyae	aspera	assimilis
atkinsiana	attenuata	aulacocarpa
auriculiformis	ausfeldii	axillaris
baueriana	baeuerlenii	
baileyana + prostrate +	purpurea	bakeri
bancroftii	barrattensis	barrintonensis
baxteri	aff. beauverdiana	beckleri
betchei	bidentata	bidwillii
biflora	binata	binervia
bivenosa	blakei	blakelyi
boommanii + aff.	brachyboytrya	brachyphylla
brachystachya	brassii	
browniana + var. intermedia + var. endlicheri		
brownii	brunioides	burkettii
burrrowii	buxifolia	bynoeana
caesiella	caerulescens (Buchan Blue)	calamifolia
calantha	calyculata	cana
cardiophylla	caroleae	celest trifolia
cheelii	chinchillensis	chisholmii
chrysellia	chrysocephala	cincinnata
citrinoviridis	clunes-rossei	cochlearis
cognata	collettioides	cometes
complanata	concurrans	conferta
continua	aff. coolgardiensis	coriacea
cowleana	craspedocarpa	crassa
crassicarpa	crassiuscula	crassuloides
cretata	cultriformis	curvata
curvinervia	cuthbertsonii	cyclops
cyperophylla		
dawsonii	dealbata	deanei
debilis	declinata (prost.)	decora
decurrens	deflexa	delphina
dempsteri	denticulosa	dentifera
aff. desertorum	dictyoneura	dictyophleba

dielsii	dietrichiana	difformis
dimidiata	divergens	dodonaefolia
doratoxylon	drepanocarpa	drewiana
drummondii ssp. affiniss + ssp. candollean + ssp. drummondii + ssp. elgans +		
ssp. grossus		
dunnii		
elata	elongata	empelioclada
enterocarpa	ephedroides	eremaea
eremophila	ericifolia + aff.	erinacea
eripoda	estrophiolata	euthycarpa
everestii	excelsa	exilis
extensa		
falcata	falciformis	farinosa
farnesiana	fasciculifera	fauntleroyi
filicifolia	filifolia	fimbriata
flavescens	flexifolia	flocktoniae
floribunda	fragilis	
galeoides ssp. glabrifolia		genistifolia
georginae	gilbertii	gillii
gittinsii	gladiformis	glandulicarpa
glaucescens	glaucocarpa	glaucoptera
gnidium	gonoclada	gonophylla
gordonii	gracilifolia	grandifolia
granitica	gregori	guinettii
hakeoides	hamersleyensis	hamiltoniana
hammondii	handonis	harpophylla
harveyi	hastula	havilandii
helicophylla	hemignosta	hemiteles
hemsleyi	heteroclita	hilliana
holosericea	holotricha	horridula
howittii	hubbardiana	humifusa
hyaloneura		
imbricata	implexa	inaequilatera
inaequiloba	incurva	ingramii
inophloia	irrorata	iteaphylla
ixiophylla	ixodes	jamesiana
jennerae	jensenii	jibberdingensis
johnsonii	jonesii	jucunda
julifera	juncifolia	kempeana
kettlewelliae	kybeanensis	
laccata	lanigera	lanuginosa
lasiocalyx	lasiocarpa var. lasiocarpa + var. sedifolia	latisepala
lateriticola	latescens	leichhardtii
lauta	lazaridis	leiophylla
leiocalyx	leioderma	leptoclada
leprosa	leptocarpa	

leptoloba
leptospermoides
ligulata + prostrate
lineata
littorea
longipedunculata
longissima
luteola

mabellae
maitlandii
mearnsii
meisneri
melvellei
merrallii
mimula
mollifolia
mooreana
mucronata + var. longifolia
multisiliqua

nano-dealbata
neurophylla
nodiflora var. ferox
nuperrima + var. cassitera

obliquinervia
obtusata
omalophylla
oraria
oswaldii

pachyacra
paradoxa
pellita
pentadenia
phlebocarpa
pinguifolia
podalyriifolia
polystachya
prominens
pubescens
pulchella + var. glaberrima + var. goadbyi + hairy form.
pustula

quadrimarginea

racospermoides
restiacea
rhetinocarpa
riceana
rossei
rubida

leptoneura
leptostachya
limbata + prostrate
linifolia
loderi
longiphyllodinea
loroloba
lysiphloia

macradenia
mangium
megacephala
melanoxylon
menzelii
microbotrya
mitchellii
montana
mountfordiae
multispicata + affin.

neriifolia
nigricans
notabalis

obovata
obtusifolia
oncinocarpa
orthocarpa
oxycedrus

pachycarpa
parramattensis
pendula
perangusta
phlebopetala
platycarpa
polifolia
prainii
pruinocarpa
pubicosta
pyncnantha

quornensis

ramulosa
retinodes
rhigiophylla
rigens
rostellifera
rupicola

leptopetala
leucoclada
linariifolia
linophylla
longifolia
longispicata
loxophylla var. nervosa

maidenii
maranoensis
meiosperma
melliodora
merinthophora
microcarpa
moira var. dasycarpa
monticola

muelleriana
myrtifolia + aff. + WA.

nervosa
nitidula

nyssophylla

obtecta
oldfieldii
oncinophylla
o'shanesii
oxyclada

papyrocarpa
pataczekii
penninervis
peuce
pilligaensis
plectocarpa
polybotrya
pravissima
pruinosa
pubifolia
pyrifolia

redolens + prostrate
retivenia
rhodophloia
rivalis
rothii

salicifolia	saliciformis	salicina
saligna	schinoides	scirpifolia
sclerophylla + var. lissophylla + var. teretiuscula	semilunata	
sclerosperma	sessilispica	semirigida
sessilis	siculiformis	shirleyi
sibina	simsii	signata
silvestris	spectabilis	sophorae
spathulifolia	squamata	spinescens
spondylophylla	stenoptera	steadmanii
stenophylla	stricta	stipuligera
striatifolia	subflexuosa	suaveolens
subcaerulea	subulata	subglauca
sublanata		
sulcata + var. platyphylla		sutherlandii
tanumbirinensis	tenuissima	teretifolia
terminalis + Katoomba type	torulosa	tetragonocarpa
tetragonophylla	translucens	trachycarpa
trachyphloia	trineura	trigonophylla
trinervata	truncata	triptera
triptycha		tumida
tysonii		
ulicifolia	ulicina	umbellata
uncifera	uncinata	uncinella
urophylla		
varia var. parviflora	venulosa	vernificlua
verticillata	vestita	victoriae
viscidula		
wanyu	wardellii	wattsiana
wilhelmiana	willdenowiana	williamsonii
xanthina	xiphophylla	WA Salt Gully Wattle

SEED COLLECTING

Supplies of seed not in the seedbank are always welcome. Seeds collected from the bush are preferred as there is less likelihood of hybridisation.

If possible collect seed from a number of healthy plants. Please mark packets with whether the seed are from the bush or cultivated plants. Also with date and site of collection.

If unsure of the identity of a tree or shrub keep the seed separate, collect a flowering sample or one with pods and include with the seed collection.