

INTRODUCTION

The Beaufortia study group is one of several study groups within the Society for growing Australian Plants. Members of these groups share a common interest in the particular group of plants under consideration and consist mainly of native plant enthusiasts with no technical background in either botany or horticulture. Some, of course, do have technical qualifications but the point is that all can contribute whether experts or just keen growers. The only duty expected of members is that they keep records both of successes and failures so that an accurate picture can be built up of the requirements of the plants as far as propagation and cultivation are concerned in different locations.

From time to time questionnaires will be circulated to survey members' experiences and it is requested that these questionnaires be filled in as accurately as possible.

AIMS OF THE GROUP

Simply stated, the aims of the group are:-

- a) to grow all species of Beaufortia to determine the conditions required for successful propagation and cultivation in various locations, and
- b) to publish a report (or series of reports) outlining the group's findings.

These aims may be modified or expanded as experience with the plants increases.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Those who join the group are requested to contribute \$1 to help meet costs and are asked to enclose a stamped envelope in correspondence. It is expected that the \$1 fee will cover membership for at least 12 months.

SEED BANK

It is hoped to be able to maintain a seed bank. However, seed is in short supply and generally only available from commercial sources. The number of species available at any one time will therefore be limited.

CUTTING AND PLANT EXCHANGE

As time goes on it is hoped to be able to exchange cuttings and surplus plants between members, particularly between those who live within a reasonable distance of each other.

FINALLY

I would like to thank you for your interest in the Beaufortia study group. Everyone is welcome to join and, as we are dealing with only 16 species, those who have room for only one or two plants can produce a good deal of useful information (even by growing plants in pots).

Best wishes.....

Brian Walters
Study Group Leader