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ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS
CALYTRIX STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER NO.11
NOVEMBER 1997

Dear members,

Its time to put on record our disasters and successes. We purchased a heated pad with the object of rooting cuttings a little quicker in the cooler months, installed cuttings in this mini heated environment and went our merry way to the A.S.G.A.P. Conference in Adelaide. A mistake, as the warmer humid conditions created near perfect conditions for most of the plant pathogens that can harm cuttings. Its obvious that our mix and pots need to be more sterile for this type of propagation. although I have an inherent dislike of most fungicides I may have to take advice on a better procedure before trying again next year.

This is a good time of the year to see Calytrix in flower. What unpredictable plants they can be. Our *C. tetragona* semi weeping pink form last year was a picture, not a leaf could be seen for flowers, this year not a single bud or flower. Last years effort may have been just too much to be repeated. We have two purple flowered species from W.A. of unknown provenance that are in full bloom one is very like *C. desolata*, the other I've not even started to key out to date. Both are performing well in containers in a frost free position under eaves, and we have been able to send small amounts of cutting material to members who have expressed interest in propagation. Three plants of *C. fraseri* are growing well, one is in a self watering pot as we think this may provide the moisture to the bottom roots leaving the surface of the plant much drier and with a topping of coarse sand should help to prevent the rotting that can

affect the stems of plants kept in containers. With summer coming we have found it gets far too hot for pot grown plants (yes even in Canberra). One way we are trying to keep pot grown plants cool is to cut holes to take pots in the bottom of polystyrene boxes, this also tends to keep the plants safer from slugs and snails. The only downside, the plants seem to be more exposed, there is a way to overcome this problem however it needs testing at least for one winter and summer.

Seed available	<i>C. acutifolia</i>	Item 1656
	<i>C. angulata</i>	Item 653
	<i>C. aurea</i>	Item 654
	<i>C. exstipulata</i>	Item 655
	<i>C. fraseri</i>	Item 3129
	<i>C. glutinosa</i>	Item 657
	<i>C. leschenaultii</i>	Item 658

This is the seed we are trying ourselves this year in a mix 1/3 Coir peat 1/3 perlite 1/3 sand plus trace elements, the pot topped with washed sand. The pots with mix are sterilized in the microwave. Time depends on the microwave used and the no of pots done at a time. We zap them for 7mins. on high (500 Watts) letting the pots cool down in an esky until cool to the touch approx. 30min. Seeds were planted on 23\10\97 cutting off the calyx then pushing the seed point first in the sand leaving just the tip of the seed above the sand, they were then sprayed with smoke water and started off in life using the bog method. Today 15\11\97 one *C. exstipulata* and one *C. angulata* has germinated, at least its a start.

We had good news from two of our members whom we met at the A.S.G.A.P. conference . Jan Glazebrook and Kerry Rathie both reported success in grafting using *Kunzia ambigua* as the stock plant. Jan has kept one alive for

two years now so perhaps other members would like to try their hand at grafting. We ourselves are trying with both Calytrix tetragona and a form of Kunzia ambigua from Snapper Point, time will tell how, and which may be successful. The results of successes or failures will be reported in our next newsletter.

We would like to extend a welcome to a few new members, they are Mrs. Norma Boschen, Jan Glazebrook & Dennis Cox. Lorraine & Lloyd Carmen, Judy Morton, Mavis & John Maddern, Max & Regina McDowall. We will be including a list of financial members in this newsletter in the event that members may desire to communicate with one another

Ted & Cynthia Beasley, 39, Simpson St. Watson, ACT. 2602.

Norma Boschen, RMB.1415, Warracknabeal, Vic. 3393.

Lorraine & Lloyd Carmen, 6, Dale Rd. Eden Hills, S.A. 5050.

Jan Glazebrook & Dennis Cox, 87, Daintree Drive, Logan Village, Qld. 4207.

Mavis & John Maddern, 28, North Parade, Strathalbyn, S.A. 5255.

Max & Regina McDowall, 10, Russell St. Bulleen, Vic. 3105.

Judy Morton, 51, Third Ave. St. Peters, S.A. 5069.

Kerry Rathie, 5, Salston Rd. Greenbank, Qld. 4124.

Esma & Alf Salkin, 38, Pinewood Drive, Mt. Waverley, Vic. 3149.

Jo Walker, 21, Poppet Rd. Wamboin, NSW. 2620.

SGAP. Canberra.

SGAP. Geelong. Inc.

SGAP. Maroondah.

SGAP. NSW.

SGAP. Qld. Region.

SGAP Tas. Region

SGAP. Vic. Inc.

Wildflower Society of WA. Inc.

ASGAP

Subscriptions were due last June so regretfully this will be the last newsletter for unfinancial members. A cross in the box indicates you are unfinancial. []

<u>INCOME</u>	\$--c
Balance opening account 1\5\97	350-00
Subscriptions & Donations	<u>140-10</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$490-10</u>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	\$--c
Postage	23-55
Stationary	8-30
Seed	29-60
C.D.Rom (smoke propagation)	15-00
G.S.T.	<u>40</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$76-85</u>

Cash in Bank	at 17\11\97	\$413-15
Petty Cash	at 17\11\97	-10

The cost of printing this newsletter is donated by an anonymous wellwisher.

We wish all members a
VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Cynthia and Ted Beasley.
Calytrix Study Group Leaders.