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Special Bulletin

June 1991

Dear Members,

As Trish McTavish has recently sent out a newsletter, I am issuing a special bulletin to introduce myself, to do a little group housekeeping and to involve you all in our first group project. I'm pleased to be able to take over from Trish as your Study Group Leader and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Trish for the marvelous job she did in starting the group and getting it underway.

I am a long-serving member of SGAP (about 18 years) and helped start the New England and Tamworth Groups. I'm a casual teacher (Infants, Primary, Modern Languages, Botany, Horticulture) and a keen native gardener. Many of my plants are propagated from seed or cuttings (under mist) in my glasshouse and I run a small hobby nursery (it paid for the glasshouse). With three school-age children, I don't have a lot of time but I am keen to establish a living collection of Correas in my large garden and would like to help others grow these interesting plants.

Our local Correa is a lime-green form of *C. reflexa* with long narrow bells and large leaves. They are usually sparsely scattered in various parts of the New England Tablelands on granite soils. Recently, I came across a magnificent patch by accident. There were hundreds of plants all together on a roadside verge. I'll be going back to photograph them within the next month so if you want cuttings, let me know quickly as it's an hour's drive from my place and I don't go that way often. I'll swap cuttings for your local form(s) of *C. reflexa*, collected in the wild and labelled with the locality name and date. Wrap cuttings in damp newspaper, put in a plastic bag then into a padded envelope. The cooler months are a good time to send cuttings in the post so I hope you'll take up this offer.

One of my first duties, unfortunately, is to remind you all that subscriptions are now due for the financial year 1991-1992. Please fill in the slip enclosed and send it to me with a cheque payable to:

ASGAP Correa Study Group

(no stamps please)

If there is no slip attached, then you are already financial for the new year.

Enclosed please find a list of past and present members and a project sheet. Please fill it in and send it back. The results of this survey should be quite interesting and will be published in the next newsletter. If you have any ideas for further projects, please let me know. Also, a few members still need to send me a list of the Correas they have growing in their gardens. Don't worry about descriptions, just a list will do at this stage. It would be good to compile a register of what our members have.

Best wishes,

Maria Hitchcock

Correa reflexa var. reflexa 'Fat Fred'

Problem: When is a 'Fat Fred' not a 'Fat Fred'?
(or: is your 'Fat Fred' really 'Rotund Robert' or 'Chubby Charles'?)

Observation: There appear to be many *Correa reflexa* plants being sold or distributed under the 'Fat Fred' label. Because other *C. reflexa* forms often show a similarity in size and colour, it is easy to confuse them with the original cultivar. The problem is magnified by the fact that the flower size is not always stable in cultivation. We need to identify the distinguishing characteristics of this plant and publish them so it will be readily identifiable.

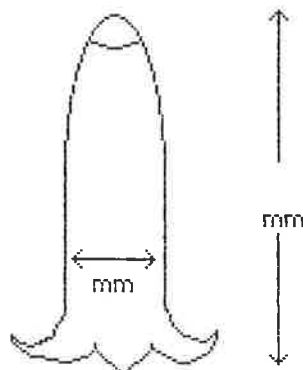
The Original Cultivar: CRA Accession No. 198
Published in Australian Plants, Vol. 11, No. 90 p. 264
March 1982

It was sent to the Cultivar Registration Authority by Mr Tom Fawcett of Somerville Nurseries, 419 Flinders Rd, Somerville 3912.

Description: Flowers squat, ± 30 mm long, ± 13 mm wide (unflattened)
Upper part of corolla tube red, tips clear green-yellow.

All other characteristics of the cultivar fit within the known range of variation for *Correa reflexa* var. *reflexa*.

Does anyone have a plant grown from cuttings of the original 'Fat Fred'?
If you have any *Correa* plant called 'Fat Fred', please fill in the section below.



Flower size
Fill in the
measurements
of your flower.

Trace around a
typical leaf here.
Please enclose a small specimen (flower & leaf)
pressed between layers of tissue.

Origin of your plant:

Size of plant: Height Width..... Age

Soil Type and Drainage:

'Dead Fred' : Size of plant: Age at death

Cause of death: