

# DODONAEA STUDY GROUP



DODONAEA  
VISCOSA SSP. ANGUSTISSIMA

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Jeanette Closs

7 VYELLA COURT,  
AUSTINS FERRY 7011  
Tasmania Australia  
Phone 49 1663

Dear Members,

I've been in the garden all day potting on plants, including D. viscosa x procumbens (the cutting material was sent by Helen Bizzai) and D. procumbens (from Nat. Botanic Gardens). The Dodonaeas which I planted out in the new Dodonaea bed, sometime ago are mostly doing well. I have lost a few but I also have a few more awaiting to be planted, so they will fill the gaps. The D. humilis is doing fine in other parts of the garden but it seems to resent being put in with a lot of other Dods, I'm trying a few more.

I always seem to be running short of time. Last spring I selected the seeds which I planned to sow and wrote out the labels. I didn't manage to get these in until January, much later than I would normally put in seed. However I have had a much better result than I usually get with Dods, so maybe January is a good time to sow Dod seeds in Tasmania., Other members may like to try sowing seeds in summer and report on results. Seeds of other genera did not do so well, although some are still popping up, but a number of pots aren't showing any seedlings. Dodonaeas showing good results are :

- D. megazyga (take note Tony Bean)
- D. hirsuta
- D. adenophora
- D. ceratocarpa
- D. juncinifolia (this from Nindethana is an illegitimate name, I hope to be able to ascertain what this species is and notify them.)

I have written away to a number of seed merchants asking for their catalogues. In most cases they stock very few species and also mostly have some incorrect naming, especially in the D. viscosa subspecies. I have written to them with the correct naming, but of course, I don't know if they note my comments.

A kind gentleman from Colac in Victoria sent me a large bundle of seed capsules and a photo of two very colourful Dodonaeas that he had growing in pots. The capsules unfortunately were all empty. This is a trap that many of us can fall into. I suspect that it arises when there is only female species within the locality and no male flowers to provide the fertilization and hence a wonderful (in this case) display of infertile fruits. This species were labelled D. adenophora but I wonder if this correct as I have as yet not seen D. adenophora but many times have I seen D. sinuolata labelled as such.

Honor Venning of W.A. seed and cuttings that she collected in the bush of D. attenuata, now named D. viscosa ssp angustissima. Many thanks to these non-members of our group who have been so supportive.

Noted in an article in 'Native Plants for N.S.W.' outlining a talk given by Joan Webb on the subject of George Cayley - botanist and explorer - that Dodonaea boroniifolia was originally D. caleyana. I wonder why and by whom it was changed. I gather that G. Don in 1831 named the species D. boroniaefolia and that in the same year G. Don also named the same species D. caleyana. Then Miq. named it D. hirtella in 1844. We could surmise all sorts of reasons for this, but maybe one day Judy West or some other botanist could explain it to we amateurs.

I've got the travel bug again. In April I'm off to China for four weeks on a Horticultural tour with Travman, lead by Rodger Elliot - his wife Gwen will be along also. Most of you will know these folk as the authors of so many excellent books and articles not the least of these being the 'Encyclopedia of Australian Plants' which Rodger is producing along with David Jones. A little bird has told me that Volume 5 will be out later this year, and then we will have to wait for Volume 6. That is one good reason to have Dods starting with the letter 'D'!! I've got off the subject, this should be an exciting trip, mostly in south-west China seeing some of the beautiful forest and mountainous areas, as well as Botanical gardens, festivals, river trips and lots of other goodies. Three of my SGAP friends from northern Tasmania will also be on the trip. Then not to be satisfied with that, two friends and I are planning a four week trip of Victoria, taking in bush areas, SGAP meetings and flower shows where possible. We plan to leave on August 18th, so I had best try and get in another news-letter between these two trips.

Do please remember that the ASGAP General Biennial meeting and seminar will be in Hobart next January 13th to 20th. There is information about it in your Regional newsletters. It would be great to see lots of Dod people there as Judy West will be one of our speakers, and of course she will be speaking on Dodonaeas and you might have guessed it; I am the one who is organising the speakers for the seminar!

#### NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Jo Walker from Canberra has rejoined us - welcome Jo. She writes that she only has three species in the ground and one of those is local and came of it's own accord. This local species is D. viscosa var. attenuata (which is now D. viscosa ssp. angustissima). Another is a species from W.A., yet to be identified and the third is labelled D. boroniifolia, and Jo has her doubts about that. These plants are growing quite vigorously in the rocky, clay soil. Jo has also offered to be our contact person for the Canberra Region, many thanks, Jo.

Randy Linke from California writes that he has been working on ~~our~~ project at the local botanical gardens. The project for next year is to clear the north edge of the Australian garden and plant Casuarina and other pine-like Australian natives that will soften the transition from the pine forest beyond. I'm sure that Randy would like to take any Study Group members to see these gardens, if any of us are in California. Good work.

Malcolm Hunt, from Dubbo has returned his 'Record of Garden Grown plants' list - many thanks.

Barbara Evans from Peppermint Grove W.A. sent cuttings of D. hackettiana and commented that when she picked it there were millions of jewel beetles having a wonderful time with the seeds. She did manage to catch some seed for us.

Meryl Ritchie writes that she has planted two D. polyandra (from Cape York) via Peter and Ann Radke's nursery. They are looking good and about 40cm high. She has tried to grow D. filifolia but the cuttings failed. It was very dry at the time and there were no seeds available. She has just potted on some D. lanceolata ssp subsessilifolia from Glen Geddes. These will be planted out when the wet is over. Meryl and her friend Bev Weston hope to get to Hobart in January.

Barbara Daly our Study Group Coordinator is starting to collect some Dods for her garden. She notes that our December Newsletter number is 15 and so is our August Newsletter. That's the second time that I have done that. You might like to change your December Newsletter to No 16.

Jan Sked, our contact person for the Pine Rivers Group writes that she was in the Proston area recently and collected a small plant of D. cuneata and also some cuttings. Evidently they all died, but Jan has sent me pressed leaves and to me it looks like the recently named D. biloba. I don't know where Proston is (yes I do I've just found it on a map) and this is likely to be a new location of D. biloba. Perhaps Jan or other members will be up that way again and could send me a specimen, and a number of specimens to Judy West, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, P.O. Box 1600, Canberra City. 2601. This species could be more widespread than at first thought.

Helen Bizzai is again on the 'ball' and has managed to locate the plant of D. tepperi at Monarto. She has sent me cuttings and some to Phyllis Dadswell. This plant is evidently so rare that it is at risk of becoming extinct. It is hoped that it can be kept in cultivation from these cuttings. See Ida Jackson's report in August 1988 newsletter.

On re-reading our last newsletter, I realize that I have repeated myself a little, my apologies.

SEED BANK

The following seed is available to members of our Study Group, but please remember to send a stamp, addressed envelope. When sending seed for the study group it is advisable to send only seed collected from the bush as there seems to be a lot of hybridization taking place with the Dodonaeas.

- |                                |                               |                    |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| D. adenophora                  | D. baueri                     | - D. boroniifolia  |
| D. bursariifolia               | D. concinna                   | D. coriacea        |
| ✓ D. filifolia                 | D. hackettiana                | - D. heteromorpha  |
| D. hexandra                    | D. humilis                    | D. inaequifolia    |
| ✓ D. lanceolata var lanceolata |                               | D. lobulata        |
| ✓ D. macrossani                | - D. microzyga ssp. microzyga |                    |
| ✓ D. peduncularis              | D. petiolaris                 | - D. physocarpa    |
| - D. platyptera                | D. procumbens                 | D. ptarmicæfolia   |
| - D. rupicola                  | - D. sinuolata ssp. sinuolata |                    |
| ✓ D. stenophylla               | D. stenozyga                  | D. subglandulifera |
| ✓ D. triangularis              | D. triquetra                  | D. truncatiales    |
| D. viscosa ssp. angustissima   | - D. viscosa ssp. burmanniana |                    |
| ✓ D. viscosa ssp. cuneata      | - d. viscosa ssp. spatulata   |                    |

FINANCE

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>
Brought forward	53.45	Postage 22.04
Subscriptions	17.43	Stationery 17.28
		Seeds 5.00
	<u>\$70.88</u>	<u>\$44.32</u>
In hand	\$26.56	

*See seeds due in June*

DODONAEA SERRATIFOLIA McGillivray

I haven't seen mature plants of this species but I have a number of small plants which I have grown from cuttings sent by the National Botanic Gardens and it looks as though it will be a nice garden plant.

It is an erect shrub which grows to 1.5m high. The leaves are simple, narrowly elliptic 3.5-7.2 cm long with a short petiole. The margins of the leaves are finely serrulate as the specific name implies.

There <sup>are</sup> 3-6 flowers in each cluster appearing in October. The 3-4 winged capsules develop slowly and are pink-brown when mature about the time of the following years flowering.

This species is restricted to a few populations east of Glen Innes on the northern tablelands of N.S.W. It grows in dry sclerophyll forests in granitic soils. The material for my plants was originally collected by the National Botanic Gardens in the Gibraltar Range National Park.

REQUEST

I would welcome an article on any aspect of the knowing and growing of Dodonaeas. This newsletter would be a much better one if there was more than one contributor. I would also really welcome the offer from any member to produce one of the newsletters occasionally. I would like to thank those who write to me about their experiences.

Best wishes,

*Jeanette Cross*



*Dodonaea serratifolia*  
collected in Subalpine Range