9 APR 1985

S.G.A.P. DODONAEA STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER No. 5 ISSN 0811-5354

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Dear Member,

We had a delightful trip to New Zealand last November. We saw Dodonaea viscosa -- I'm not sure which subspecies - in the north-eastern area of the south island. We also met some newly-found members of the Closs family, My husband now has second cousins that he knew nothing of until recently. One couple will be visiting us from New Zealand next month.

I'm slowly progressing with the Dodonaea display kit. Many thanks to Judy West, Lyn Stewart and Ida Jackson for sending seed capsules for the display. I must now find some small containers in which to display them. I hope to mount them on a board, but I must make sure that they can't be crushed or damaged. Thanks to a donation from the Tasmanian Region, I am now having the large prints (photos) mounted by a bookbinder. I am also well on the way with the leaf prints, so it shouldn't be long before the display kit is complete.

I had an exciting parcel from Lyn Stewart last week, containing seed capsules (as mentioned above), masses of seed from a number of South Australian species, three lovely slides, some excellent descriptions and illustrations of S.A. Dodonaeas prepared by her friend Barb Bailey - many thanks to Barb for this contribution; and a letter full of news about her experiences with Dods and her very active community involvements. Lyn must be an extremely busy and productive lady, she certainly provides me with a lot of encouragement.

I have never really set out any aims or objectives for our Study Group. I have hesitated to do so, in case the fulfilling of the objectives proves beyond such a small group. However perhaps I should show a bit more courage and initiative. Thanks to Judy West, all the Dodonaeas are named and the work published. In this reppect we are far ahead of many of the Study Groups. There is still, I beleive, much that we can acheive, so I would like to propose to you - the members of this Study Group, that our objectives could be:-

1. to promote Dodonaeas as good horticultural plants (can we do this when most are dioecious?).
2. to correct where possible the incorrect use of names for Dodonaeas.
3. to attempt to find the best methods of propogation for Dodonaeas.

I would like your comments on these proposals please, and suggestions of ways of acheiving these objectives.

FINANCE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Subscriptions | 17.00 | Debit brought forward | 12.83 |
| Donations | 40.00 | Envelopes | 3.80 |
| | | Postage | 10.90 |
| | 57.00 | | 27.53 |

Credit balance $ 29.47
Out of this must come postage for this issue of the newsletter and $20 for the mounting of the prints, so you can see that we will be in the red again unless the unfinancial members pay up their subscriptions very soon. Many thanks to the Tasmanian Region for their generous donation of $30. Also thanks to the Werribee (Vic) group for $3 and Victoria Region for $7 donations. This help is greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank my husband Don, who duplicates our newsletter and my daughter Rhonda who has photo-copied Barb Bailey's illustrations and descriptions. Our group would be sadly in the red, if it were not for these kind people.

YOU ARE FINANCIAL to 27.1.86
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION OF $3 IS/WAS DUE ON.....

PROPOGATION AT AUSTINS FERRY

SEEDS PLANTED IN OCTOBER 1984 Pre-treated with boiling water

| D. | Source | Soil etc. | Potted up. |
|---|---|---|---|
| D. heteromorpha 70b | S.A. Region | Euc. mulch | Feb., 85 |
| D. lobulata 46c | Nindethana | Euc. mulch | Nil |
| D. adenophora 15e | Vic. Region | Coarse sand | Feb, 85 |
| D. aptera 31a | W.A.W.S. | Coarse sand | Feb, 85 |
| D. concinna 36a | Nindethana | Euc. mulch | Mar, 85 |
| D. filifolia 23b | Barakula | Coarse sand | Mar, 85 |
| D. hackettiana 24c | W.A.W.S. | Coarse sand | Feb, 85 |
| D. Microzyga var acrolobata | W.A.W.S. 72b | Seed mix | Mar, 85 |
| D. Multijuga 48a | Nindethana | Coarse sand | Jan, 85 |
| D. peduncularis 49a | Barakula | Euc mulch | Mar, 85 |
| D. petiolaris 28a | Qld Region | Euc. mulch | Nil |
| D. truncatiales 59e | Nindethana | Euc. mulch | Mar, 85 |
| D. bursariifolia 22 | S.A. garden | Seed mix | Nil |
| D. inaequifolia 44a | L. Stewart | Euc. mulch | Mar, 85 |
| D. ptarmicicolia 29b | Nindethana | Coarse Sand | Feb, 85 |
| D. humilis 43a | L. Stewart Yorke Pen. | Coarse sand | Mar, 85 |
| D. stenophylla 53a | B. O'Keeffe | Euc. mulch | Nil |
| D. hexandra 19c | B. O'Keeffe | Euc. mulch | Nil |

CUTTINGS PUT IN IN JUNE 1984 treated with liquid hormone - no bottom heat

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| D. triquetra | G. Althofer | Cutting mix | Jan 85 |
| D. humilis | G. Althofer | " " | Mar 85 |
| D. macrossani | G. Althofer | " " | Nil |
| D. megazyga | G. Althofer | " " | Feb 85 |
| D. rupicola | G. Althofer | " " | Jan 85 |

CUTTINGS PUT IN IN JULY 1984 treated with liquid hormone - no bottom heat

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| D. baueri | I. Jackson | " " | Nil |
| D. viscosa ssp. angustissima | I. Jackson | " " | Oct 84 |

NOTE
Nindthana is a seed company in W.A. W.A.W.S = W.A. Wildflower Society
Barakula - seed collected in the Barakula by M. Simmons
Euc. mulch = Eucalyptus bark shredded and composted to a fine tilth
Seed mix = ½ sand and ½ peat moss
Cutting mix = 1 part coarse sand, 1 part peat and 1 part vermiculite

It is interesting to note that five lots of seed failed in the Eucalyptus mulch and five produced seedlings. All seeds planted in coarse sand were successful. One of the local nurseries is using the Euc. mulch with much success especially with proteaceae seeds. I don't think I would use it again for Dods. Seeds of other genera that I put in did quite well with the Euc. mulch. I find it hard to come to any firm conclusions, as there are so many factors involved.

SEED BANK refer to list in newsletter of October 1984

| ADDITIONS | DELETIONS |
|---|---|
| D. bursariifolia | D. aptera |
| D. hexandra | D. humifusa |
| D. subglandulifera | |
| D. baueri | |

Many thanks to those members who sent seed. When requesting seed please send a stamp addressed envelope. I would like to see more members requesting seed and experimenting with Dods.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

When a non-member assists the Study Group in any way, I send them a newsletters for the following year as a gesture of appreciation, hence the honorary for one year.

NOTES FROM MEMBERS

Beverley O'Keefe wrote that she is looking into the possibilities of purchasing a computer, both for business use and also to enable her to keep track of her plant recordings. I've always said that I dont particularly want to know about computers, but I really think it would be wonderful to have one for plant recording. Ironically, I will be doing a course on computers next month as they are being installed in the library in which I work. Beverley also posed the question as to whether one must have a male and female plant in the garden, to get seed. I'm hoping that Judy will help solve that one soon.

Chris Howard, who is the contact person for the Werribee Group reports on the Dods being grown by the local nurseries and it's a very poor showing. Have other members checked with their nurseries? Chris asked for seed of the smaller species as he has only a very small garden, I have sent him a few and look forward to his report.

I've already mentioned that Lyn Stewart sent me a large parcel of goodies. She had spent hours cleaning up seed for the Study group and her husband Brian asked if they were going to have Dod seeds dished up for tea! My husband has similar worries when I dry Banksia cones in the oven and the shelves of the frig. are full of cuttings instead of food. Lyn and her friends Barb and Ken Bailey are often off on trips looking for Dods, I'd love to join them, wouldn't you? She almost missed out on the seed of D. hexandra, the ants had been collecting before her, but hadn't got around to taking them below, they were in a nice heap next to the hole. D. baueri was really loaded with seed and all they had to do was put meat trays under the bushes and shake them. Lyn doesn't have much trouble with growing the S.A. species, but most of the other seeds germinated but can't get their second and third set of leaves and they slowly die. Lyn feels that her soil may be too alkaline, but if she uses commercial seed mix, then when planted out they will probably turn yellow. Has anyone a suggestion for Lyn?
Lyn's project with the local school suffered a setback, when the 3,500 plants propogated last year were reduced by 1,000 because of inadequate watering during the holidays. Congratulations on the good work you do, Lyn with the school propagating and planting at the school and good luck for the future of the project.

LYN STEWARTS SEED REPORT

sown Feb. 1984

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| D. hackettiana 24c | some germinated | 2 good plants |
| D. filifolia 23b | germinated but struggled and died | |
| D. petiolaris 28c | no germination | |
| D. aptera 31a | no germination | |
| D. peduncularis 49b | no germination | |
| D. filiformis 10d | germinated, I think but died | |
| D. physocarpa 61b | germinated | 4 nice plants |
| D. viscose ssp spatulata 6a | good germination | 6 nice plants survive |

sown Nov, 1984

| | |
|---|---|
| D. triangularis 21d | good germination but dying |
| D. macrossani 27a | good germination but dying |
| D. coriacea 63a | no germination |
| D. filiformis 10d | good germination but dying |

Lyn tried Beverley O'Keeffe 'method' as reported in the last newsletter. 'After two months of occasionally drying out, breeding mosquitoes and going absolutely slimy and smelly, I planted them all in a 5in. pot. I didn't get any little shoots but I've got a pot full of D. viscosa an inch high and I think they germinated within a week. I really didn't expedt anything as no other species of seed would have survived such treatment' Lyn plants a number of seeds in one planter bag, she doesn't thin them out, but lets them grow on together and then plants them together in the one hole. In this way she hopes to get a male and a female together sometimes. She comments that it doesn't hurt the plants if they start together. There coudl be a lot of value in this idea.

I do hope that some of you can get to the Conference and Seminar in Brisbane in October and that we can meet and chat about your experiences with Dodonaeas. My typing is only just adequate for this job, so I hope that you'll forgive the errors and corrections.

Regards,

Jeanette Clods

Jeanette Clods

P.S. My D. multijuga is flowering but unfortunately it is a male. I sound like a'women's libber', don't I.

## Dodonaea baueri

Dwarf to small shrub; branches intricate, rigid, glabrous; branchlets angular, glandular, with dense short hairs; leaves 0.6-1.8cm x 0.3-1cm, simple oblong to orbicular, slightly sinuate, irregularly toothed, dark green above, pale green below; flowers male and female on separate plants, usually solitary, on short axillary peduncles; capsules 3-5 angles, more or less wingless, to 0.5cm x 1cm, glandular, maturing to dark red to brown.
This species is endemic to southern S.A. (including the Flinders Ranges). It usually occurs on rocky sites, ranging from inland to coastal situations, where it can be exposed to harsh climatic conditions.

## Dodonaea humilis

Shrub with minutely pubescent branches; leaves glabrous, of 3-15 stiff opposite obovate or broadly cuneate leaflets, 5-10mm. long, crenate toothed at summit; rhachis more or less dilated; flowers in short terminal corymbs; sepals ovate persistent; anthers tipped by a stalked gland, spirally twisted after dehiscence; capsules obovoid or subglobular, truncate, scarcely 4-lobed, 7-8mm. diam., beset with conspicuous red glandular hairs.
Coonalpyn (Ninety - Mile Desert); Kangaroo Island; Yorke and Eyre Peninsulas.

## Dodonaea subglandulifera

Dioecious, or rarely polygamo-dioecious erect shrub, 1-2m high. Branches spreading; branchlets angular to slightly ribbed, glabrous. Leaves imparipinnate. Flowers unisexual or rarely bisexual. Capsules 3-4 winged, pink to red-brown at maturity.
S.A. Sedan, Upper Yorke Pen., Peterborough, Murray Mallee, Morgan, Northern Lofty region, Geranium Springs road NE Point Pass.