

HIBBERTIA STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER NO. 10

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APRIL 1983

In this Newsletter I will continue on with notes from Members of the various Hibbertias they are growing. I must stress the point that more information is required from members, even if only about one species that you are growing, this enables me to produce newsletters, and members to improve and add Hibbertias to their gardens. I am particularly keen to hear from Queensland and New South Wales members or groups on Hibbertias from their States.

I have selected another six Hibbertias for recording for the next 12 months, and hope to hear from you with information on the six selected for the previous 12 months. The form enclosed is a guide only, if you can add more information all the better. To those of you who have none of the following, if you have other species, recording of those would be most appreciated.

Plants Selected - H. FASCICLATA, H. HYPERICOIDES, H. MICROPHYLLA
H. OBTUSIFOLIA, H. PROCUMBENS, H. STRICTA.

Members comments on various Hibbertias -

HIBBERTIA PROCUMBENS - Tasmania, Victoria

Barbara Buchanan- Vic. - Plant was planted out in October 1979 on a sloping site which was fairly well exposed. The soil is poor, cold and dank in the winter, small amounts of fertiliser are often spread around the plant. It flowered magnificently the first year for several months, the following year flowering was less profuse, but good growth was obtained.

John Knight - VIC. - Johns garden beds were raised 30cm and filled with grey loam which was mixed with compost material. Plants in full sun tended to sucker in broken soil, spread to 1.2m, flowers well and made good ground cover. Plants in semi-shade had poor flowering during the first 12 months and growth was very leggy.

I have tried *H. Procumbens* several times in straight sand mixed with peat in various situations from full sun to semi-shade, very little growth was made, no flowers at the best surviving for approximately 12 months.

H. FASCICULATA - S.A. VIC. N.S.W. QLD. TAS.

Anne Kerr - VIC. - Garden beds are terraced, sandy loam added to clay soil, giving good drainage. A plant from cuttings from Grampians area was planted out early 1979, good growth was attained, plant being 45cm high and flowered well in spring of 1979.

John Knight - VIC. - Three plants placed in natural soil in semi-shade all died within 4 weeks. Plants in raised beds in full sun, proving a little difficult, tends to die off in parts, but flowers well, John feels with pruning plant could be improved. Plant in semi-shade in raised bed died after a short period.

Comments from Ross MacDonald indicate *H. Fasciculata* is found in sand heaths in the Grampians, so possibly lighter soils are required.

H. RIPARIA - TASMANIA

Marion Simmonds - TAS. - Two plants were planted out in 1969 into grey Loam, growth slow, plants reaching 50cm in height and 60cm wide. Blood and Bone is applied occasionally and regular summer watering also takes place. Flowering period is August to December, but odd flowers can be found at other times through out the year.

Jenny West - VIC. - Jenny has *H. Riparia* which has managed to survive the drought with very little watering, and growth being nil, now that the drought has broken no doubt it will make better progress. Jenny mentions that all her garden beds are heavily mulched with Horse manure and newspaper for a depth of 75mm, this she feels has helped many of her plants including numerous *Hibbertias* to survive.

Following are descriptions of several low growing *Hibbertias*.

HIBBERTIA CALYCINA - VIC. N.S.W. A.C.T.

An erect or diffuse plant up to 40cm high. The leaves are crowded, linear 6 to 10mm long and 1mm wide, some forms having obtuse shaped leaves, the leaves are bright green, covered with short stiff hairs. Flowers are flat and bright yellow, being found during spring, though not lasting long are profuse during flowering period. Stamens vary from 4 to 12, with calyxes holding up for sometime after flowering. *H. Calycina* prefers full sun, but will tolerate some shade. In the A.C.T. it can be found on stony slopes in shallow soils. *H. Calycina* can be propagated quite readily from cuttings of medium hardwood.

HIBBERTIA STRICTA - N.S.W. QLD. S.A. VIC.

An erect or diffuse shrub up to 60cm high and 1m wide, with pubescent branches. The leaves vary from narrow linear, with pointed ends, narrow oblong or obtuse 5 to 15mm in length, 2 to 4mm wide, scaberous or almost glabrous, being dark green in colour. Flowers are bright yellow approximately 2cm in diameter, the petals being notched. The flowers are terminal on short stems up to 12mm long, and flowers profusely during spring. *H. Stricta* succeeds quite well in full sun to light top shade, in well drained soils. Stamens vary from 4 to 12 all on one side of the carpel.

HIBBERTIA BENNETTII - QLD.

A spreading shrub 15cm to 45cm high, quite glabrous with angular branches. The leaves are linear to lanceolate 35mm to 85mm long, slightly expanding and stem clasping, being paler on the under side. Flowers are 50mm in diameter when expanded, and on short stems. Petals are obovate or broad cuneate, with numerous stamens.

A point of interest is that *H. Bennettii* which is found near Irvine Bank is known locally as "ARSENIC PLANT" and is considered poisonous to stock.

I have had a couple of enquiries on Hibbertias which prompted me to think a queries section could, be placed in newsletter, so queries and answers to them will be much appreciated.

Mr N.J. Bone has recently obtained a, H. Perfoliata, and would like any information on growing habits, soil conditions etc.

Mr H. Infield has a H. Scandens with a double staminal centre making it somewhat like a miniature Chrysanthemum, and asks are the doubles common. Also he would like to know methods adopted for propogating H. Scandens.

A reminder that to those of you who have not paid this years subscription, I would appreciate if it could be forwarded as soon as it is convenient.

NEW MEMBER - A.B. Barrett
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO YEAR ENDING 31-12-1982

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Subscriptions	- \$21.00	N/L 8 and 9	\$9.00
		Stationary	2.65
		Postage	<u>12.78</u>
		Debit to 31-12-81	<u>\$11.61</u>
			\$36.04
TOTAL	\$36.04		
	<u>\$21.00</u>		
DEBIT	\$15.04		