



HIBBERTIA DENTATA

ASGAP
HIBBERTIA
STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER
NO. 22

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Dear Members,

I hope you enjoyed Christmas and looking forward to trying out many hibbertias in your gardens' this year. Welcome to our two new members, Eileen Croxford from WA and Kerry Rathie from Queensland who is the nominee for the Logan River Aust. Plants Society - extracts from their letters are included later in this newsletter.

For the second January in a row I have lost *H. procumbens* and *H. grossulariifolia*. They seem to rot in the January humidity. On the brighter side *H. pedunculata* (planted 1975 and over 1.0 metre diameter) has been in full flower since November, *H. amplexicaulis* (planted one year ago) looks a promising plant for Melbourne gardens. Although the plant tends to fall over rather than staying erect, this habit seems to allow the plant to display its large golden flowers.

Kerry Davis

In my Garden

Faye Candy

In my garden during late November and early December, four hibbertias were fully in flower making a lovely splash of yellow. They were *H. pedunculata*, *H. obtusifolia*, *H. perfoliata* and *H. amplexicaulis*.

Flowering at the same time were mauve, pink and white *Brachyscome multifida*, *B. segmentosa*, *Dampiera diversifolia*, *D. linearis*, *Pimelia imbricata* (a small pink flowering plant), *Patersonia occidentalis* (fairly spasmodic flowering) and a small *Boronia pilosa* (double flower form).

For color co-ordination they made a beautiful show. *B. multifida* is so easy to propagate it is well worth while planting out with hibbertias at the same time.

From Your Letters

Eileen Croxford (Albany, WA) Nov 93

..... I have always felt the hibbertias are greatly undervalued and should become a plant with great horticultural potential. I am enclosing a packet of *H. cuneiformis* seed, which is a lovely shrub to 1.5 metres, has large flowers and coloured bracts. Sets viable seed which grows easily about a fortnight after sowing, is amiable being potted on into ordinary soil and grows on well.

My potting mix has been 3 parts soil / 1 part sand. My cutting mix has been 3 parts coarse sand and one part peat or good compost. I am enclosing a diagram of an excellent cutting frame which suits most wild flower cuttings

Note:- I have enclosed a copy of diagram with this newsletter for members information.

Kerry Rathie (Greenbank, Qld.) Dec 93

..... I am currently growing the local *H. vestita*, a grey-leaf species from Mt. Perry (c 80 km inland from Bundaberg), *H. lasiopus*, *H. pedunculata*, *H. longifolia*, *H. elata* (in hanging basket), *H. obtusifolia*, a prostrate WA species (in hanging basket), and a tall southern species. Lost *H. cuneiformis* in the drought. Have a couple of others whose names escape me at present. Have *H. stricta* also.

Wild Flower Show - Sydney - 23 / 24 July 1994

The show is intended to encourage the growing and care of native plants and to show their relationship to the environment. SGAP NSW would appreciate our support in promoting the use of native plants in the Sydney area.

If any member can assist would they please contact Betty Rymer (02 654 1831) or Marie Spicer (02 679 1439).

Hibbertia Key

The key will be available late February '94. It includes information about hibbertias, how to use the key, the key itself, descriptions of each species, glossary and past name changes.

If you want a copy please send me a self addressed A4 size envelope with postage stamp attached. Postage rate within Victoria is \$2.00 and interstate is \$2.65.

Plant Descriptions

Helen Morrow has prepared plant descriptions for four hibbertias which appear on below. Helen plans to have descriptions of *H. pedunculata* and *H. riparia* available for publication in the May newsletter.

We need information from members from all around Australia on what hibbertias grow well in their gardens, under what conditions they are growing, etc.. This information will be valuable to pass on to the Garden Design Study Group. So please write to me so that I can pass this information on to all members.

Hibbertia aspera

- Height:** Dwarf to small shrub, to 1 m high, ascending or erect with bushy habit.
Stems: Wiry roughened with stellate hairs.
Leaves: Obovate to oblanceolate or elliptic, 4-20 mm long, 3-10 mm wide, apex obtuse, base tapering, with recurved margins, upper surface dark green, covered with stellate hairs, under surface covered with whitish downy hairs.
Flowers: Terminal on slender peduncles 5-15 mm long.
Petals: 5-7 mm long.
Sepals: Almost as long as petals and stellate hairy.
Stamens: 4-6 grouped on one side of the carpels.
Carpels: 2-3, hairy.

Habitat: It occurs in coastal plains, open forests and ranges on both sandy and shaly soils. A variable species, can spread by sucker and may layer. Adapts to most well drained soils in a partially protected position, will tolerate light frosts. Can grow higher than 1 m in cultivation. Flowers Sept - Dec and sporadic.

Hibbertia empetrifolia

- Height:** Small shrub to 0.4 m high, ascending or trailing, often climbing by intertwining branches.
Stems: Wiry, reddish when young.
Leaves: Oblong to elliptic, 5-8 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, shiny green, upper surface minutely warty and hairy, under side scattered with hairs, margins recurved.
Flowers: About 10 mm across on slender peduncles 5-15 mm long.
Petals: 4-5 mm long.
Sepals: 3-4 mm long.
Stamens: 4-12 grouped on one side of carpels.
Carpels: 2, hairy.

Habitat: Distributed from northern NSW to TAS., grows in coastal scrub (where it adopts a trailing habit) and high rainfall forests (where it forms tangled clumps). Requires well drained situation, will grow in full sun or semi shade, will tolerate light to moderate frosts, can be grown as a shrub or trained against a fence or established shrubs, where it will gain greater height than 0.4 m, responds well to regular pruning and may be grown as a hedge. Flowers Aug - Dec.

Hibbertia scandens

- Height:** Fairly vigorous climber stems to 4 m long.
Leaves: Entire, obovate to elliptic, 30-80 mm long, 10-25 mm wide, stem-clasping, apex acuminate to obtuse, upper surface usually glabrescent, lower surface sparsely to densely silky-hairy.
Flowers: Axillary, on peduncles 2-4 mm long.
Petals: 20-30 mm long.
Sepals: 15-25 mm silky-hairy.
Stamens: More than 30 surrounding carpels.
Carpels: 3-8 glabrous.

Habitat: Distributed from north-eastern Qld to south-eastern NSW, prominent in coastal areas on the fore dunes. Best in sunny position in well drained soil but will adapt to different situations and soils, can be grown as a ground cover on embankments and open areas, can also be grown as a climber among established shrubs and for screening fences. Excellent coastal plant, will tolerate salt laden-winds. Tolerates light frosts. Flowers sporadic all year.

Hibbertia dentata

- Height:** Trailing or light climber.
Stems: 1-2 m long, wiry, slender, often reddish.
Leaves: 30-80 mm long, 20-30 mm wide, ovate to elliptic, dark green to bronze, hairy when young, becoming glabrous, margins toothed.
Flowers: 30-40 mm across, solitary on peduncles 6-15 mm long.
Petals: 15-20 mm long.
Sepals: 6-8 mm long.
Stamens: More than 30 surrounding carpels, **staminodes** arranged outside stamens.
Carpels: 3, glabrous.

Habitat: Distributed from south-eastern Qld to eastern Vic, commonly in moist areas in open forest. Plants prefer some protection and grow well in shady or semi shade situations, requires good drainage but should not be allowed to dry out. Tip pruning promotes a bushy habit, tolerates light to moderate frosts. Can be grown as ground cover or as a light climber, excellent in containers including hanging baskets. Flowers Aug to Dec also sporadic.

- References:** Beadle, N. C. W. (1982) Student Flora of North Eastern NSW (U of New England)
Elliot, W. R. & Jones, D. L. (1990) Encyclopaedia of Aust. Plants. (Lothian)
Harden, G. Ed. (1990) Flora of NSW. (NSWU Press)
Ross, E.M. & Stanley, T. D. (1983) Flora of south-eastern Qld.(DPI Qld)

Newsletter Deadline

All articles for the next newsletter should reach me no later than end of April 1994.
Please post to Kerry Davis, 4 Rickards Ave, Knoxfield 3180

Next Meeting

Saturday 12 February 1994

Venue: Karwarra Native Garden, behind Kalorama Memorial Reserve,
Mt Dandenong Tourist Road, Kalorama (Melway Map 120 B.9)

me: 1.30 - 4.00pm

Agenda: Correspondence

September '94 field trip

Garden collection - Karwarra Garden.