



ASGAP
HIBBERTIA
STUDY GROUP

NEWSLETTER
NO. 25

HIBBERTIA DENTATA

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Dear Members,

This is a good time of the year as many plants are in flower, particularly the yellow flashes of hibbertias everywhere. Thanks to Faye Candy, Eileen Croxford, Margaret Randall and Barbara Buchanan for their contributions this month. Every little piece of information written down helps in the long term towards a substantial documentation of hibbertias.

I purchased a dwarf form of *H. stellaris* from David Shiells which now makes a lovely orange clump in my garden.

I would like to hear from members their suggestions for future direction of the Study Group. So arm yourself with a pen and get your suggestions to me before the February Newsletter issue.

Regards Kerry Davis

Kangaroo Island

I visited Kangaroo Island in late September early October of this year. I had been told there were several species of hibbertias on the Island, but I was quite unprepared for the brilliant yellow displays along the roadsides.

Hibbertias were everywhere. They looked particularly beautiful when massed with Kangaroo Island's endemic *Boronia edwardsii* and the lovely orange pea flowers of *Daviesia genistifolia*.

I found *Hibbertia sericea*, *H. virgata*, *H. riparia* and *H. prostrata*. *H. prostrata* was a very tiny plant with very small flowers, many plants were no bigger than 8 to 10 cm across.

I was told that *H. acicularis*, *H. aspera* and *H. paeninsularis* were also to be found on the Island, but they eluded me.

I do recommend a trip to Kangaroo Island in the Spring, not only for the massed display of hibbertias, but to see the beautiful wildflowers which rival those in the Grampians, and to see the seals and the penguins and the kangaroos and the fabulous coastline scenery.

Faye Candy

Hibbertias at Tocumwal

I haven't had a lot of success with hibbertias so far. The only ones I seem to be able to grow with ease are *H. dentata*, *H. scandens* and *H. aspera*.

In my conditions, dry with very good drainage they certainly do best in semi shade. However will purchase a few others and try again in different positions.

Margaret Randall

Hibbertia quadricolor

We've had a very dry winter and the bush needs more rain. I was taken for a drive to the Stirling Range last month and was very surprised to see a plant flowering very beautifully on the side of a culvert, I thought it was an introduced species but on investigation it proved to be *Hibbertia quadricolor*, and it really lives up to its descriptive name as it is in shades of yellow, orange and red, quite big flowers but a small plant about 25 cm high - a lovely mound in open position but spindly among other plants.

I have never seen it before and being in a National park there was no way I could collect any material, but it would certainly be a very colourful addition to a garden. I think it may be endemic to the Stirling's as we were fairly high up in the Scenic Drive.

I was so pleased to read about the hibbertias that Pam and David Shiells were propagating and congratulate them on their success.

Eileen Croxford

Hibbertias at Myrhee

When the last newsletter came I was prodded to go out and record the flowers, but when I started I found I had a few unnamed ones from the West, and so stopped to key them out.

I lost one or two to the frost but also one or two came back from close to death. Three of them turned out to be *H. amplexicaulis*, *H. perfoliata* and *H. vaginata* which are fairly similar in leaf so I was pleased that they are in fact separate.

H. aspera was absolutely magnificent for a time, but is proving quite a nuisance by spreading to smother its neighbours.

The local *H. sericea* and *H. stricta* were magnificent after the wet year. My *H. obtusifolia* seems to be decreasing, it does not grow as widely as the other two, but is especially lovely with its grey leaves and big flowers which come over a long period.

I have found several plants of *H. obtusifolia* in the woodlots, which are areas that have been cleared and grazed, but are now fenced off and I am replanting with trees. As the old pasture grass dies out (from lack of light or water) under the trees I would love to re-establish the local ground cover plants and have occasionally scattered seed about and I think the hibbertia was included (the other two species, *H. stricta* and *H. sericea*) did not have seed like *H. obtusifolia*. Whether it is volunteering, or from my activity, I am thrilled to find it and must repeat the process. The hibbertias seem to be left alone by the rabbits and roos, whereas some of the other things are at great risk.

Luckily I have a friend who walks around her garden every month and records what is in flower.

Babara Buchanan

Julie - Hibbertia flowering times.

<i>H. aspera</i>	October
<i>H. bracteosa</i>	mid October - January
<i>H. dentata</i>	mid October - November
<i>H. cuneiformis</i>	most of year except January to February
<i>H. emptrifolia</i>	mid September - October
<i>H. exutiacies</i>	September - October
<i>H. fascicularis</i>	November - December
<i>H. longifolia</i>	December - April
<i>H. microphylla</i>	June - November
<i>H. obtusifolia</i> (indigenous)	October to November
<i>H. pedunculata</i>	October - March
<i>H. stricta</i> (Grampians)	mid October to November
<i>H. scandens</i>	mid November to January
<i>H. sericea</i> (indigenous)	mid October to November
<i>H. sericea</i> (Little Desert grey leaf)	mid October to November
<i>H. stellaris</i>	November - December
<i>H. vestita</i>	November to June

Bairnsdale Hibbertia Hunt - 3&4 September

A big thankyou to Pat and Ron McKeown from Metung who organised and led the Hibbertia Hunt around the Bairnsdale area. Species found included *H. emptrifolia*, *H. obtusifolia* (grey leaf) and *H. sericea*.

H. sericea found in the Lake Tyers area was magnificent. The leaves appeared to be bluish green and contrasted well with the large golden flowers. Considering the drought conditions the shrubs were quite bushy. The plant has the potential to become a great garden specimen. Also *H. obtusifolia* with its grey leaves and brown bracts with the golden flowers looked appealing.

Other activities included walk into rain forest, nursery visit and plenty of trees and scenery to photograph. Sunday ended with a BBQ lunch at Pat and Ron's place, followed by a walk around their large garden.

Next Meeting

Date: 12th November
Time: 1.30 to 4.30 pm.
Venue: Karwarra Gardens

Activity: We will be propagating hibbertias for the Ballarat Biennial Conference next year. The plan is to pot up these cuttings at the February meeting. Could you please bring along pots for the cuttings and plant material. Cutting medium will be provided.