

THE SOCIETY FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS

PROSTANTHERA & WESTRINGIA
STUDY GROUP
NEWSLETTER NO. 20

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065 858276

VALE PETER ALTHOFER

We have lost one of the great "wild flower" people of our time. The recent death of Peter Althofer will leave a gap in our lives. One will never forget the kind and generous Peter. He had untiring energy; he overflowed with enthusiasm and had an endless knowledge of our wild flowers; the "mints" were very special to him.

His devoted work at Burrendong Arboretum with his wife, Hazel, has certainly made our world a better place to live in.

HOW TO FIND US AT GUM SCRUB

Study Group members, David Andrews and Norm Richmond were not impressed when, after spending several hours searching the narrow winding roads of down town Gum Scrub for the normally obvious native garden, Norm was unable to stay for longer than five minutes, gave me a beautifully flowering stem of Prostantler "Poorinda" theme, and headed off to Hat Head. David missed me, I was actually at work near Kempsey.

So please if you intend calling in, either phone first (065 858276 to make sure someone is home) or memorise our address, Lot 4 Ballengarra-Bransdon Road. It's actually the second house along the left, 1.7 km from turn off. The house is well back from the road and is not obvious at first, our landmark is a 30 m x 30 m Bloodwood gum tree near the house.

HOW THINGS CHANGE

Our last Newsletter was started after what I thought was an end to a drought, how wrong could I be. We don't talk much about the beautiful weather we have here, most conversations are about the rain, or the lack of it, all sorts of theories of why it's not raining and then the predictions that it will be some time yet before we have any worthwhile rain. During the five and a half months after the June rain, we have recorded 10 mm, we now depend on the Wilson River for water, I guess we are one of the few lucky ones, we have been able to keep our garden going and ourselves with river water. I loathe to mention our dam again, built by a local "EXPERT", was full after the June rain, something went wrong, it leaks, it's empty.

PROSTANTHERA & WESTRINGIA SPECIES

This species list is the latest available. The Study Group has had probably slightly less than 50% of *Prostanthera* and about 25% of the *Westringia*'s in its collection over the past years.

Not listed are the many hybrids and variant forms, these could possibly total more than species in living collections. Of course, unfortunately, not all these have survived in our collections. Revision work (in particular Eastcoast species) is still under way by Barry Conn at the Royal Botanic Gardens Herbarium. Thank you Barry, for these lists and keeping up the good work.

Prostanthera albiflora Conn
Prostanthera albo-hirta C. White
Prostanthera althoferi Conn
Prostanthera althoferi Conn subsp. *althoferi*
Prostanthera althoferi Conn subsp. *longifolia* Conn
Prostanthera ammophila Conn
Prostanthera aspalathoides Benth.
Prostanthera aspalathoides Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera atrovioleacea Bailey
Prostanthera baxteri Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera baxteri Cunn. ex Benth. var. *crassifolia* Benth.
Prostanthera baxteri Cunn. ex Benth. var. *sericea* J. Black
Prostanthera behriana Schldl.
Prostanthera caerulea R. Br.
Prostanthera calycina F. Muell. ex Benth.
Prostanthera campbellii F. Muell.
Prostanthera canaliculata F. Muell.
Prostanthera carrickiana Conn
Prostanthera centralis Conn
Prostanthera chlorantha (F. Muell.) F. Muell. ex Benth.
Prostanthera cineolifera R. Baker & Smith
Prostanthera collina Domin
Prostanthera cruciflora G. Althofer ex J.H. Willis
Prostanthera cryptandroides Benth.

Prostanthera cryptandroides Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera cryptandroides Cunn. ex Benth. subsp.
cryptandroides
Prostanthera cryptandroides Cunn. ex Benth. subsp.
euphrasioides (Benth.
in Mitch.) Conn
Prostanthera cuneata Benth.
Prostanthera decussata F. Muell.
Prostanthera densa A.A. Ham.
Prostanthera densa/marifolia complex
Prostanthera denticulata R. Br.
Prostanthera discolor R. Baker
Prostanthera eckersleyana F. Muell.
Prostanthera empetrifolia Sprengel
Prostanthera eurybioides F. Muell.
Prostanthera florifera Conn
Prostanthera granitica Maiden & E. Betche
Prostanthera grylloana F. Muell.
Prostanthera hirtula F. Muell. ex Benth.
Prostanthera howelliae Blakely
Prostanthera incana Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera incisa R. Br.
Prostanthera incurvata Conn
Prostanthera lanceolata Domin
Prostanthera laricoides Conn
Prostanthera lasianthos Labill.
Prostanthera lasianthos Labill. var. lasianthos
Prostanthera lasianthos Labill. var. subcoriacea Benth.
Prostanthera lasianthos Labill. var. subcoriacea F. Muell. ex
Benth.
Prostanthera linearis R. Br.
Prostanthera lithospermoides F. Muell.
Prostanthera magnifica C. Gardner
Prostanthera marifolia R. Br.
Prostanthera megacalyx C. White & Francis
Prostanthera melissifolia F. Muell.
Prostanthera monticola Conn
Prostanthera nanophylla Conn
Prostanthera nivea Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera nivea Cunn. ex Benth. var. nivea
Prostanthera nudula J. Black ex E. Robinson
Prostanthera odoratissima Benth.
Prostanthera ovalifolia s. lat R. Br. (white flowered race)
Prostanthera ovalifolia s. lat. R. Br.
Prostanthera ovalifolia R. Br.
Prostanthera ovalifolia R. Br. var. latifolia
Prostanthera palustris Conn
Prostanthera parvifolia Domin
Prostanthera patens Conn
Prostanthera pedicellata Conn
Prostanthera phyllicifolia F. Muell.
Prostanthera porcata Conn
Prostanthera porcata Conn.
Prostanthera prunelloides R. Br.
Prostanthera rhombea R. Br.
Prostanthera ringens Benth.

Prostanthera rotundifolia R. Br.
Prostanthera rugosa Cunn. ex Benth.
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br.
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *bracteolata* J.H. Willis
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *major*
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *major* Benth.
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *montana* A.A. Ham.
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *robusta* Benth.
Prostanthera saxicola R. Br. var. *saxicola*
Prostanthera scutata C. Gardner
Prostanthera scutellarioides (R. Br.) Briq.
Prostanthera semiteres Conn
Prostanthera semiteres Conn subsp. *intricata* Conn
Prostanthera semiteres Conn subsp. *semiteres*
Prostanthera sericea (J. Black) Conn
Prostanthera serpyllifolia (R. Br.) Brig. subsp. *microphylla*
(R. Br.) Conn
Prostanthera serpyllifolia (R. Br.) Briq subsp. *microphylla*
(R. Br.) Conn
Prostanthera serpyllifolia (R. Br.) Briq.
Prostanthera serpyllifolia (R. Br.) Briq. subsp. *microphylla*
(R. Br.) Conn
Prostanthera serpyllifolia (R. Br.) Briq. subsp. *serpyllifolia*
Prostanthera sieberi Benth.
Prostanthera sp. aff. *hirtula* F. Muell. ex Benth.
Prostanthera sp. aff. *linearis*
Prostanthera sp. aff. *ovalifolia*
Prostanthera sp. aff. *stricta* R. Baker
Prostanthera sp. nov. aff. *gilesii*
Prostanthera sp. nov. aff. *ovalifolia* R. Br.
Prostanthera sp. nov.
Prostanthera sp.
Prostanthera spinosa F. Muell.
Prostanthera splendens Conn
Prostanthera staurophylla F. Muell.
Prostanthera striatiflora F. Muell.
Prostanthera stricta R. Baker
Prostanthera suborbicularis C. White & Francis
Prostanthera teretifolia Maiden & E. Betche
Prostanthera verticillaris Conn
Prostanthera violacea R. Br.
Prostanthera walteri F. Muell.
Prostanthera wilkieana F. Muell.
Westringia
Westringia amabilis J. Boivin
Westringia angustifolia R. Br.
Westringia blakeana J. Boivin
Westringia brevifolia Benth.
Westringia brevifolia Benth. var. *raleighii* (J. Boivin) Curtis
Westringia cephalantha F. Muell.
Westringia cheelii Maiden & E. Betche
Westringia crassifolia Wakef.
Westringia cremnophila Wakef.
Westringia dampieri R. Br.
Westringia davidii Conn.
Westringia discipulorum S. Moore

Westringia eremicola Cunn. ex Benth.
Westringia fruticosa (Willd.) Druce
Westringia glabra R. Br.
Westringia glabra R. Br. var. bacchi (J. Boivin) J.H. Willis
Westringia glabra R. Br. var. glabra
Westringia glabra R. Br. var. williamsonii (J.H. Willis & J.
Boivin) J.H.
Willis
Westringia grandifolia Benth.
Westringia kydrensis Conn
Westringia longifolia R. Br.
Westringia longipedunculata J. Boivin
Westringia lucida J. Boivin
Westringia parvifolia C. White & Francis
Westringia rigida R. Br.
Westringia rubiaefolia R. Br.
Westringia rupicola S.T. Blake
Westringia saxatilis Conn
Westringia senifolia F. Muell.
Westringia sericea J. Boivin
Westringia sp. aff. amabilis
Westringia sp.
Westringia tenuicaulis C. White & Francis

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Institutions, Study Groups, active and passive members.**

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Bob Wilson
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Toronto 2283

DISTRIBUTION MAPS FOR PROSTANTHERA SPECIES A-C

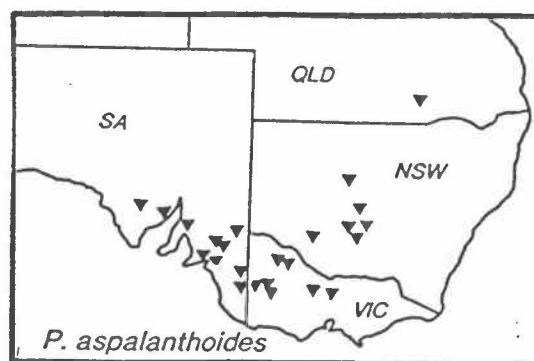
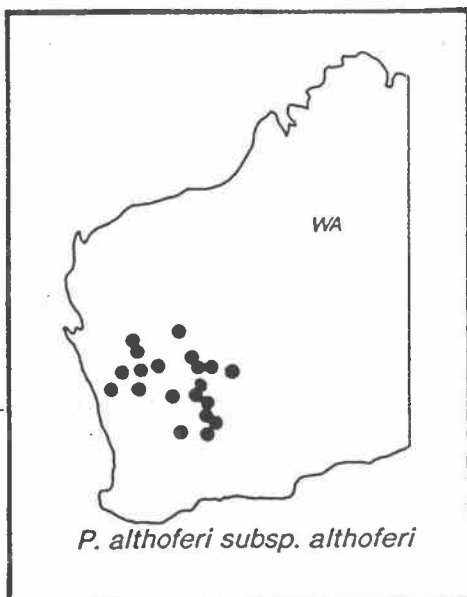
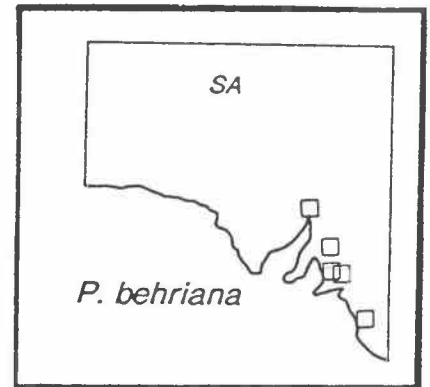
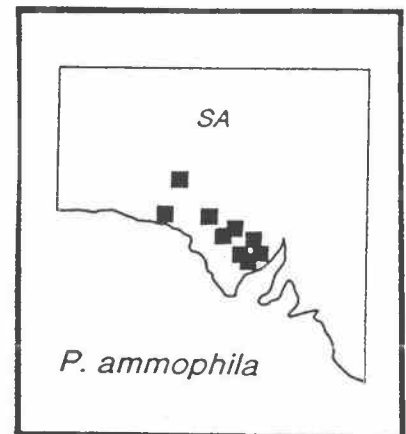
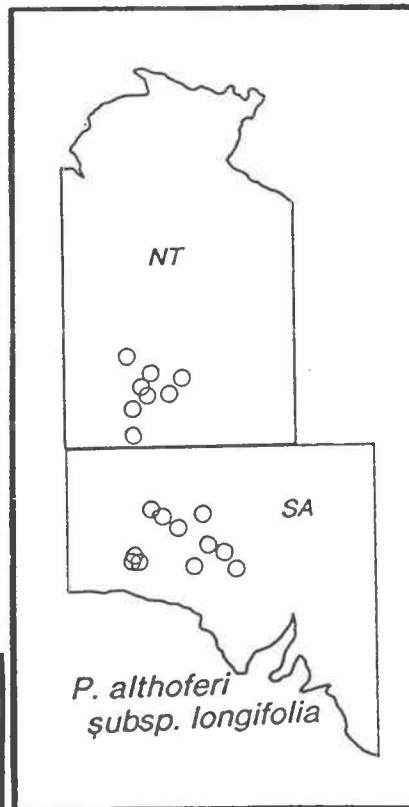
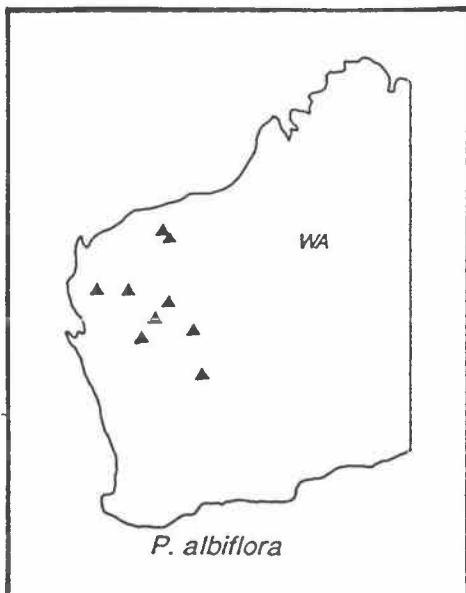
Merrin Tozer -
Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney

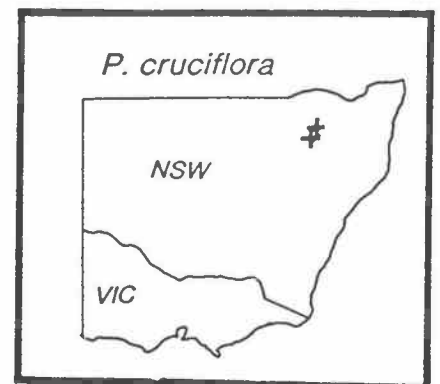
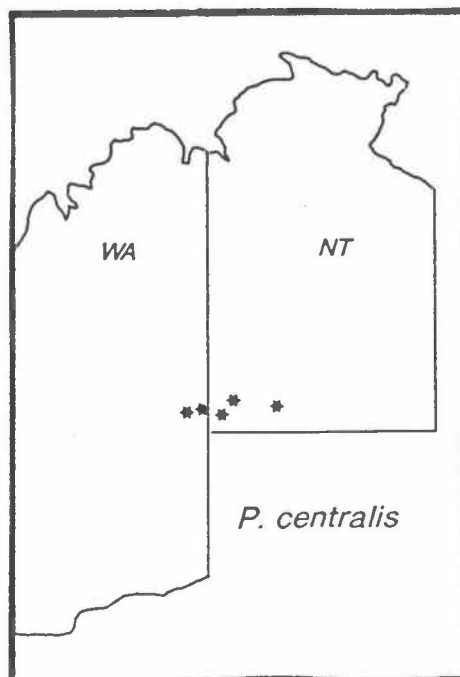
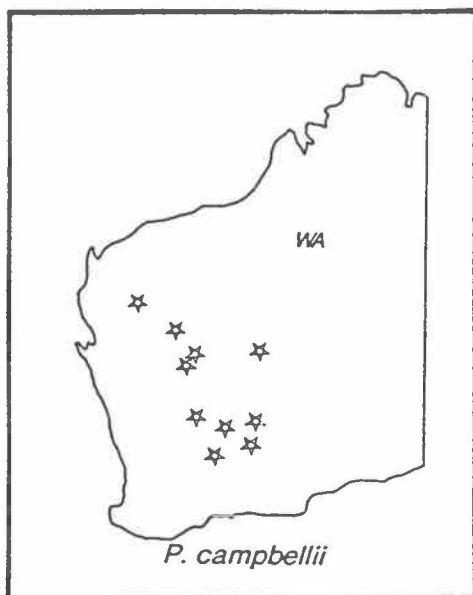
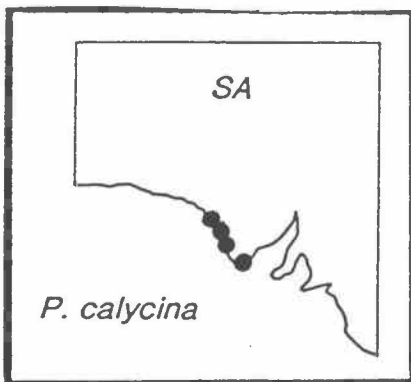
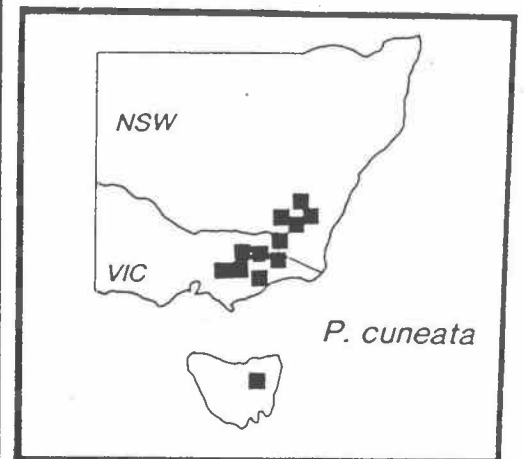
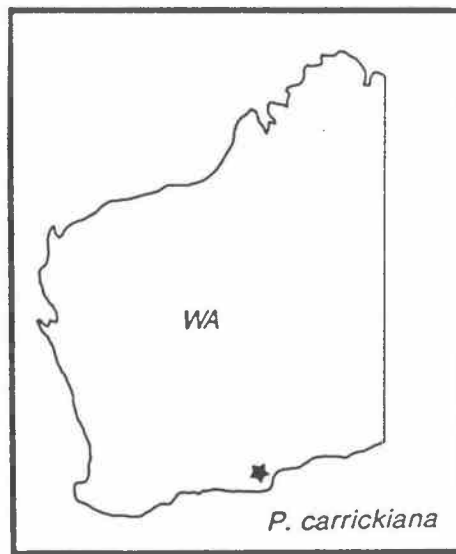
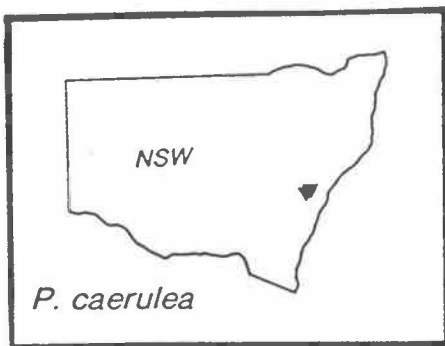
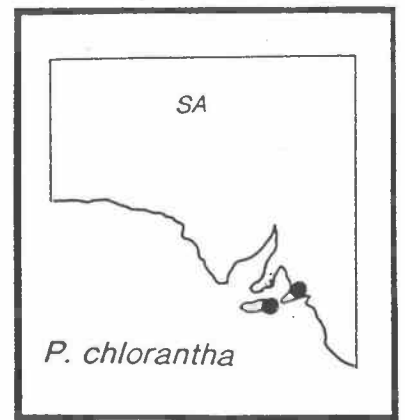
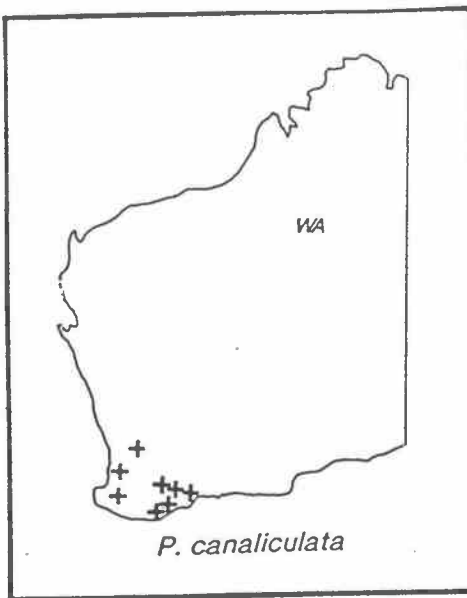
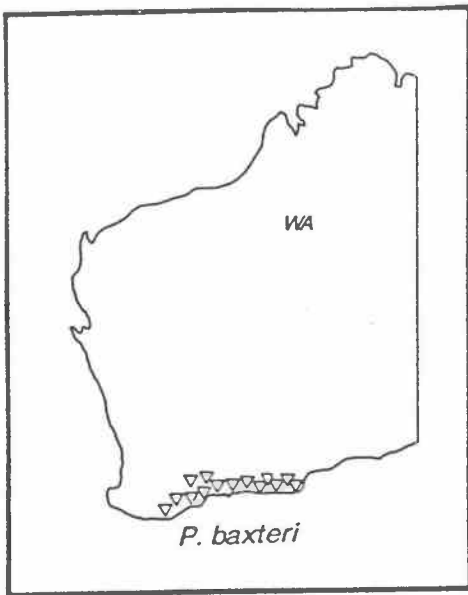
The following maps summarise the distributional information of the genus *Prostanthera*. This information has been extracted from:

i) Conn, B.J. (1984). A taxonomic revision of *Prostanthera* Labill. section *Klanderia* (F.v. Muell.) Benth. (Labiatae). *Journal of the Adelaide Botanic Gardens* 6:207-348

ii) Conn, B.J. (1988). A taxonomic revision of *Prostanthera* Labill. section *Prostanthera* (Labiatae). 1. The species of the Northern Territory, South Australia & Western Australia. *Nuytsia* 6:351-410

iii) The computer databases of the National Herbarium of New South Wales.





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CUTTING EXCHANGE

Members requiring cutting material and are able to obtain these from Robert as mentioned in previous Newsletters, please write to Robert for any material not to me, as my plants are still very limited at this stage.

Cost of packaging and postage (will be enclosed) must be sent by return mail to Robert on receipt of material.

Robert Miller
Wildflower Garden
7 Sylvan Grove
Picnic Point 2213

CORRESPONDENCE

"Currently, I have established at home the following plants:

P. Lasianthos. calycina. rhombea (pink and mauve forms)
rylestoni, densa. baxteri, melissifolia. saxicola var. montana.
Boonoo Boonoo (*lasianthos*) *discolor. linearis. incisa var pubescens. teretifolia. denticulata. cineolifera. incana. incisa. incana* (white flowers), *cuneata. phyllicifolia. scutellarioides. nivea var. induta. rotundifolia. ovalifolia.*

In addition, I have several unknown species - two from Burrendong Arboretum, one from Copeland near Gloucester and another from a nursery which may be a form of *aspalathoides*.

Of the named species above, *teretifolia* is from the Broken Back Range near Cessnock. *linearis* and *incisa* are from the Wattagans, *incisa var. pubescens* is from near Ourimbah and the *rotundifolia* is from Glen Davis. The rest are either nursery trade plants or from cuttings I have obtained over the years."

Bob Wilson
TORONTO

(I would be interested to see the *P.teretifolia* from Broken Back Range, it has not been previously recorded from this area) ED.

"In August of this year, the Blue Mountains Group of S.G.A.P., visited the Wildflower Garden at Picnic Point, where Robert Miller took us on a conducted tour of this lovely garden.

Whilst I was there, I took the opportunity of getting some cuttings from a very generous Robert. The cutting I put down were -

Prostanthera teretifolia - limited success
Prostanthera spinosa - very good
Prostanthera sieberi - from Macquarie Pass, excellent results.
Prostanthera dense - from Port Stephens, excellent
Prostanthera stricta - from Gundy Wallady Creek - rather reluctant success
Westringia blakeleyana - from Mignon Falls - very good.

My next worry is the potting mix for the next stage. I have had problems with commercial mixes - very reluctant growth. I have ordered some pulverised cow manure, and some coarse sand which I shall incorporate with this lot and hope for better results.

Ruth Overton
GLENBROOK

(I tried cuttings of *P. spinosa* (Robert collected this from the Grafton (NSW) area) but had no success at all. *P. densa* (Port Stephens) is a very worthwhile plant. I saw a couple of beautiful specimens growing in Kel Hardingham's garden when I recently visited Armidale. *P. stricta* - this is also a beautiful plant, when I saw this particular plant in the wild with Barry a few years ago, there were several color forms. I am not sure about the location you mention (spelling) but it is in the Widden Valley) ED.

"I am writing this note in the Brundah Hills. I am sitting on a rock waiting for the water from this plastic container to soak into the dry ground. I'd better start again.

Out here in the Central West of N.S.W. we are experiencing the driest 9 months for many years. As I look around here I see 20 metre Stringy Banks, Red Gums and Cypress pine which have died. Large numbers of small shrubs have perished including *Grevillea florabunda*, *Grevillea polybractea*, *Phebalium* and *Stypandra glauca*. Also I'm afraid to say the mint bushes (*Prostanthera ovalifolia*) have also been affected by the drought. I'd say about one quarter are dead, another quarter just hanging on and the rest not much better. Every two or three weeks I've been bringing water up to one of the mints. As a result there is one variegated Mint Bush looking spot on. One about the same size next to it has died. Gee, if someone came up here and saw me they would say I've gone round the bend.

I've just taken a walk over the hill to where the other colour forms are. Unless we get rain within a couple of weeks they'll be gone.

June 10 - We have had about three inches of rain, good soaking rain, I have been back out to Brundah and you wouldn't know the place, everything so green again.

So all should look good when Spring arrives.

See you then.

Noel Cartwright
GRENFELL

(Well, as you know, I never got to Brundah as I planned this October, there seemed to be a combination of obsticals like "overworked and underpaid" etc. etc.) ED.

