An online independent national project

CONSERVATION THROUGH CULTIVATION

Contact: E. saveourflora@gmail.com W. saveourflora.weebly.com

Project launched on 14th November 2013

Maria Hitchcock OAM
Founder, Bulletin Editor

Membership
Individuals: 240
Groups: 22
International 3

Membership is free.

Please encourage others to join.

eBulletins are sent by email only. Feel free to share them with friends and colleagues..

New members will receive the latest e-Bulletin. Earlier Bulletins can be accessed on our website. (See address above)

This is an informal interactive sharing group. We welcome your emails, articles and offers of seed and cuttings at any time.

Your privacy is respected and assured with this group. You may **unsubscribe** at any time.

Feathertail Glider and Bottlebrush
Image: madeit.com.au

In this issue:

Unsure if you have any rare or endangered plants?

Check them out on the EPBC list

http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicthreatenedlist.pl?wanted=flora

Maria writes:

As I start to put this newsletter together South Australia has gone into hard lockdown for 6 days. This is a reminder to all of us how quickly the virus can spread in the community. How fortunate we are that we have State Governments who really listen to their medical experts and follow advice. It seems obvious that in order to slow the spread of this insidious disease you have to stop it in its tracks and that means keeping people away from one another through one or more life cycles of the virus. We are a social species and it's very hard to keep a distance when socialising. Thankfully that lockdown only lasted a few days.

We are fortunate that we have a population that is relatively obedient and can see the gain after a bit of pain. We are also fortunate in living on an island (like NZ) with closely guarded international borders. It's a very tricky business because of the large number of people who have lost jobs and have had to close businesses. With news of a few promising vaccinations on the horizon there is hope for a return to some form of normal life in 2021. We are indeed the 'lucky country'.

Not so lucky are our threatened species which try to survive in a heating planet. My solution as you all know is to spread these species around as much as possible to ensure their survival. When I led the Correa Study Group, I was always coming across Correa varieties which we thought were lost to cultivation but appeared mysteriously in a garden somewhere or other. We have an amazing resource of well-informed experienced gardeners in Australia who would welcome an approach to include rare plants into their gardens. I think we need to have a paradigm shift in thinking in this country away from locking rare species away and towards wider promotion and co-operation with the community.

This is happening gradually but needs to be expanded. Recently a group of Australian Plants Society members together with botanists from the UNE Herbarium travelled to a property west of Armidale looking for the rare *Asterolasia rupestris ssp recurva* (see description on p. 5). The property had been burnt last summer but was recovering. The *Asterolasia* was also recovering with many small plants that appeared to be re-sprouting. Small amounts of cutting material were collected and documented for future cultivation both at UNE and in a couple of private gardens.

Let's Celebrate!

5th June
World Environment Day

2nd August
National Tree Day

1st September
National Wattle Day

7th September
Threatened Species Day

8-15th November
Pollinator Week

Save our Flora

PowerPoint Presentation

Ready to go!

30 slides approx 30 mins. talk

If you are interested in obtaining this presentation please email me

I can send it in an email (4.3MB)

I'd like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and as the Germans say - 'a good slide into the New Year'.

Let us hope that 2021 brings a secure and rapid economic recovery. Without a healthy treasury many grants will just not happen and our environment and all those wonderful environmental professionals are dependent mostly on public money and charitable donations.

Stay safe and I hope to hear about all your great work continuing in 2021.

New Book

40 pages, 20 species, 31 recipes
RRP $20.00 + $5.00 P&P

This booklet was written to complement a workshop I gave on bush foods held at Gawura Gallery in Glen Innes in November 2020. I have been very interested in bush foods since the movement started to take off in the 1980s. Supply of plants and produce has always been limited and the Australian market has been slow to take up the challenge. It has taken many years for the industry to grow to where it is today.

In recent years there has been a resurgence of interest in bush foods. Racks of bush food spices and products can be found across Australia in Visitor Information Centres, specialty shops and galleries. A few products have hit the supermarket shelves but there is much potential here particularly in products like jams, spices and biscuits. Many people are now aware of various bush food varieties like Lemon Myrtle, Wattle Seed and Mountain Pepper but they do not know how to incorporate these unfamiliar, tasty and nutritious items into their cooking.

This booklet is an attempt to assist readers in how to grow these plants in gardens or pots, how to harvest the leaves or fruits, how to process them and use them in a variety of dishes. Twenty plant species are covered. Thirty one classic but familiar recipes are given a special twist with the addition of bush food spices or fruits. All the recipes have been selected for their simplicity and tested by the author. The booklet is aimed at the home cook who wants to try something different.

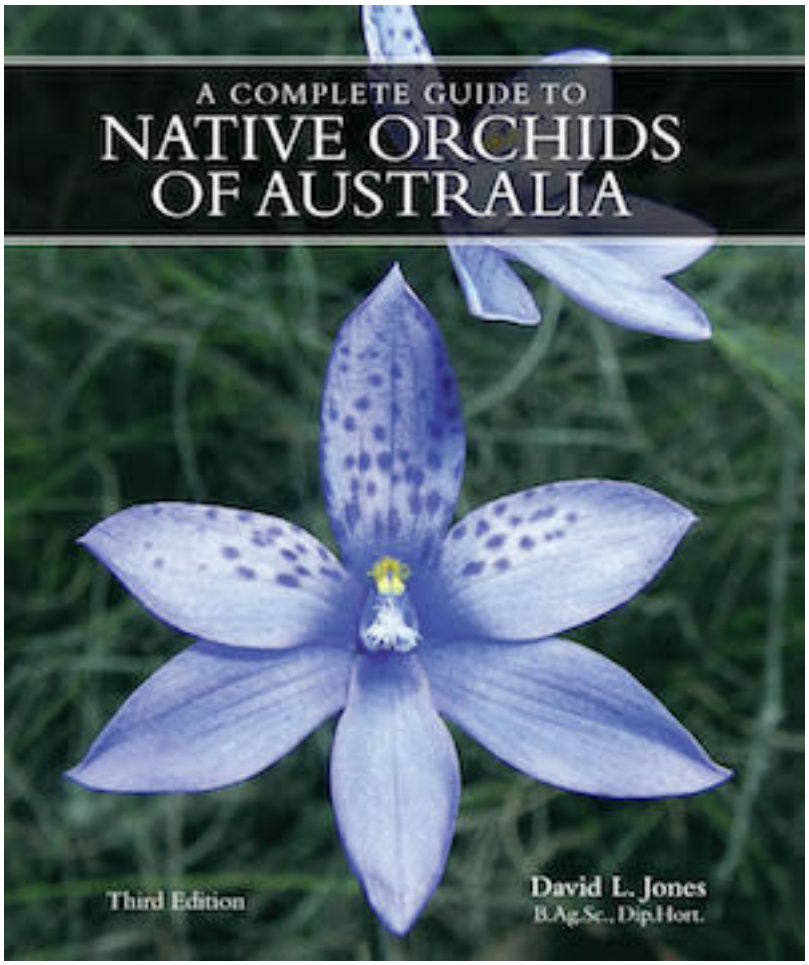
An index to the recipes is included as well as an extensive reference list of websites and suppliers.

Purchase from the website
http://coolnativesnursery.com

Is your garden a threatened species sanctuary?

All you have to do is grow one or more endangered species Many are already widespread in gardens around Australia Look for a nursery licensed to sell rare flora

New Book



ISBN: 9781921517709

Format: 295x230mm

Extent: 800 pages

Words: 450,000

Illustrations:
1,200 colour photographs,
100 line drawings

Binding: Hardback with jacket

Imprint: Reed New Holland

A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia

David L. Jones

$220.00 – including postage within Australia (save $20).
Delivery late January 2021.

LIMITED OFFER!

Pre-order today to secure your copy, receive free postage and be one of only 100 to have your copy personally signed by author, David L. Jones.
Be one of the first to own this much anticipated landmark edition.

The most comprehensive book ever published on the subject, this third edition of A Complete Guide to Native Orchids of Australia is a legacy resulting from a lifetime's work by David L. Jones and is an important contribution to Australia's recorded flora. The text provides details of when and where the taxa were named, etymology of the scientific names used, descriptions, distributions, habitats and notes for the 1,685 taxa of Australian native orchids, more than twice the number covered in the original edition of the book in 1988 and 379 more species than detailed in second edition published in 2006. Of these, about 1,448 taxa are terrestrials, 237 epiphytes or lithophytes and six or seven exotic taxa have become naturalised.

Asterolasia rupestris ssp recurva

B. J.Mole

This species grows in low open forest on skeletal gravelly soils, along gullies.

Subspecies *rupestris* grows on the higher parts of Mount Kaputar and there are old records from Mount Canobolas. Subspecies *recurva* is only known from Parlour Mountain, north west of Armidale in New South Wales. It differs from *ssp. rupestris* in having margins recurved.

Description: *Asterolasia rupestris* is a shrub that typically grows to a height of 1.5 m. The leaves are heart-shaped to triangular with the narrower end towards the base, 9–20 mm long and 6–15 mm wide on a short petiole. The leaves are densely covered with star-shaped hairs, the lower surface with cobwebby hairs. The flowers are arranged in umbels of three to six in leaf axils or on the ends of branchlets, the umbels on a peduncle 4–8 mm long, each flower on a pedicel 8–15 mm long. The sepals are 0.5–1 mm long and the petals are yellow, elliptical, 6–7 mm long, covered with rust-coloured, star-shaped hairs on the back. There are ten stamens. Flowering occurs in spring.

Ref: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asterolasia_rupestris

https://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=in&name=Asterolasia-rupestris+subsp.-recurva

Asterolasia rupestris

Image: savemtcanobolassca.com

Myrtle Rust Action Plan

This Plan was prepared by Bob Makinson (Australian Network for Plant Conservation), Geoff Pegg (Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries) and Angus Carnegie (NSW Department of Primary Industries), with input from staff at the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (PBCRC), the Australian Plant Biosecurity Science Foundation and the Australian Government through the Department of the Environment as well as contributions by Juanita Watters (PBCRC) and Anthea Bracknell (Department of the Environment).

The Plan proposes actions under two overarching recommendations and five themes as follows:

Overarching recommendation 1

Establish momentum, funding and leadership for a coordinated national environmental response to Myrtle Rust

- Theme 1: Enabling the response
- Theme 2: Awareness and engagement

Overarching recommendation 2

Adopt a coordinated and long-term national environmental response to Myrtle Rust

- Theme 3: Impact assessment
- Theme 4: Towards recovery
- Theme 5: Biosecurity

The Myrtle Rust National Action Plan needs to be implemented urgently to minimise loss of Australian native species and the consequent, social, environmental, and economic impact. It is imperative that the implementation is the responsibility of Australian governments, engaging environmental and primary industry/ Natural Resource Management (NRM) agencies in all jurisdictions, and in conjunction with key community, environmental, Indigenous and industry stakeholders.

You can download the plan here

https://www.anpc.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Myrtle-Rust-National-Action-Plan-2020.pdf

Correa calycina var halmaturorum
Wilson De Mole River Correa
Vulnerable

The name: *halmaturorum* means kangaroo – it occurs in a restricted area on the De Mole River on Kangaroo Island.

The type specimen was collected by G. Jackson in 1985. It was classified as *C. calycina* until Paul Wilson split it from the Hindmarsh Correa in his revision published in *Nuytsia* 12:92 (1998). Finding it is not easy. It is endemic to the banks of the De Mole River near the river mouth and was collected 1 km inland along the bank on the eastern boundary of Cape Torrens Conservation Park, where two populations extending to 400 metres in length occur. There is another population of 6 plants 500 m inland from the beach. It is listed as vulnerable under the EPBC Act.

This rare and interesting variety grows along the river bank in deep damp soil overlying shale in *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* forest or in basalt-schist-sand-stone rock crevices. The river is fresh water at this point. The location is difficult to get to without an all terrain vehicle and is quite isolated, requiring permission from an adjoining property holder and a long difficult and dangerous walk to get to the site.

It is a spreading open shrub growing to 1.2 m x 2.5 m with strongly woolly branchlets covered in rust-coloured hairs. Leaves are oblong to elliptic, slightly recurved at the margins, 45 mm x 12 mm in size, rough to the touch above, with a definite indentation for veins. The leaves are densely hairy below with rust coloured hairs concentrated on the mid vein and margins. The green tubular flowers are 27 mm x 7mm in size and are almost sessile on the branchlets. Petal tips are barely recurved and there is a light scattering of tan hairs on the tips. The square calyx is quite large, up to 11mm high with 4 pointed lobes which protrude in a fold on the edges. Anthers are strongly exserted. It flowers in winter providing copious amounts of nectar for honeyeaters.

Correa calycina var halmaturorum Wilson
Image: Bruce McGinness

The species is frost hardy and very drought hardy. Although its habitat is near streams, it prefers well-drained soils with a minimum of watering. It does not respond well to pruning and is not well known in cultivation. The species grows easily from cuttings although the hairy branches may retain too much water under a misting system and rot. Cuttings may need to be sprayed against damping off. Plants in pots should be kept in a low humid environment.

Celebrate
Threatened Species Day
7th September 2021

Note it on your calendar now and start planning an event for 2021.

Milton farmers help conserve rare subtropical rainforest on New South Wales south coast

Ainslie Drewitt Smith ABC Illawarra 20 Nov 2020

Thousands of trees are being planted at Milton on the New South Wales south coast in a bid to expand and conserve a rare patch of subtropical rainforest. The rainforest is unique to the area because it occurs in the region's volcanic soils.

David Bain, a threatened species officer with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, said it was home to many flora species not found elsewhere in the south-east of Australia.

"It's a very different style of rainforest to those found in the tropical parts of Queensland," he said. "A lot of it is what we call a dry rainforest because the rainfall isn't as high here as it is further north. "We have large lianas here — big vines — that are half-a-metre round and hundreds of years old and they dominate lots of the parts of the community. "It has a really important place in the rainforest communities of Australia because it's this outpost of the last of the subtropical rainforest here on eastern Australia."

Painstaking work

The project to protect the area began in 2018 after the prolonged drought caused many of the plants to defoliate. Over the past three years, local Landcare volunteers have been collecting seeds from the rainforest and have painstakingly propagated more than 10,000 trees to be replanted across the region.

"We get the seed, we put it in the seed trays on the heated benches over winter and then it is misted and irrigated," said Milton Rural Landcare volunteer Sybille Davidson. "The plants do take a while to kick on from the very early stage — it's a slow process. "We've learnt a lot on the job, and it's been quite an interesting experience for us."

Ravaged by fire

Much of the work was thwarted when bushfire tore through the region almost 12 months ago. "In fact, one farm has completely lost everything that we planted including all of the tree guards that just melted, literally, into the ground," said Milton Rural Landcare president Suellen Harris. "It's a bit heartbreaking because you're looking at a lot of man hours — not just for the propagation of the plants but also the planting."

David Bain said it was a devastating blow for the rainforest that had also been subjected to land clearing in previous decades. "It burnt about 60 per cent of the distribution of this rainforest and we've already lost about 90 per cent of this rainforest over historic land clearing," he said. "So it's a group effort to look at how we can manage the current threats to the rainforest and try to increase the extent and resilience of the patches of this forest that are still remaining."

Future preservation

Much of the forest lies on the property of Milton dairy farmer Robert Miller who has been working alongside volunteers to protect the forest, which is also home to threatened species of native fauna, including the powerful owl and the grey-headed flying fox. "I made the mistake early on, all I planted was eucalyptus on the farm, now we're planting a great mix of trees and it brings the wildlife and the birdlife back," Mr Miller said. "We've had a great recovery, a lot of trees that we thought we may have lost have come back after the fire. "If you want to bring nature back you've got to have the environment to bring nature and by planting the trees and creating these rainforest areas that's exactly what it's doing."

The project is one of many being funded by the New South Wales Government's five-year, $100 million Saving Our Species program that commenced in 2016.

Australian Network for Plant Conservation (ANPC) News

November 2020

Val Williams scholarship – Australian Plants Society NSW (closes 5 March 2021)

The North Shore Group of the Australian Plants Society NSW is offering the 13th Annual Val Williams Scholarship in Botany. The scholarship provides $3000 to a student studying an Honours, Masters or PhD degree. The project must contribute to the knowledge of the ecology, conservation, or propagation of native plants in the Sydney and surrounding region; must be carried out within this region; and the applicant must be attached to an Australian research institute. Closing date for applications is Friday 5 March 2021. For more information please email scholarship@blandfordia.org.au

Managing weeds after fire – SWIFFT webinar series
Wednesdays until 16 Dec

Every Wednesday for the next 4 weeks a free webinar will be held on managing weeds after fire. To register or find links for recordings head to the SWIFFT (State Wide Integrated Flora and Fauna Teams) website.

Available Propagators

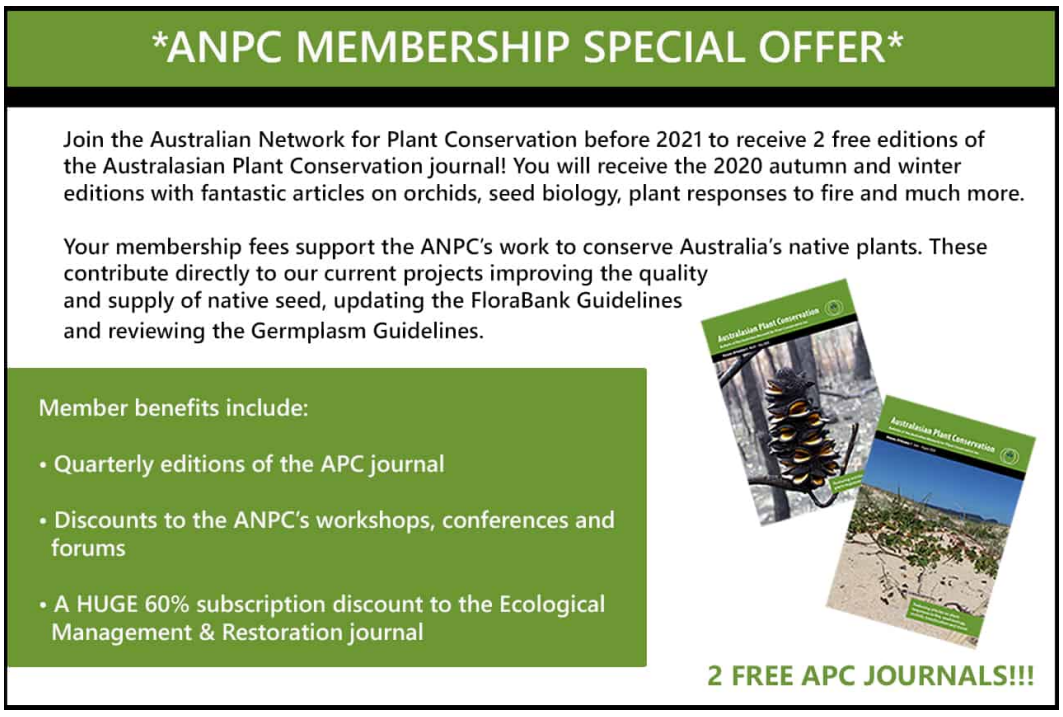
The following people have indicated a willingness to work with projects that require good propagation skills. If you would like to be added to this list please let Maria know.

Maria Hitchcock Armidale NSW
Life member NSW - APS
Over 40 years propagating experience.
Cool Natives Online Nursery
https://coolnativesnursery.com

Col Jackson
Over 20 years propagating experience
Member of the Latrobe Valley APS Victoria
coljackson57@hotmail.com

Spencer Shaw
We operate two nurseries,
Brush Turkey Enterprises Wholesale
www.brushturkey.com.au and
Forest Heart Eco-Nursery
www.forestheart.com.au
and specialise in SE QLD native plants, particularly rainforest.
spencer.shaw@brushturkey.com.au
0428 130 769

Helen Howard
grevillea.hh@gmail.com
I have grafted Eucalypts, Grevilleas, Eremophilas and Brachychitons. My teacher was Merv Hodge. If any BG has a project I could help out with let me know.



Seed and Cuttings Exchange

Please send all requests directly to the person making the offer or the group email saveourflora@gmail.com
Please follow the correct protocols for requests of seed or cuttings. These are detailed on the next page. Please note that some species are in very short supply and cutting material may be limited.

Maria Hitchcock saveourflora@gmail.com
Acacia pycnostachya, Boronia clavata, Boronia keysii, Correa eburnea, Correa calycina, Correa baeuerlenii, Callistemon pungens, Callitris oblonga Grevillea iaspicula, Grevillea juniperina Melaleuca irbyana, Phebalium daviesii Phebalium speciosum, Prostanthera askania Prostanthera cryptandroides, Prostanthera staurophylla, Zieria adenodonta, Zieria prostrata, Zieria floydii,
I am also licensed to sell some endangered species through my online nursery. All are grown from seed and cuttings taken from established garden plants.
https://coolnativesnursery.com

Arthur Baker
55 Moran ST Gatton Qld 4343
Gardenia psidiodes
Grevillea quadricauda
Phaius tancarvilleae
Phaius australis
Kunzea flavescens
Kunzea graniticola
Lilaeopsis brisbanica
Choricarpia subargentea
Spathoglottis pauliniae
Spath plicata
Murdannia graminea
Thysanthus tuberosus

Charles Farrugia (saveourflora@gmail.com)
Eremophila denticulata ssp trisulcata
Eremophila denticulata ssp denticulata
Eremophila nivea (blue form)
Eremophila nivea (white form) - limited.
Eremophila vernicosa – extremely limited

Russell (saveourflora@gmail.com)
Boronia clavata

Denise & Graeme Krake (seed only)
752 Warrigal Range Rd. Brogo NSW 2550
Hakea dohertyi, Hakea ochroptera
Hakea longiflora, Grevillea maccutcheonii

Geoff & Gwynne Clarke
Grevillea humifusa - cuttings
Angophora robur - seed
Dodonaea crucifolia - cuttings or seed
This was named a couple of years ago by Ian Telford Many people were calling it *Dodonaea hirsuta*, but it is not very hairy and has no hairs at all on the fruits. It also grows in a nearby flora reserve. I have grown it successfully from cuttings, but it does not live long after planting out. It also produces seed and I can collect that after the next flowering (spring fruits). It grows happily around the block, popping up from seed here and there, produces plenty of seed, but it is not long lived even when self sown. Fruits are showy reds.

Paul Kennedy (Leader ANPSA Hakea SG) (saveourflora@gmail.com)
Hakea dohertyi, Hakea ochroptera, Callistemon megalongensis. The seed originally came from the Melaleuca Study Group seed bank many years ago.

Verna Aslin
20-22 Bega St Cobargo NSW 2550
Asterolasia beckersii
Grevillea iaspicula

Will Chance
Senna acclinis

Do you have any EPBC plants growing in your garden with sufficient foliage to share cuttings with our members? Let me know and I'll print it here. It would be easier if we can add your address so that members can contact you directly. Please make sure you follow the protocols on the back page. (Ed)

Requesting and sending seed by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

1. Send your request by email first. It will be forwarded to the grower so you can request seed and ask for the address.
2. Send your request enclosing a self-addressed envelope with two 60c stamps attached. Post the envelope.

Send seed

1. When you receive an envelope with a seed request, package up the required seed which includes the name, provenance (if known) and date of collection. Add any tips on germinating the seed and post.

Receiving seed

1. Seed should be stored in paper (small manilla seed packets are best but any cheap envelopes will do) and kept in a cool dark place. Some people use those small paper lolly bags and staple them at the top. Add mothballs if you like. This will prevent insect attack. I save moisture absorbers from medicine bottles and add them to my seed drawer to ensure the seeds do not rot.

Seed life varies according to species. Acacias will last for many years while Flannel Flower needs to be really fresh. Old seed may not germinate and needs to be thrown out. Test some of your seed periodically. It's worth asking seed suppliers for the age of certain species of seed before purchasing.

Requesting and sending cuttings by post

Please follow these simple steps.

Make a request

1. Send your request by email first. It will be forwarded to the grower so you can request cuttings and ask for the address.
2. Purchase an Express Post small satchel for $10.55. it will hold up to 500 gms.
3. Self address your satchel and place it in an envelope with your cuttings request. Add a label/s with the name of the species and sender. Pencil is best for writing on labels.
4. Post the envelope.

Send cuttings

1. When you receive an envelope with a satchel inside, cut about 6 stems of the requested species. The best time to do this is early morning. Store cuttings in the crisper part of the fridge until they are ready to be posted.
2. Wrap the cuttings in damp newspaper and place them in a cliplok plastic bag. Make sure you label each parcel with the names of the species and sender. Squeeze air out of the bag and fasten top.
3. Put the bag in the satchel and post.

Receiving cuttings

1. As soon as you receive your cuttings put the unopened plastic bag in the crisper part of the fridge until you are ready to prepare them.

Group Members

ANPSA Groups
APS Echuca Moama Vic
APS Melton Bacchus Marsh Vic
APS Sutherland NSW
NPQ Ipswich Qld
NPQ Sunshine Coast and Hinterland Qld

Botanic Gardens and Reserves
Burrendong Arboretum Wellington
Crommelin Native Arboretum NSW
Hunter Regional BG NSW
Lindum Park Flora and Fauna Res Tamworth Regional BG NSW
Swan Reserve Garden Vic

Nurseries
Bilby Blooms Binnaway NSW
Cool Natives Armidale NSW
Mole Station Tenterfield NSW
Forest Heart Eco-Nursery SEQld

Seed Suppliers
Victorian Native Seeds

Study Groups
Acacia SG
Correa SG
Epacris SG
Garden Design SG
Grevillea SG
Hakea SG

Landscapers
Brush & Bush Tamworth NSW