

AN ONLINE INDEPENDENT NATIONAL PROJECT  
**CONSERVATION THROUGH CULTIVATION**

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**Project launched on  
 14th November 2013**

**Maria Hitchcock OAM**

Founder, Bulletin Editor  
 Armidale NSW 2350

**Membership**

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.

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*Callitris baileyi*  
[toowoombaplants2008.blogspot.com](http://toowoombaplants2008.blogspot.com)

**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:*

I have a very large bush garden full of interesting plants which have been collected over many years. I tell people it's a living collection of my travels around Australia. When visiting the gardens of native plant enthusiasts I'll often come away with a few seeds of mystery plants just to see if they will grow in our difficult very frosty Armidale climate.

The other day I came across a *Callitris* which I'd collected in someone's garden, propagated and planted in my extensive bush garden. It was a long time ago and I didn't keep a record. I've been waiting for seed to develop as it's a very hardy small tree with garden potential. Looking up into the branches on this occasion, I saw some small seed cones. Unfortunately all the cones had opened and shed their seed but it was enough to do an ID. What a surprise! it turned out to be the rare and endangered *Callitris baileyi* from the far north coast of NSW. It is listed as Endangered in NSW and Qld but not listed by EPBC. In NSW it is being managed on two priority management sites at Kyogle and Tenterfield. I'm hoping now to propagate it from my tree and spread it around.

As we are just about to enter a new phase of the pandemic where we can all travel again I'm looking forward to visiting lots of National Parks. This is the best spring that I can ever remember and I think the flower displays will be spectacular. This can only be good for our pollinators which have had a rough time with the drought and fires. It should help build their numbers. The second week in November is Pollinator Week. No doubt there will be lots of articles coming out about different pollinators. If you are the editor of a newsletter or journal why not include an article about a specific pollinator and the plants it visits.

The news is all about the Climate Change Summit in Glasgow and how nations are signing up to new targets in the challenge of keeping global warming to 1.5C. Here in Australia we are noticing the severe effects of climate change on our flora. Intense and more frequent fires are wiping out whole eco-systems and Greg Mullins believes that future fires may be too difficult to fight with the resources we currently have. Drier conditions and more frequent droughts are causing a decline in certain species which may not be able to be re-introduced to particular eco-systems. I know myself that Eremophilas now thrive in my New

Let's Celebrate!

27th March  
Earth Hour

22nd April  
Earth Day

5th June  
World Environment Day

8th June  
World Oceans Day

1st August  
National Tree Day

1st September  
National Wattle Day

7th September  
Threatened Species Day

8-15th November  
Pollinator Week

England garden where I had difficulty growing them in the past. Botanic Gardens and researchers are busy documenting changes to the environment. It is possible that those magnificent Ash Forests in Victoria may be reduced to remnants due to devastating fires which knock out the adult trees. Seedlings take up to 15 years to produce new seed - they may not have a chance. We all need to do our bit and be recognised for it. What a shame that thousands of eco-warriors all over Australia never get acknowledged for the work they do in conservation. It's a sad world.

## Australian Network for Plant Conservation News - Sept 21

### Fire and Rust reports released

Extensive surveys assessing the impact of Myrtle rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) were conducted following the 2019/20 wildfires. The [two reports are now available for download from our website](#) and make for sobering reading. Myrtle rust symptoms and damage were found in all survey sites in fire-affected areas of south-east Queensland and NSW south to the Central coast region. New host species have been identified including *Leptospermum speciosum* (Showy tea tree), *Eucalyptus pyrocarpa* (Large-fruited blackbutt) and *Eucalyptus amplifolia* subsp. *amplifolia* (Cabbage gum).

### Native Seed industry Working Group

In exciting news, the Australian Seed Federation Board is establishing a new working group for the native seed industry sector. This is something for which the ANPC has advocated for a long time. The new group, to be called the 'Native Seed Industry Working Group' will provide a representative group for seed companies involved in the native seed industry sector. To be involved in this group, native seed companies must be members of the Australian Seed Federation. To become a member of the ASF Native Seed Industry Working Group please [email Osman Mewett](#) by COB Friday 1 October 2021. The ASF Secretariat will look to hold the first meeting of the Group the week beginning Monday 4 October, where the first orders of business will be to elect the Group's Executive and determine the key objectives of the Group.

### Plan to plant a billion trees yet to take root three years after target set

ABC Rural, 31/08/21

In September 2018, the federal government unveiled a plan to radically expand Australia's timber plantations by one billion trees over a decade. Today, less than 1 per cent of that goal has been planted. [Read more.](#)

When asked about the plan's progress in parliament, Agriculture Minister David Littleproud said "the reality was that that whole program was displaced because of the Black Summer events. "It's as simple as that."



However, the stagnation in new plantation land came well before the 2019-20 bushfires destroyed 130,000 hectares of commercial plantations.

### Climate change is testing the resilience of native plants to fire, from ash forests to gymea lilies

The Conversation, 21/09/21

In recent years, the length, frequency and intensity of Australian bushfire seasons have increased, and will worsen further under climate change. Droughts and heatwaves are also projected to increase, and climate change may also affect the incidence of pest insect outbreaks. [Read more.](#)

Ash forests are one of the most iconic in Australia, home to some of the tallest flowering plants on Earth. When severe fire occurs in these forests, the mature trees are killed and the forest regenerates entirely from the seed that falls from the dead canopy. These regrowing trees, however, do not produce seed reliably until they're 15 years old. This means if fire occurs again during this period, the trees will not regenerate, and the ash forest will collapse. This would have serious consequences for the carbon stored in these trees, and the habitat these forests provide for animals.

## A big Shout Out to...

Friends of the Swan Reserve which is an Annex of the Warrnambool Botanic Gardens who hold regular working bees. This is from their most recent newsletter (No 68, Sept 2021).

*The Covid lockdown has played havoc with our ability to hold a Working Bee at Swan Reserve over the last 18 months. In the mean-time, weeds and plants continue to grow so hopefully, fingers crossed, now is a good time to try and do something about them. Lots of pruning to do, weeds to be pulled, garden beds to be mulched. John Sheely will be getting us a couple of loads of mulch delivered on site which will need to be manually shifted to each bed. Bring along wheel barrows, large buckets, pruners, loppers, saws etc.*

## Another Big Shout Out to

A small group of dedicated members of the Armidale and Region Australian Plants Society who for years have maintained the Native Plants Section of the Bicentennial Arboretum (originally designed by Maria Hitchcock) in a monthly working bee organised by Patrick Laher. Plants are donated by the Society. Here is Pat's report from May 2020.

*Members planted out 20 assorted plants, cut out some dead Banksia and generally cleaned up the site. Quite a few members now believe that autumn and early winter are the best times to plant out due to the unpredictability of the climate. We haven't had good spring rains for years and September now comes with heatwaves. We are hoping to get plantings established before the heat arrives. Level 5 water restrictions are preventing us from adding or replacing more plants at the Arboretum and we are fortunate to have Colin Wilson cart water for us from his bore at Rocky River. It seems that Banksia marginata and some forms of B.integrifolia could be lost from our landscape as they don't appear to be able to adapt to the dryer and hotter climate. I lost all five of my B. marginata plants, the exception being a coastal form from Tasmania, and other members have had similar experiences. Thanks to the following for their help: Eric & Penelope Sinclair, John Nevin, Phil Rose, Colin Wilson.*

## 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)**

## 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](mailto:coljackson57@hotmail.com)

### **Spencer Shaw**

We operate two nurseries,  
Brush Turkey Enterprises Wholesale

[www.brushturkey.com.au](http://www.brushturkey.com.au) and

Forest Heart Eco-Nursery

[www.forestheart.com.au](http://www.forestheart.com.au)

and specialise in SE QLD native plants,  
particularly rainforest.

[spencer.shaw@brushturkey.com.au](mailto:spencer.shaw@brushturkey.com.au)

0428 130 769

### **Helen Howard**

[grevillea.hh@gmail.com](mailto: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.

***Acacia equisetifolia***  
**Graveside Gorge Wattle**

Critically endangered

*Acacia Study Group* Newsletter 150 Aug. 2021

Kakadu National Park Staff and traditional custodians are working to safeguard *Acacia equisetifolia* (the Graveside Gorge Wattle). The Parks Australia website notes the following:

“Only named in 2014, the Graveside Gorge wattle (*Acacia equisetifolia*) is listed in the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 as critically endangered, and exclusively grows in Kakadu National Park.

It is a member of the legume family and is a shrub that grows up to 1 metre tall. The yellow flowers are clustered in round flower heads and the leaves are arranged in regular crowded whorls. It is known from two small populations located on separate bluffs above Graveside Gorge in a remote area of the park, about 1 kilometre apart. The populations are under threat from changed fire regimes.

Kakadu National Park staff and traditional custodians monitor the populations regularly and, as part of the monitoring, have collected a full genetic representation of the species. Fire management in Kakadu National Park, which includes fuel reduction burns in a mosaic pattern, aims to reduce the likelihood of large-scale fires and provide longer intervals between fires.

As a safeguard against extinction, seed of Graveside Gorge wattle is stored at the National Seed Bank at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Future plant conservation recovery projects include propagation and translocation of plants.”

Reference:

<https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/nuytsia/article/685>

Botanical description by Maslin and Cowie 2014 available for download



C – branchlet close-up showing characteristic densely white-villous indumentum and slender phyllodes with a very short apical point.

Photograph by Kym Brennan in Maslin, Cowie *Acacia equisetifolia*, a rare, new species of acacia sect. *Lycopodiifoliae* (Fabaceae: Mimosoideae) from the top end of the Northern territory

## Coalition proposes to scrap recovery plans for 200 endangered species and habitats

**Lisa Cox**

*Guardian* Sat 18 Sep 2021 10.30

*Environment groups decry protection 'downgrade' that would affect Tasmanian devil, whale shark and Kangaroo Island glossy-black cockatoo*

The Morrison government has proposed scrapping recovery plans for almost 200 endangered species and habitats including the Tasmanian devil, the whale shark and the endangered glossy-black cockatoo populations on Kangaroo Island, one of the worst-affected areas in the 2019-20 bushfires.

Environment groups have decried the move as a backward step less than 12 months after a statutory review of Australia's national environmental laws found successive governments **had failed** to protect the country's unique wildlife.

Recovery plans are documents that set out actions needed to stop the extinction of species. Ministers are legally bound not to make decisions that are inconsistent with them. Since changes were made to legislation in 2007 they have been increasingly replaced with what's known as a conservation advice, a similar document but which does not have the same legal force under national law.

Guardian Australia has **previously reported** that fewer than 40% of listed threatened species have a recovery plan. A further 10% of all those listed have been identified as requiring a recovery plan but those plans haven't been developed or are unfinished. Even more plans are out of date.

The federal environment department revealed **last year** it had not finalised a single recovery plan for threatened species

Now more than ever do we need the public to join together and help preserve our endangered species in the light of the Commonwealth Government's failure to develop and put in place recovery plans

in nearly 18 months and more than 170 were overdue. All listed species, including those requiring a recovery plan, have a conservation advice.

This year, the government asked the independent threatened species scientific committee (TSSC), which advises it on endangered wildlife, to review recovery plans for 914 threatened species and habitats to determine which should continue to have a recovery plan and which could just have a conservation advice.

The committee provided advice that 676 no longer required a recovery plan. The government is responding to the committee's recommendations in stages and on Friday published for public consultation the first tranche of 157 animals and plants and 28 ecological communities for which it proposes scrapping recovery plans.

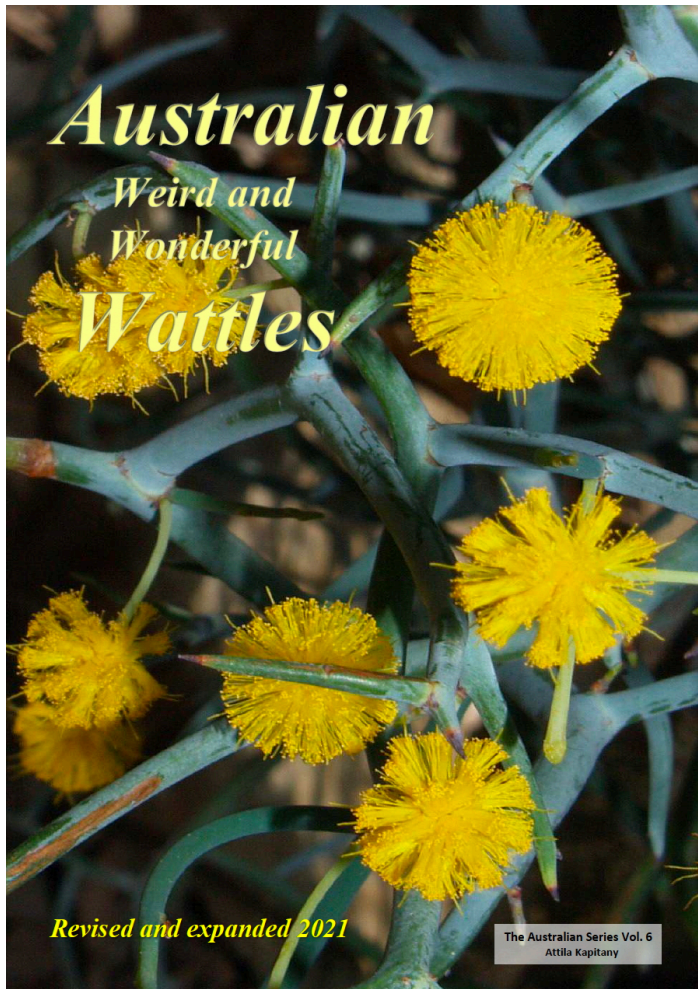
[Read more](#)

## *Australian Weird and Wonderful Wattles*

Revised and expanded 2021

Attila Kapitany

28 page - soft cover - full colour \$22.00



Approximately 1000 endemic species of *Acacia* can be found across the continent, with the greatest diversity of species in drier to arid regions. Here they are generally shorter, more shrub-like and often spiny. Australian wattles include some species that grow into large trees (one exception being a tropical vine). Some smaller, fast growing species live only a few years while larger tree species can live for hundreds of years. Most species only stand out, and strikingly so, when in flower. A few are attractive for a range of other reasons throughout their growing season e.g. new growth, bark colour, seed pods.

This publication looks at various interesting and unusual aspects of common wattles and then takes a closer look at seven wattles that are

among the weirdest, and why they are worth growing in gardens.

The species described and photographed in detail in this publication include:

*Acacia alata* var. *biglandulosa*  
Winged Wattle

*Acacia aphylla*  
Leafless Rock Wattle, Twisted Desert Wattle, Live Wire

*Acacia baileyana* 'Purpurea'  
Cootamundra Wattle, Purple-leaved Cootamundra Wattle, Bailey's Wattle, Golden Mimosa

*Acacia denticulosa*  
Sandpaper Wattle

*Acacia glaucoptera*  
Flat wattle, Clay Wattle

*Acacia leprosa* 'Scarlet Blaze'  
Cinnamon Wattle

*Acacia peuce*  
Waddy, Waddi, Waddy-wood, Birdsville Wattle

For more about this publication and to order, visit:

[www.australiansucculents.com](http://www.australiansucculents.com)

Attila is an international succulents expert. Make sure you check out his vast range of interesting publications on his website.

**Australian Succulents on postage stamps**  
20 June 2017



Australian Succulents on Postage Stamps- June 20 2017.

'Wattle Wonders' - 3 stamp set released 14/9/21  
Stamp Bulletin 373 can be downloaded.

## ***Prostanthera lasianthos*** **revised**

John Nevin

*APS Armidale Newsletter* Winter 2021

A recent paper in Australian Systematic Botany by B. J. Conn *et al.* has discussed these and provided a name for some of them at last. This is a step towards sorting out the mint bushes, the taxonomy of which has been a real mess and badly in need of a lot of work to sort them out. I am sure that we will see a lot of papers from the taxonomists in the coming years as they apply themselves to this job. The paper is quite lengthy and involved, so I will give a summary of those that now are named.

### **1. *Prostanthera largiflorens***

This plant has been known for some years as *Prostanthera lasianthos* 'New England smooth-leaved' variant. It grows at Banksia Point in the New England National Park and is a small tree up to seven metres high. The flowers are some of the largest in the *Prostanthera* group and are white in colour. It flowers around about early summer and is hardy to drought and frost. Like most of the mint bushes, it propagates readily from cuttings.

### **2. *Prostanthera williamsii***

This plant has been known for years as *Prostanthera lasianthos* 'Wollomombi Gorge'. It grows on rocky cliff tops and sides of river gorges and has been known from Edgar's Lookout at Wollomombi and at Apsley Falls. It grows as a shrub from one to two metres high. Flowers are white and appear in early summer. The plant is hardy to both frost and drought and propagates readily from cuttings. Many of us have been growing it for years and it has been available through the Tree Group. It has been named after one of our former APS members, the late John Williams, who had recognised this plant as a possible new species distinct from *Prostanthera lasianthos*.

### **3. *Prostanthera rupicola***

This plant has also been known to us for some time. It has been known as *Prostanthera lasianthos* 'Donnybrook' or 'Giraween/Polblue

variant'. We have known it from the Roberts Range and the Donnybrook State Forest as well as the Girraween area in the border granites. It is an upright shrub two to three metres in height with white flowers that may be pale mauve. It flowers in early summer and is hardy to drought and frost. It propagates easily from cuttings. Many of us have this plant in cultivation and I have seen it available from the tree group and in Richardson's Hardware nursery. The name *rupicola* indicates its propensity to grow in rocky locations.

### **4. *Prostanthera subalpina***

This one grows in the Snowy Mountains in protected gullies and along watercourses. It has been known for some time to have some similarity with *Prostanthera lasianthos* but to have some differences, such as a longer petiole and longer, more narrow leaf. It is a spreading shrub one and a half to two metres in height with white to pale mauve flowers. Like the others, it flowers in early summer. It is hardy to drought and frost (not surprisingly with its location), and is easy to propagate from cuttings. I do not know of anyone from our group growing this plant. It may be more readily available from the south of the state or from Victoria. The name reflects the high elevation habitat for the plant.

### **5. *Prostanthera lasiangustata***

This mint varies from *P. lasianthos* by having a shorter petiole and a more narrow leaf. It is a spreading shrub up to four metres high. Flowers are pale mauve and can be somewhat hairy. Flowering time is early summer. It grows on rocky cliffs, open ridge tops and the sides of gorges in and around the Nattai National Park and the Blue Mountains National Park. The naming reflects the woolly features (*lasi-*) and the narrow leaves (*angustus* = narrow).

There still remains some work to be done, as the Mount Kaputar *aff. lasianthos* mint bush has yet to be named. Similarly, the Grampians *var. subcoriacea* mint, with its thick leaves, that grows on Mount William has not been split off. The other one that grows from Gloucester Tops to the NSW-Qld border has also yet to be formally named.



## Seed and Cuttings Exchange

Please send all requests directly to the person making the offer or the group email [saveourflora@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:saveourflora@gmail.com)

*Boronia clavata*, *Boronia keysii*, *Correa eburnea*, *Correa calycina*, *Correa baeuerlenii*, *Callistemon pungens*, *Grevillea iaspicula*, *Grevillea juniperina*, *Melaleuca irbyana*, *Phebalium daviesii*, *Phebalium speciosum*, *Prostanthera askania*, *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*

**Russell** ([saveourflora@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:saveourflora@gmail.com))

*Hakea dohertyi*, *Hakea ochroptera*, *Callistemon megalongensis*. The seed originally came from the Melaleuca Study Group seed bank many years ago.

**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)*

**Don't forget to update your listing at least once a year!**

### 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 \$1.10 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. 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  
 Garden Design SG  
 Grevillea SG  
 Hakea SG

### Landscapers

Brush & Bush Tamworth NSW  
 Indigenous Landscape Design  
[www.ilda.com.au](http://www.ilda.com.au)