



Association of Societies for Growing Australian Plants

## ACACIA STUDY GROUP NEWSLETTER

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Contents	Page
<b>From the Leader</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Notes From Members</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Acacia sulcata var. planoconvexa</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Acacia complanata</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Acacia crombiei</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Acacia cognata cultivars</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Acacias as Street Trees</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Wattles in the McDowall Garden</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>ACACIA 2006 Seedlings</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Favourite Wattles in Our Garden</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Books</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Acacias as Bonsai</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Smells of Acacia Seeds</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Wattle Recipe Corner</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Acacias – Short Lived or Long Lived</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Study Group Membership</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Seed Bank</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Seed List</b>	<b>9</b>

### From The Leader

Dear Members,

Melbourne has had a nice burst of rain over the last few weeks and the outer-western suburbs had a refreshingly wet end to winter. At the same time we've had a bit of unusual 'climate change' weather when the temperature jumped to 29 degrees within a week of low teens. And then we wonder why we get sick so easily. Despite the strange weather people everywhere are busy with spring planting and benefiting from the welcome rain.

Seed requests have been fully compiled and sent. If for some reason you haven't received yours then please contact me asap. Included in this newsletter is the updated **Seed List for 2009**. You will notice that some species are no longer available. Other species are running dangerously low and proving harder to find. Therefore, I would like to put out an urgent request to members for seed this year. Please send whatever seed you can spare, particularly from the rarer species, and forward them to me. For the last few months I have been working on an '**Acacia Seed Database**' which will include all known provenance details and other information. This database will be available in the near future.

Short and sweet this time as so much is happening and the excitement is running high in anticipation for the **ASGAP Conference** in Geelong this year. The **Study Group Meeting** is definitely on **Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 15:30**. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Cheers,  
Esther Brueggemeier

# Welcome

A special welcome to the following new members and subscribers to the Newsletter:

APS Armidale & District, NSW  
Iris Campanile, Melton, Vic  
Tony Rinaudo, East Burwood, Vic  
Jenny Simons, Burradoo, NSW  
Dr Tony Young, Blackbutt, Qld

**Jenny Simons** comments as follows:

"I live in the Southern Highlands, near Bowral, halfway between Sydney and Canberra. I have a rich but very heavy clay soil, so not all wattles are happy to grow here. These are the ones I have growing at present:

*A. acinacea* 'Ruby Tips', *boormanii*, *cognata*, *cognata* 'Bower Beauty', *covenyi*, *cultriformis*, *floribunda*, *howittii*, *longifolia*, *melanoxydon*, *pycnantha*, *rubida*, *stricta*, *vestita*."

**Tony Young** is a mycologist whose main interest is macrofungi (he is currently studying genus *Ramaria* – the beautiful coralloid species that are often in symbiotic partnership with the Myrtaceae). He is, however, also currently doing some work on about 20 endangered taxa within genus *Acacia*.

Tony is also a research fellow of the CBIT centre at the University of Queensland which produces the Lucid biological key packages, and also of the Queensland Herbarium. The Lucid key is used for *Acacias* in the Wattle CD.

## Notes From Members

A number of members included notes with their membership renewals – thank you for these, it is always good to get feedback and to hear your wattle news.

**Col and Joanne Wallace** (Wilkesdale, Qld) note that the few *Acacia* trees they have established are all doing very well through the drought from 2003 to 2008 with good rains beginning from November 2008.

The *Acacias* that they are growing are: *aulacocarpa*, *bancroftii*, *disparrima*, *fimbriata*, *glaucoarpa*, *julifera*, *maidenii*, *cultriformis* and *macradenia*.

Their *A. macradenia* has just flowered last week, a beautiful array, it's their favourite *Acacia* so far.

**Bob O'Neill** (Wandin North, Vic) comments (July) as follows:

"I planted a few seeds of each of the species I received from you recently and germinated at least one of the seven

species I sowed – probably 50% strike rate. It has all happened on bottom heat. My aim is to have them potted up in a couple of weeks or less, put back on bottom heat, and plant out in the spring. I may make it, I may not. Spring sowing is better, but it is a matter of timing.

The dry year continues. In some ways it suits what I do, that is have a larger range of plants tending to an arid preference, but the problem is the lack of water ahead of us.

Rabbits are a pain. Two weeks ago we bought what is supposed to be a Jack Russell cross as a possible long term pest solution – we must wait and see. This morning I was stunned to see a group of four foxes sweep up the edge of the garden at 7:30am. These will wipe out some of the bird life, but hopefully will help control the bunnies.

The acacias are doing well with maybe 15 - 20 species in flower now."

**Bonnie Addison-Smith** (Junabee, Qld) writes (7 July):

"As a number of *Acacias* in our area are now flowering well it reminds me to offer my contribution to the question of seed set in single acacia plants.

*Acacias* endemic to our property are *Acacia leuocladia* ssp *argentifolia* (very prolific because of suckering habit) and a small stand of *Acacia harpophylla*.

I have grown around 80 species of acacia successfully, 34 as single specimens some of which have not yet flowered. The following have set seed and produced seedlings: *Acacia handonis* seedlings did not survive. *Acacia denticulosa* has produced seeds twice in ten years.

*A. bancroftii*, *A. handonis*, *A. buxifolia*, *A. kempeana*, *A. cardiophylla*, *A. macradenia*, *A. chinchillensis*, *A. muelleriana*, *A. deanei*, *A. myrtifolia*, *A. denticulosa*, *A. ramulosa*.

I think that some seed set in some acacias takes place only after a season suitable to that acacia (eg *denticulosa*). We are, after all, trying to grow plants away from their natural habitat."

## *Acacia sulcata* var *planoconvexa*

Ray Turner and Eva Kowal moved into a new house at Cranbourne, Vic, in January this year. The house had an established garden of largely native plants. In the garden there was a plant that they had no idea what it was – they thought it was like a pancake and some type of conifer. It was only when it recently flowered and looked spectacular (see photo below) that they realised it was an acacia. As they live not far from the Cranbourne Botanic Gardens, they

took a specimen from the plant to them, and it was identified by Gardens staff as *A. sulcata* var *planoconvexa*.



*Acacia sulcata* var. *planoconvexa*

## **Acacia complanata**

**Don Perrin (Kippa-Ring, Qld) has a close involvement with the Redcliffe Botanic Gardens, a very impressive native plant garden just north of Brisbane. One of the wattles in the Gardens is *Acacia complanata*. The following is a recent note prepared by Don in relation to this plant.**

“Re *Acacia complanata*. It’s a great favourite of mine. All the plants in Redcliffe Botanic Gardens derive from one LAST wild plant on Redcliffe Peninsula. I tried over the years to get Council to preserve it but in the end the dozer got it ... for a bike-way which could have gone around it. Some of its virtues as I’ve told many visitors are: bright yellow flowers in flushes during months of November to April; long-lived (seems to be at least 30 years); can be pruned as severely as you like.

One particular plant in the Gardens has obviously larger flower balls. I am lost for an adjective for the sight of this. “Magnificent” seems so inadequate because this applies to hundreds of other wattle species. What we need to do (I’m sure we all agree) is to put these ineffably beautiful plants before the eyes of more and more Australians.”

Don notes that at the Gardens they sell the plant as “Redcliffe Summer Wattle”. He also comments that he gets into trouble with a friend for making up common names – but asks what will appeal more to the average person, “Flat Stemmed Wattle” or “Redcliffe Summer Wattle”? This species must also be very adaptable to different conditions, as it will grow well in Melbourne. The first time I saw it was in the garden of Elspeth and Gary Jacobs, at Montrose, an outer eastern Melbourne suburb. This was in February, and the plant was flowering brilliantly when many other plants were not in flower. Elspeth tells us that

her plant was in the garden when she moved in 17 years ago, and it was well established then, so it must be a good age now. Elspeth cut her plant back a while ago, but it is still 2.5m high, and all shooting from the base. She has propagated from her plant, and is 99% sure that she has propagated from cuttings (Don is now going to try striking his special local form from cuttings).

Note: In early August each year, Redcliffe Botanic Gardens hold a special celebratory day, What’s Cooking in the Gardens. This coincides with the peak of the wattle season and is an opportunity to celebrate the wattle. Don tells us that this year, on Sunday 2 August, it was “bigger, more people than last year. No exaggeration, a huge crowd, 7,000-10,000”.

## **Acacia crombiei – Pink Gidgee**

*Acacia crombiei* has the common name Pink Gidgee. We have been asked a question as to what pink refers to in the common name. If you can answer this question, please advise Esther or Bill.

## **Comments on . . . 'Problems with the Cultivation of *Acacia cognata* cultivars'**

by Esther Brueggemeier

As *Acacia cognata* is my favourite species, I was at first slightly offended with the accusations against them (see Neil Marriott’s article in ASG Newsletter 105, June 2009) but after thinking long and hard about the 'for and against' I have the following comments:

### **1. Most grow larger than the sizes listed on the labels**

- This is quite true in a few cases but thankfully some have woken up to this fact and a number of labels have been revamped. My *Acacia cognata* 'River Cascade' is actually labelled with 1.8m x 2m.
- Much depends on location, soil and climate. For example, the 'River Cascade' in my garden is used as a hedge along the path. The tallest part is definitely 1.8m whereas at the other end it only reaches 70cm. This seems to have something to do with the soil and general slope, as to how each plant responds, since they were all from the same stock. Another factor to consider is how many other plants are competing for space. The smaller section has larger bushes behind it whereas the larger is on the fence and behind this fence there is open space with no plants.

### **2. The dense foliage promotes infestation of *Acacia* scale**

- I guess the problem of scale is not exclusive to these

cultivars but can affect a number of other species also. Once a whole branch dies off, that is a sure sign that the plant is not coping on its own and as mentioned by Neil, decisive, quick action is needed. My experience wasn't so much with *Acacia cognata* 'Limelight' suffering from this problem rather it was the 'River Cascade'. After a tennis ball rolled under the hedge, I was stunned to see the branches covered from top to toe with a bad infestation of this scale. From the outside you couldn't tell as the plants looked radiant. I decided I would use this as a little experiment and monitor just how tough they really were. Generally, I don't like using sprays of any sort, so, after doing nothing, I waited . . . eight months later they desperately needed a trim as they were closing in on the pathway, still growing lush and strong. I trimmed fairly hard, to where some bare branches were showing and to my relief there was not a single scale to be found. Gone with the wind, or something like that. Another 6 weeks later, no more bare branches either. Since then, about 2 years, there were no more infestations on the 'River Cascade'. My conclusion? . . . If the plants are established and healthy, they deal with the pests without so much as battering an eyelid. On the other hand, if they are stressed in any way, then the resultant death, because of scale, seems more likely to be a secondary cause of death.

- After this episode I found the scale, this time attacking a beautiful Hardenbergia on the other side of the house. These were very stressed and had been left to fend for themselves (sorry, wattles have priority). Of course, they looked a mess. I decided to redo this whole area and simply chain saw them to ground level and burn the rest of the foliage. That got rid of the scale. After transforming this area into a cool climate rainforest, I now have fresh Hardenbergia shoots growing straight up, lush and green, no scale in sight.

### 3. Plants suffer from sunburn in hot summer days

- With foliage sunburn I have to admit there have been varied results. One landscaping project I was involved with has two separate areas covered with *Acacia cognata* 'Limelight'. One area is rather protected, while the other is completely open to full sun and wind all day. Both areas of plants were well established. With the extreme heat of summer this year they were well and truly put to the test. Surprisingly, the area that is protected suffered the most in the heat. They may have recovered but once the frost came they gave up altogether. The openly exposed area of 'Limelight', on the other hand, wasn't fazed at all. The same was true of *Acacia cognata* 'Bower Beauty', which seems to be a better substitute for 'Limelight' as it has the same fresh, lime green foliage, only frost hardier.
- Personally, I found *Acacia cognata* 'Limelight' planted in dappled shade seemed to lose some of its compactness.
- *Acacia cognata* 'Green Mist' burns easily in full sun

also, as a result I have planted these in rather shady areas which are doing very well. Nonetheless, I have also seen a wonderful specimen thriving in full sun.

- In regards to the hardiest at the moment, *Acacia cognata* 'Fettuccini' still takes first prize. In a previous newsletter we mentioned how they survived their first summer with minimal watering, but as Neil said, "It will be interesting to see how they survive the first few summers", especially with another hot season ahead.

## Acacias as Street Trees

Don Perrin has asked whether there are any Australian towns where wattles are featured in main streets. He recalls that in his local area there was a marvellous long row of *Acacia podalyriifolia* along the front fence of the local Hercules Road State School. However, they were all "eradicated" following a complaint by a mother that her son, who suffers from asthma, could not come to school while the wattles were there.

Don comments on how great it would be to see full bloom wattles in the main street of any town or city – he fears that there may not be any, but would like to be proved wrong! Who can prove Don wrong?

**Note:** Don has on previous occasions expressed his concern that acacias are often unfairly maligned as being a cause of allergies, when in fact there is often very little evidence that they are the true culprit (eg refer ASG Newsletter No. 101). Apart from Don's recent sad story regarding the removal of a row of acacias, the question of acacias and allergies has been raised with us on two other recent occasions (both Melbourne based). The first example related to a person suffering hay fever who noted that she believed the hay fever was triggered by wattles in flower, and possibly also by some *Hardenbergia violacea*. It seems that this view was formed solely on the basis that these were the two most conspicuous and prolifically flowering plants in her neighbourhood. The other example related to a general question as to whether there are any scientific papers that may help to disprove the link between acacias and allergies. We have not addressed the question any further in this Newsletter, but it does seem that it is still an issue that, as a Study Group, we should keep addressing in the future.

## Wattles in the McDowall Garden

**Max and Regina McDowall live at Bulleen in suburban Melbourne, and have a relatively small garden in which they grow a wide range of plants, although they have a special interest in acacias and grevilleas.**

**Max recently compiled a list of the Acacia species that he currently has in the garden, and this list is reproduced below.**

*acinacea, aculeatissima, adunca, amblygona, aphylla, beckleri, boormanii, calamifolia, camptoclada, cliftoniana (congesta), cochlearis, cognata, conferta, covenyi, cupularis, delphina, drummondii* subsp. *elegans* 'grossus' (giant form from upper Porongorups), *extensa, fauntleroyi, gracilifolia, guinetii, imbricata, lanigera, lasiocarpa* prostrate form, *lasiocarpa* var. *sedifolia, lateriticola, leptoclada, littorea, mitchellii* (Provident Ponds dwarf), *montana, myrtifolia, nitidula, pentadenia, phasmoides, plicata, pulchella* ssp. *pycnantha* (Bundoora), *restiacea, sessilispica* sp. cream flowers, WA 2005 terete 5-veined phyllodes, *sessilispica* sp. affin *viscifolia* (Fitzgerald River at Hwy N of National Park), *spinescens, subflexuosa?, triquetra, trigonophylla, venulosa, verniciflua.*

A number of these plants came from plants that were propagated for the Acacia Seminar held in 2006, in particular the following species: *camptoclada, cochlearis, conferta, delphina, lateriticola, leptoclada, pentadenia, spinescens, subflexuosa?* and *trigonophylla.*

Max has provided the following notes on these and some of the other species grown for the Seminar. We also asked Max what his favourite Acacias are in his garden, and his comments are also set out below.

## Acacia plants grown from ACACIA2006 seedlings.

by Max McDowall

Having selected the seed list for propagation and sale at the Fred Rogers Biennial Seminar ACACIA2006, I have a personal interest in the success of the resulting plants in cultivation. I have lost some of the plants which I grew, mainly because of the drought or excessive competition with established plants, while some survivors are not making much growth because of these factors. Others are thriving, including *A. pentadenia* (3 m) and *A. trigonophylla* (2.5 m) in shady situations.

*Acacia cochlearis* ? ACACIA2006 (seed supplied by the Acacia Study Group) has been reported by several growers to grow initially as a **prostrate to procumbent** plant, not the 1-2 x 1-2 m shrub described in the sales list for the Seminar nor the 0.5-3 m erect to sprawling shrub described in the Flora. My plant is now showing more upright branching from the horizontal stems. However, it is **not** *Acacia cochlearis*, but may be **related to** *A. rhigiophylla* according to my diagnosis using the Wattle CD. It differs from *A. cochlearis* (in parentheses) as follows: Flower heads 1 per axil (1-3); peduncles 5 mm (4-10 mm); flowers per head 10-20 (30-50); flowers 4-merous (5-

merous). Nevertheless the phyllodes are angled at 30-45° to the stem, rather than at 90° as shown in the monograph for *A. rhigiophylla*, and the heads are globular rather than slightly oblong and there is one gland 10-15 mm from the base of the phyllode (pulvinus absent as for either species), rather than inconspicuous.

*Acacia subflexuosa* subsp. *subflexuosa* ACACIA2006 (from ASG seed) grew rapidly to a tall, spindly, open shrub over 2m, with pale cream flowers (September to May), but suffered from the hot dry summer 2008-9. It should have been pruned regularly, and is only slowly recovering now after heavy pruning to remove dead growth. It is not spectacular, but the prolonged flowering season is a positive as the new flowers form continuously along the growing stems.

I had lost the label and checked the above identification to a single species using the Wattle CD, but am not satisfied that it is correct, although I cannot find any other names which fit the characters I entered. The phyllodes are 60-90 mm long x 0.8 mm diam, with eight veins (octagonal in cross-section), but they are straight and not curved or widely spreading as described on the CD, the flowers are cream instead of yellow, the flowering time is much longer than listed (Aug-Sep) and the shrub is taller.

*Acacia filifolia* ACACIA2006. Some plants sold under this name proved to be *Acacia assimilis* subsp. *atroviridis*, as reported in Newsletter 103 page 3. As both *A. filifolia* (from ASG seed) and *A. assimilis* (from Nindethana seed) were listed for sale, it would be interesting to know what others who bought plants with these labels have grown.

I would be interested to hear from other members who have at any time bought or propagated acacia plants which have proved to be wrongly labelled. I can think of at least five which I have grown. It would be relevant to know the supplier of the seed. In my experience it is always worthwhile to confirm the identification of plants one is cultivating, especially if they are used to distribute seed, seedlings or cutting-grown plants to others.

## Favorite Wattles in our Garden

by Max and Regina McDowall

Most of our acacias are flowering earlier this season because of the mild winter.

*Acacia sessilispica*: - our most spectacular species - is a tall open upright shrub with long slender phyllodes and densely packed golden flowers in sessile spikes flowering in August-September.

*Acacia guinetii* forms a compact bush to 2 x 2 m or more, but can be kept to 2 x 1 m by regular heavy pruning. It flowers from May to September

*Acacia pentadenia* is a tall shrub 3-4 x 3 m with long bipinnate leaves, and pale yellow flowers in September-October, which grows best in part shade. It responds to hard pruning. In our garden it is growing alongside a large *Indigofera australis*

*Acacia restiacea* forms a low spreading shrub 0.5 x 1.2 m with arching leafless branches, and flowers from May to July. Grows well in partial sun.

*Acacia lasiocarpa var sedifolia* in our garden is a slow-growing plant with an upright habit and can be kept by annual pruning to 1-1.2 x 0.8-1 m. It flowers from June-August, and is extremely drought tolerant and grows well in part sun. It is an ideal companion plant for Proteaceae species sensitive to phytophthora..

**Editor's Note:** Interestingly, a recent note from Jim Barrow (WA) mentions that one of the wattles in his garden is *Acacia pentadenia*, this being a door prize from a meeting where it was said to be a different and smaller species. Jim's plant is still a shrub and its lighter green makes a nice contrast as it sits between a *Calothamnus rupestris* and a *G graniticus*, both of which are dark green. Jim hopes the wattle does not get too big! Interesting that misnaming of species does not only happen in Victoria!

## Books

by Bill Aitchison

### Wattles of the Pilbara

by Bruce Maslin and Stephen van Leeuwen  
Published by Department of Environment and Conservation, WA 2008. RRP \$6.50.

This is one of the series of Bush Books published by the WA Department of Environment and Conservation. It is an illustrated practical field guide to assist in identification of wattles found in the Pilbara. As well as a description of each species, information is provided on matters such as botanical and indigenous names, uses, distribution and habitat, flowering and fruiting periods, and similar species. In the Pilbara there are more than 80 species of wattle, and this book covers about 32 species.

Bruce Maslin has described almost 300 new species of *Acacia*, one of these being *Acacia leeuweniana*, named in honour of Dr Stephen van Leeuwen, who is co author of this publication. Dr van Leeuwen has worked in the Pilbara for more than 25 years, and the naming of this acacia recognizes his botanical endeavours in the region.

### Wattles of Ballarat

by Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat, 2009,  
RRP \$14.50

This book covers wattles found within a 40 km radius of Ballarat, and includes 21 naturally occurring species and 3 introduced species that have spread into bushland. Each species is illustrated with colour photographs, and information is provided on the meaning of the species name, habit, foliage, flowers and distribution.

The idea for the publication originated from Mrs Patricia Murphy (deceased) and her husband Mr Bill Murphy. Pat spent many years researching, seeking, documenting and identifying *Acacia* species in the district, while Bill assisted in photographing the selected plants.

### Woodland to Weeds – Southern Queensland Brigalow Belt

by Nita C Lester

Published by Copyright Publishing Co Pty Ltd,  
Second Edition 2008

The Brigalow Belt bioregion in Queensland is a large area extending from the Queensland-New South Wales border to Townsville. The region is named after the Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla*), a tree which is one of the special features of the region. This book relates to the southern section of the Brigalow Belt, and includes descriptions and colour photographs of over 1,200 species. *Acacias* are covered in a separate section of the book, with about 73 species being included.

The author, Dr Nita Lester (who has been a member of the *Acacia* Study Group since 2005), has worked in the area of brigalow vegetation since 1978, and is well qualified to write this impressive work of 536 pages. Her CV includes lecturer at Griffith University, consulting botanist for the Queensland Government, Director of Myall Park Botanic Garden and Board Member of Keep Australia Beautiful.

Many of the photos of *Acacias* in the book are by *Acacia* Study Group members, John and Marion Simmons, with a small number contributed by Lorna Murray (also a Study Group member).

## Acacias as Bonsai

One of our recent Newsletters included *Acacia howittii* as our Feature Plant. In preparing that article, we found a reference to this species being used in bonsai. This prompted us to ask Roger Hnatiuk, Leader of the Australian Plants as Bonsai Study Group, about this, and also more generally which species of *Acacia* are used in bonsai. Roger's reply is set out below:

“The Study Group has recorded 43 types of Acacias being used as bonsai. This represents about 38 'species' with the rest being cultivars and the like.

*Acacia howittii* (as species or cultivar) is by far the most commonly reported species being used as bonsai, followed by *pravissima*, *mucronata* and *cardiophylla*.

Success with these is variable and ranges from spectacular to rather difficult in the medium term at least. A specimen of *A. howittii* is now in the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia.

The list of acacia taxa is as follows:

Plant Name

*Acacia baileyana*

*Acacia boormanii*

*Acacia caerulescens*

*Acacia cardiophylla*

*Acacia cardiophylla* 'Gold Lace'

*Acacia cognata*

*Acacia cognata* 'Green Mist'

*Acacia cognata* 'Limelight'

*Acacia craspedocarpa*

*Acacia cultriformis*

*Acacia dealbata*

*Acacia decora*

*Acacia decurrens*

*Acacia fimbriata*

*Acacia floribunda*

*Acacia glaucescens*

*Acacia howittii*

*Acacia howittii* 'Green Wave'

*Acacia howittii* 'prostrate'

*Acacia implexa*

*Acacia iteaphylla*

*Acacia leptospermoides*

*Acacia longifolia*

*Acacia melanoxylon*

*Acacia mollissima*

*Acacia mucronata*

*Acacia myrtifolia*

*Acacia oswaldii*

*Acacia papyrocarpa*

*Acacia pendula*

*Acacia peuce*

*Acacia podalyriifolia*

*Acacia pravissima*

*Acacia pravissima* 'Kuranga Cascade'

*Acacia pycnantha*

*Acacia rubida*

*Acacia saligna*

*Acacia sp*

*Acacia suaveolens*

*Acacia vestita*

*Acacia victoriae*

*Acacia whibleyi*

*Acacia williamsonii*

I'm sure the list will grow, as I've heard of others recently and they just haven't got into the database yet.”

## Smells of Acacia Seeds

by Bill Aitchison

The smell of crushed Acacia seeds has been referred to in previous Newsletters eg Newsletter No. 97, June 2007. Our thanks now to Leo O'Keefe (one of the recent new members of the Study Group) for drawing our attention to an interesting reference.

Leo now lives at Malvern East in suburban Melbourne, but he was originally brought up in a small town called Noorat in the western district of Victoria. As it happens, Noorat is the town where the famous author, Alan Marshall, was born in 1902 (he is best known for his autobiographical novel, *I Can Jump Puddles*). Leo recalls that his mother and Alan Marshall went to school together.

As a result of this association with the Marshall family, Leo has been a keen reader of Alan's various books, including one called *Hammers over the Anvil*. This is a collection of stories relating to Alan's experiences as a young lad growing up in Noorat (called Turalla in the book). One of these stories is called The Catholic Ball. This was held at the Mechanics Institute Hall, and was the biggest night of the year in Turalla. Alan recalls how one year, he and some of his mates each got a pocketful of black wattle seeds, and at the agreed signal, each of them ground their heels down on a heap of seeds, resulting in a terrible stink in the Hall.



Presumably the black wattle seeds referred to came from trees of *Acacia mearnsii*. In his recollection of this event, Alan notes the following:

“It’s a funny thing about black wattle seeds. They were in a pod like peas and if crushed before they were fully ripened they gave off a stink that would make you sick.”

Alan also notes that on the night of the Ball the seeds had been soaked in hot water for an hour.

The Mechanics Institute Hall where this event took place is no longer there – Leo tells us it burnt down after World War 2.

## Wattle Recipe Corner – ANZAC Biscuits

Our thanks to **Bev Leggett** (Auchenflower, Qld) for providing the following recipe for Anzac Biscuits:

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (90g) rolled oats
- 3/4 cup (125g) plain flour
- 30g ground, roasted wattle seed
- 1/2 cup (125g) sugar
- 1 tablespoon golden syrup
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1/2 cup (125g) melted butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons boiling water

### METHOD

1. Set oven at 160C
2. Mix oats, flour and sugar together
3. Mix golden syrup, wattle seed, soda and boiling water. While frothing add melted butter and pour into dry ingredients. Mix thoroughly.
4. Place spoonfuls on to oven tray, allowing room for mixture to spread.
5. Bake at 160C, for 18-20 minutes
6. Allow to cool on biscuit rack

## Can You Help? - Acacias – Short lived or long lived?

In our previous Newsletter No. 105 we noted that we were planning to include an article in this Newsletter addressing the question of whether acacias are short lived or long lived. To help in preparing this article we had asked for feedback from members as to their experiences with particular plants or species.

Thank you to those (few) members who have provided feedback. However, to make the article more meaningful, it would be very helpful to have feedback from a wider range of members. We have therefore deferred preparing anything for this Newsletter, and would ask members who have not responded if they could provide some comments – to either Esther or Bill.

## Study Group Membership

Acacia Study Group membership for 2009/10 is as follows:  
\$7 (newsletter sent by email)  
\$10 (hardcopy of newsletter posted in Australia)  
\$20 (hardcopy of newsletter posted overseas)

Subscriptions may be sent to:  
ASGAP Acacia Study Group Leader  
Esther Brueggemeier  
28 Staton Crescent  
Westlake, Victoria 3337

Subscriptions may also be paid directly to our Account at the Bendigo Bank. Account details are:  
Account Name: ASGAP Acacia Study Group  
BSB: 633-000  
Account Number: 130786973

If you pay directly to the Bank Account, please advise Esther by email ([wildaboutwattle@iprimus.com.au](mailto:wildaboutwattle@iprimus.com.au))

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**NOTE: If you have not already paid your annual membership for 2009/10, we would very much appreciate it if you could attend to this.**

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## Seed Bank

An updated list of species held in our Study Group’s Seed Bank is included in this Newsletter. Requests for seed should be directed to Esther.

18 packets maximum in each order (negotiable). Limit of 3 orders per member per year. Please include \$2 in stamps to cover the cost of a padded post bag and postage.

# ACACIA STUDY GROUP SEED LIST SEPTEMBER 2009

<b>acanthoclada</b>	beckleri	coolgardiensis	<b>elata</b>	gregorii	<b>laccata</b>
ssp. acanthoclada	betchei	ssp coolgardiensis	elongata	guinetii	lanigera
acinacea	bidentata	ssp effusa	empelioclada	gunnii	lanuginosa
acradenia	aff bidentata	coriacea	enervia	<b>hadrophylla</b>	laricina var laricina
acuaria	bidwillii	covenyi	ssp explicata	hakeoides	lasiocalyx
aculeatissima	biflora	cowleana	enterocarpa	halliana	lasiocarpa
acuminata	binata	craspedocarpa	ephedroides	hamersleyensis	var lasiocarpa
acuminata (narrow)	binervata	crassa	eremaea	hamiltoniana	var bracteolata
adenophora	binervia	crassicarpa	eremophila	hammondii	var sedifolia
adsurgens	bivenosa	crassiuscula	var variabilis	handonis	lateriticola
adunca	blakei	crassuloides	ericifolia	harpophylla	latescens
aemula ssp aemula	blakelyi	cretata	aff ericifolia	harveyi	latipes
aestivalis	boormanii	cultriformis	erinacea	hastulata	latisejala
alata	brachybotrya	cupularis	eriopoda	havilandiorum	lauta
alcockii	brachyclada	curranii	estrophiolata	helicophylla	lazarides
alleniana	brachystachya	curvata	euthycarpa	hemignosta	legnota
amblygona	brassii	curvinervia	everistii	hemiteles (wheatbelt)	leichhardtii
amoena	browniana	cuthbertsonii	exilis	hemiteles (goldfields)	leiocalyx
ampliceps	var browniana	cyclops	exocarpoides	hemsleyi	leioderma
anaticeps	var intermedia	cyperophylla	extensa	heterochroa	leiophylla
anceps	brownii	<b>dawsonii</b>	<b>falcata</b>	ssp heterochroa	leprosa
ancistrocarpa	brumalis	dealbata	falciformis	heteroclita	leptalea
andrewsii	brunioides	deanei	farinosa	heteroneura	leptocarpa
aneura	burkittii	ssp deanei	farnesiana	hexaneura	leptocyclada
var. macrocarpa	burrowii	ssp paucijuga	fasciculifera	hilliana	leptoloba
angusta	buxifolia	debilis	fauntleroyi	holosericea	leptoneura
anthochaera	bynoeana	declinata prostrate	filicifolia	holotricha	leptopetala
aphylla	<b>caerulescens</b>	decora	filifolia	horridula	leptospermoides
aprepta	caesiella	decurrens	fimbriata	howittii	var leptospermoides
argyraea	calamifolia	deficiens	flagelliformis	hubbardiana	leptostachya
argyrophytlla	calantha	delphina	flavescens	huegelii	leptocyclada
arida	calyculata	demissa	flexifolia	hyaloneura	ssp argentifolia
arrecta	cambagei	dempsteri	flocktoniae	hystrix	ligulata
ashbyae	campoclada	denticulosa	floribunda	<b>idiomorpha</b>	ligulata (narrow leaf)
aspera	cana	dentifera	fragilis	imbricata	ligulata prostrate
assimilis	cardiophylla	dictyoneura	frigescens	implexa	ligustrina
atkinsiana	caroleae	dictyophleba	<b>gemina</b>	inaequilatera	limbata
attenuata	celestifolia	dielsii	genistifolia	inaequiloba	linearifolia
aulacocarpa	chamaeleon	dietrichiana	georginae	incurva	lineata
aulacophylla	cheelii	difficilis	gilbertii	inophloia	lineolata ssp lineolata
auriculiformis	chinchillensis	difformis	gillii	intricata	linifolia
ausfeldii	chisholmii	dimidiata	gittinsii	irrorata	littorea
axillaris	chrysellia	diphylla	gladiiformis	iteaphylla	loderi
<b>baeuerlenii</b>	chrysocephala	disparrima	glandulicarpa	ixiophylla	longifolia
baileyana	cinninata	divergens	glaucescens	ixodes	longiphylloidea
baileyana aurea	citrinoviridis	dodonaefolia	glaucissima	<b>jamesiana</b>	longispicata
baileyana prostrate	clunies-rossiae	donaldsonii	glaucoarpa	jennerae	longissima
baileyana purpurea	cochlearis	doratoxylon	glaucoptera	jensenii	longispinea
bakeri	cognata	drepanocarpa	gnidium	jibberdingensis	loroloba
bancroftii	colei	drewiana	gonocarpa	johnsonii	loxophylla v nervosa
bancroftiorum	collettioides	drummondii	gonoclada	jonesii	luteola
barattensis	cometes	ssp affinis	gonophylla	jucunda	lysiphloia
barringtonensis	complanata	ssp candolleana	gracilifolia	julifera	<b>mabellae</b>
baueriana	concurrans	ssp drummondii	gracillima	juncifolia	maxcdonnellensis
baxteri	conferta	ssp elegans	grandifolia	<b>kempeana</b>	macradenia
beauverdiana	consobrina	ssp grossus	granitica	kettlewelliae	maidenii
aff beauverdiana	continua	dunnii	grasbyi	kybeanensis	maitlandii

# ACACIA STUDY GROUP SEED LIST SEPTEMBER 2009 (cont)

mangium	neriifolia	phlebopetala	retinodes (blue leaf)	sphacelata	trineura
maranoensis	neurophylla	pilligaensis	retivenia	var recurva	triptera
marramamba	ssp neurophylla	pinguiculosa	rhetinocarpa	var sphacelata	triptycha
maslinii	ssp erugata	pinguifolia	rhigiophylla	spinosissima x robusta	triquetra
maxwellii	nigricans	platycarpa	rhodophloia	spinescens	tropica
mearnsii	nitidula	plectocarpa	riceana	spondylophylla	trulliformis
megacephala	notabilis	plicata	rigens	spongolitica	truncata
megalantha	nuperrima	podalyriifolia	rivalis	squamata	tumida
meiosperma	var cassitera	polybotrya	rossei	steedmanii	tysonii
meisneri	nysophylla	polyfolia	rostelifera	stenophylla	<b>ulicifolia</b>
melanoxydon	<b>oshanesii</b>	polystachya	rotundifolia	stenoptera	ulicina
melleodora	obliquinervia	prainii	rothii	stereophylla	umbellata
melvillei	obovata	pravissima	rubida	stipuligera	uncifera
menzelii	obtecta	preissiana	rupicola	stowardii	uncinata
merinthophora	obtusata	prominens	ruppii	striatifolia	uncinella
merrallii	obtusifolia	pruinocarpa	<b>sabulosa</b>	stricta	urophylla
microbotrya	oldfieldii	pruinosa	saliciformis	suaveolens	<b>validinervia</b>
microcarpa	olsenii	ptychoclada	salicina	subcaerulea	varia v parviflora
mimica var angusta	omalophylla	ptychophylla	saligna	subflexuosa	venulosa
mimula	oncinocarpa	pubescens	schinoides	subglaucata	vernificluta
mittellii	oncinophylla	pubicosta	scirpifolia	sublanata	verricula
moirii ssp moirii	oraria	pubifolia	sclerophylla	subulata	verticillata
moirii v dasycarpa	orthocarpa	pulchella	var lissophylla	sulcata	vestita
mollifolia	oswaldii	var glaberrima	var teretiuscula	var planoconvexa	victoriae
montana	oxycedrus	var goadbyi	sclerosperma	var platyphylla	viscidula
monticola	oxyclada	var pulchella	semilunata	sutherlandii	<b>wanyu</b>
mooreana	<b>pachyacra</b>	'Kamballup Dwarf'	semirigida	synchronicia	wardellii
mountfordiae	pachycarpa	pustula	semitrullata	<b>tanumbirinensis</b>	wattsiana
mucronata	palustris	pycnantha	sericophylla	tenuissima	wichhamii
var longifolia	papyrocarpa	pycnostachya	sessilis	teretifolia	wildenowiana
muelleriana	paradoxa	pyrifolia	sessilispica	terminalis	wilhelmiana
multispicata	paraneura	<b>quadrilateralis</b>	shirleyi	tetragonocarpa	williamsoni
aff multispicata	parramattensis	quadrilmarginea	sibina	tetragonophylla	<b>xanthina</b>
murrayana	parvipinnula	quadrissulcata	siculiformis	tetraptera	xanthocarpa
myrtifolia (NSW)	pataczekii	<b>racospermoides</b>	signata	tindaleae	aff xanthocarpa
myrtifolia (SA)	patagiata	ramulosa	silvestris	torulosa	xiphophylla
myrtifolia (VIC)	pellita	var linophylla	simsii	trachycarpa	<b>yorkrakinensis</b>
myrtifolia (WA)	pendula	redolens low form	sophorae	trachyphloia	ssp acrita
myrtifolia	penninervis	redolens upright form	sp 'Hollands Rock'	translucens	
var angustifolia	pentadenia	resinimarginea	sparsiflora	tratmaniana	
<b>nanodealbata</b>	perangusta	restiacea	spathulifolia	trigonophylla	
nematophylla	phlebocarpa	retinodes	spectabilis	trinervata	