

Top End



Native Plant Society

Top End Native Plant Society January 2019 Newsletter

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General Meeting Times

The next TENPS meeting will be held on *Thursday 21st February 2019* commencing at 7:30 pm. General meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Marrara Christian College, on the corner of Amy Johnson Avenue and McMillans Road. The meeting is followed by a chance to chat with other members and access the TENPS reference Library over a cuppa. Bring your plants along to swap, sell or have identified. The guest speaker presentation commences around 8pm. All are welcome. Field trips are usually on the weekend following the meeting. Details of upcoming events are provided in the newsletter, or check the TENPS website.

What's in flower?



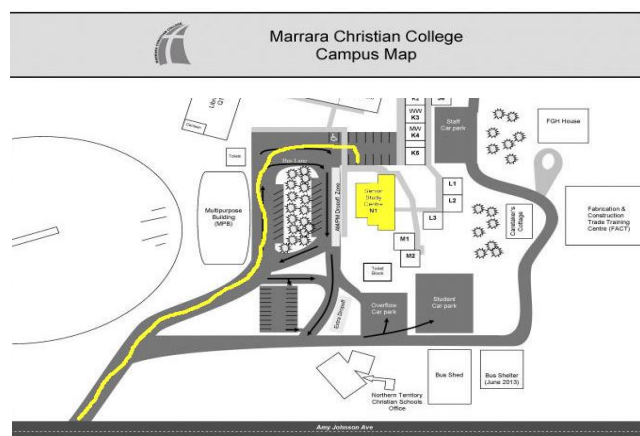
Cordia subcordata photographed by Russell Dempster.

Natives mean more!

www.topendnativeplants.org.au

Upcoming TENPS guest speakers

February 21st: Representatives from the Citrus Canker Team have kindly agreed to address the meeting and provide information on this ongoing biosecurity issue.



TENPS Field Trips & other events

Saturday February 23th: Green Ant Creek in Litchfield National Park. Meet 9am at Acacia Store, car pooling options from there.

Saturday March 9th: TENPS is holding another plant sale after the outstanding success of the November sale. See fliers in this newsletter for further information. Please distribute fliers to your networks and anyone who may be interested in native plants.

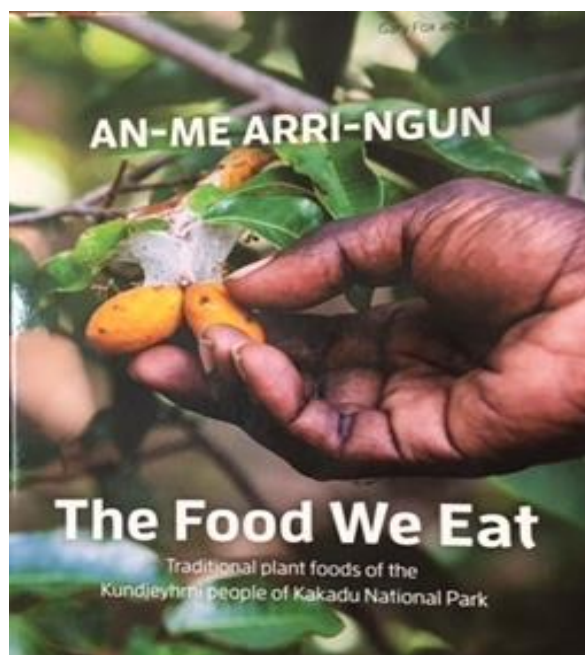
Saturday March 23rd: A joint TENPS/NTFNC Field trip to visit Rozak House at Lake Bennett. See next newsletter for details.

TENPS Committee Meeting

Committee meetings are held every second month and members are most welcome to attend. The next committee meeting will be on the 13th March at 7:30 in Terry Mills Electoral Office in the Oasis shopping Centre.

A TENPS Library Addition

Traditional Plant Foods of the Kundjeyhmi People of Kakadu



NT Field Naturalist Club Events

Meetings are held at 7.45pm on the second Wednesday of each month except January at Charles Darwin University, in Blue Building 2 (see map below)



Field Trips are a great way to explore the best of Darwin area's nature spots in the company of like-minded people. These are usually held on the Sunday following the monthly meeting and often related to the topic of this meeting. Additional outings are held from time to time, and everyone is welcome.



Vavaea australiana photographed by Russell Dempster.

TENPS November Meeting Report: The Spice Wars with Ian Morris

note: In this article the words Spice Islands, Moluccas & Maluku share a similar meaning and are used interchangeably. (ed)

This talk is based on my regular visits to this region in recent years. Some of the plant species there had a profound effect on world history. The region is right next door to Australia & the plants there are closely related to ours but we Aussies have heard very little about this incredible story.



Arab traders introduced *cloves* to Europeans around the fourth century but sought to keep their sources secret. Their monopoly was broken by the Portuguese after Vasco da Gama's voyage to India around the Cape of Good Hope in 1497. The Portuguese strengthened their stranglehold on the spice trade during the sixteenth century, when they found the central locus of the spices to be these islands. One of the native traditions was to plant a clove tree when a child was born, linking the child symbolically to the life of the tree. When the Dutch took over control of the Moluccas in the seventeenth century, they eradicated the clove trees from all the islands except Amboina (and a few adjacent islands) in order to enforce the spice's scarcity, keeping prices high. As a result, cloves were worth more than their weight in gold.



clove harvest

But, as one might expect, the Dutch tactic also instilled hatred and fomented rebellion among the islanders. Gradually, the spice was cultivated in other places of the world, like Brazil, the West Indies, and Zanzibar, reducing prices and making the commodity more available. Centuries before the Europeans considered spices as a valuable commodity, the Maluku Islands were already a bustling trade hub. European vessels arrived in the Indian Ocean in 1498. Spices were bought with Chinese silks, Indian cottons, Arabian coffee and African ivory. While the Roman Empire was spreading throughout Europe and North Africa, the distant islands already had a flourishing trading relationship with China and other Asian nations. The Maluku Islands were conquered by the Portuguese, the Spanish and the Dutch between 1511 and 1602. However, it was the Venetians who monopolised Europe's lucrative spice trade from 1200 to 1500, because of their dominance over the Mediterranean Sea and trade with Muslim states.

In 1621 the Dutch invaded the Banda Islands & took control by force. These Islands were once the source of the world supply of prime nutmeg & mace. Western colonial powers long competed for trade & political control. The original Bandanese population was decimated by Westerners, then replenished by an influx of both European & Asian newcomers - free men & slaves, drifters & refugees of many languages, races & religions.

"Key events & key persons, long relegated to the sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth & nineteenth century archives - should be quite clearly entered in the twentieth century record." Dr Willard A Hanna 1976

During the history of the spice trade, sailors of the English East India Company; members of the second expedition of James Lancaster, John Davis, Sir Henry Middleton and his brother John, who stayed in Bantam on Java, first reached the island in 1603 and developed good contacts with the inhabitants. On December 25, 1616, Captain Nathaniel Courthope reached Run to defend it against the claims of the Dutch East India Company. A contract with the inhabitants was signed, accepting James 1 of England as sovereign of the island. After four years of siege by the Dutch and the death of Nathaniel Courthope in an attack in 1620, the English and their local allies departed the island.

According to the Treaty of Westminster ending the First Anglo-Dutch War of 1652–1654, Run should have been returned to England. The first attempt in 1660 failed because of formal constraints by the Dutch; after the second attempt in 1665 the English traders were expelled in the same year, and the Dutch destroyed the nutmeg trees.

After the Second Anglo-Dutch War of 1665–1667, England and the United Provinces of the Netherlands agreed in the Treaty of Breda to the status quo: The English kept the island of Manhattan, which the Duke of York (the future James II, brother of Charles II), had occupied in 1664, renaming the city on that island from New Amsterdam to New York. In return Run was formally abandoned to the Dutch. The Dutch monopoly on nutmeg and mace was destroyed by the transfer of nutmeg trees to Ceylon, Grenada, Singapore and other British colonies in 1817, after the capture of the main island, Banda Lontor, in 1810 by Captain Cole, leading to the decline of the Dutch supremacy in the spice trade. There are, however, still nutmeg trees growing on Run today.



The Fragrant Nutmeg *Myristica fragrans*

Cloves are the unopened and dried flower buds of the clove tree, *Syzygium aromaticum*, that belongs to the myrtle family, Myrtaceae.



clove flower buds

Cloves are native to some of the Maluku Islands in Indonesia, and one of the biggest producers of the spice now is Africa's Pamba Island. Cloves appear to be small nails, and the name comes from Latin 'clavus', meaning nail, and they are sometimes used with an orange to make pomanders. Cloves are the basis of it all. Cloves are popularly used as a spice in dishes of meat, curry, marinade and fruit, as well as baked goods, commonly in Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Cloves contain the chemical eugenol, which produces approximately 85% of the strong flavour. Cloves have been used in some cigarettes and can be used to repel ants. Cloves and their oil are sometimes used in medicine as a painkiller for toothaches. In the 1600s and 1700s, the Dutch East India Company had a monopoly on the growing and trading of cloves in Indonesia, and in 1770, Pierre Poivre, a French horticulturalist, secretly obtained some seedlings from the spice trees from Indonesia, which he eventually introduced to the islands of Mauritius and Réunion. Cloves are very high in manganese, and they also contain vitamin K and vitamin C, as well as small quantities of other minerals and vitamins. Cloves can be bought ground or whole. The ground spice loses its flavour quickest.

Nutmeg is the other main spice in these islands. *Myristica fragrans* is an evergreen tree indigenous to the Moluccas Spice Islands of Indonesia. It is important as the main source of the spices nutmeg & mace. It is now widely grown across the tropics, including Guangdong & Yunan in China, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Grenada in the Caribbean, Kerala in India, Sri Lanka & South America. Pharmacological and phytochemical studies on *Myristica fragrans* have been reviewed. Several compounds were identified in nutmeg and mace of the plant with terpinen-4-ol, β -pinene, and limonene being the dominant constituents common to volatile oil in all species. Several lignans and neolignans have also been isolated in various parts of the plant. Some reported pharmacological properties of *M. fragrans* include anticancer, antidepressant, antidiabetic, anti-obesity, anti-inflammatory, analgesic, antimicrobial, antioxidant, hepatoprotective, and memory enhancing. However, the clinical efficacy in long-term trials is still to be investigated."

Despite a 1950s separatist movement and more recent religious conflicts, the Maluku Islands are peaceful, tranquil, and largely unknown. However, once more people set their eyes on the islands' breathtaking rainforests, unique volcanic mountains and deserted beaches, the local tourism industry could become just as lucrative as the spice trade once was.

References

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“The Farthest Coast: A Selection of Writings Relating to the History of the discovery of the Northern Coast of Australia” C.C. Macknight (ed.) Melbourne University Press 1969

Article and photos by Ian Morris



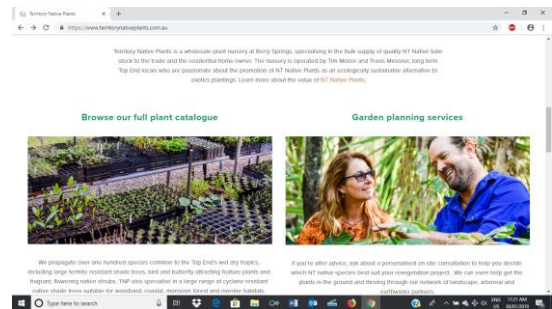
A prolifically fruiting Suregada glomerulata photographed by Russell Dempster

Territory Native Plants are now online!



<https://territorynativeplants.com.au>

Tim Moore and Travis Messner have requested feedback on their new website.



If you have any ideas or suggestions to improve the site please get in touch.

Email info@territorynativeplants.com.au
Call 0429 095 733

Goyder Day 2019

The 5th February 2019 marks the 150th Anniversary of the arrival of the South Australian Surveyor-General (George Woodroffe Goyder) and his crew of 138 back in February 1869.

This event effectively marks the beginning of the City of Darwin. Goyder and his surveyors quickly surveyed the city of Darwin (modelled on Adelaide) and proceeded to survey the hinterland almost to Adelaide River and Wangi Falls.

Events:
Saturday 2 February between 9am - 1pm

“Back to 1869”
A Family Fun Day held at the Darwin Waterfront

Wednesday 6th February 5:30pm – 6:30pm

A new exhibition opening at the NT Library to celebrate Goyder's arrival in Darwin.

“Schultze and Hoare: The Collector and the Illustrator”

This exhibition was largely put together by the Lon Wallis from the Top End Native Plant Society.

- Michael Wells, Director of the NT Government's Heritage Branch, will facilitate a discussion about this unique exhibition that will open your eyes to the wonderful world of scientific collecting in the 19th Century
- Lon Wallis will explain about new research which has shed light on the work of Frederick Schultze as the official naturalist on Goyder's expedition of 1869. Lon will also talk about the role of William Webster Hoare, who was commissioned to paint watercolours to illustrate specimens collected by Schultze.
- Jared Archibald from the Museum and Art Gallery of the NT will speak about scientific collecting in the 19th century, and about the preserved animals from the MAGNT collection that form part of the exhibition.

Please come along and support TENPS in celebrating this significant event.

Goyder's Forgotten Botanist:

February 5 this year marks 150 years since Friedrich Heinrich Hermann Schultze arrived in Port Darwin as the botanist and naturalist to the Goyder Survey Expedition. In the 17 months that he spent here he collected 995 plant specimens, all carefully labelled, using the Botanist Notebook allocated to him by Richard Schomburgk of the Adelaide Botanic Garden. He also collected over 600 bird skins, and numerous shells, fish, coral, sponges, insects and small vertebrates. He also collected Aboriginal artefacts, including a bark canoe 21 feet long.

Unlike other expedition members he does not seem to have kept either a work diary or a personal diary. Only one of his letters to the

German-language newspaper *Süd Australische Zeitung* has been discovered to date.¹



Botanist Frederick Schultze with his wife Mary shortly before 1891

Although his painstaking diligence and the accuracy and amirable order of his collection were acknowledged at the time, he has been overshadowed by expedition members who left permanent records, particularly William Webster Hoare who left a diary, and painted watercolours of some of Schultze's specimens.

In addition there has been some confusion over identifying him as the collector of specimens held in the herbariums at Kew and Melbourne, because of variations in the way his name was transcribed.

Flora Australiensis

Frederick Schultze's specimens began to be included in three of the volumes of *Flora Australiensis* under the spelling of 'Schultz' soon after he despatched them to Richard Schomburgk in 1869 and 1870. *Flora Australiensis: a description of the plants of the Australian Territory* was published in seven volumes between 1863 and 1878 by George Bentham in Kew with the

¹ *Süd Australische Zeitung* (Tanunda and Adelaide, SA) 9 June 1869 p. 4.

assistance of Ferdinand von Mueller in Melbourne. Unfortunately, Schultze was too late to be included in the first four volumes which covered the more common species.

Eleven of his specimens did make it into the later sections of *Vol. V. Myoporineae to Proteaceae* published in August-October of 1870. This was remarkably swift, considering that it took a month to travel from Port Darwin to Adelaide and another three months for his cases of specimens to reach England from southern Australia. Fifty specimens made it into *Vol. VI. Thymeleae to Dioscordideae*, published in 1873. One hundred and thirteen made it into *Vol. VII: Roxburghiaceae to Filices*, published in March 1878.

M. Schultz

In the Preface to Volume VII Bentham acknowledges that:

the most important additions I have to record are the valuable collections made by M. Schultz, at Port Darwin, ... of which Dr. Schomburgk, the active Director of the Botanical Gardens of Adelaide, has transmitted to me almost complete sets.

Bentham's use of *M.* to refer to Frederick Schultze is the honorific *monsieur* rather than a personal initial. Unfortunately, this has continued to cause confusion. For example, *A History of Systematic Botany in Australia*, in *Flora of Australia* Vol. 1, 2nd ed. 1999, mistakenly treats M. Schultz and Frederick Schultze as two different collectors. Further confusion was caused by Frederick labelling his first consignment as:

List of Specimens sent to Adelaide by Fr Schultze per 'Gulnare' - May 1869.

This has led the Melbourne Herbarium, for example, to conclude that there was a Reverend Father Schultze collecting at Port Darwin in the 1860s, distinguishing him from F. Schultz and M. Schultz. Kew Herbarium still lists *Schultz, F. Schultz, M. Schultz, F. R. Schultze*.

In his *The Flora of South Australia*, published in 1875, Schomburgk, acknowledges that:

The plants enumerated in the intra-tropical Flora have been mostly collected by Mr. Schultz in that locality.

When Schomburgk opened the Museum of Economic Botany at the Botanic Gardens in 1879, Schultze's specimens constituted part of the nucleus of the collection.

Von Mueller's 1882 publication *Systematic Census of Australian Plants* lists seven species named *Schultzii* after Frederick:

<i>Antidesma schultzii</i>	<i>Fimbristylis schultzii</i>
<i>Arundinella schultzii</i>	<i>Euphorbia schultzii</i>
<i>Dysoxylum schultzii</i>	<i>Psoralea schultzii</i>
<i>Eriocaulon schultzii</i>	

In his 1907 Presidential Address to the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science, J. H. Maiden, Director of the Botanic Gardens Sydney, lists 11 species which had been named for Frederick Schultze. He attributes these to 'Schultz, M.':

<i>Antidesma schultzii</i>	<i>Eriachne stipacea</i> var. <i>schultziana</i>
<i>Arundinella schultzii</i>	<i>Eriocaulon schultzii</i>
<i>Croton schultzii</i>	<i>Euphorbia schultzii</i>
<i>Ectrosia schultzii</i>	<i>Fimbristylis schultzii</i>
<i>Eragrostis schultzii</i>	<i>Leptocarpus schultzii</i>
<i>Eriachne schultziana</i>	

Kew Herbarium currently holds nine species named after Frederick:

<i>Ectrosia schultzii</i>	<i>Fimbristylis schultzii</i>
<i>Eragrostis schultzii</i>	<i>Indigofera schultziana</i>
<i>Eriachne schultziana</i>	<i>Sterculia schultzii</i>
<i>Eriocaulon schultzii</i>	<i>Urena schultzii</i>
<i>Euphorbia schultzii</i>	



Indigofera schultziana photographed at Darwin River by Sarah Hirst.



An image of the actual specimen of Indigofera schultziiana collected by Schultze, and subsequently named after him.

In addition Kew holds a further 42 type specimens collected by him:

<i>Acacia latescens</i>	<i>Ficus scobina</i>
<i>Aegialitis annulata</i>	<i>Fimbristylis cymosa</i>
<i>Alloteropsis semialata</i> subsp. <i>aemialata</i>	<i>Fimbristylis pallida</i>
<i>Aphyllodium biarticulatum</i> var. <i>australiense</i>	<i>Galactia megalophylla</i>
<i>Blumea diffusa</i>	<i>Grewia orientalis</i>
<i>Blumea integrifolia</i>	<i>Haemodorum leptostachyum</i>
<i>Buchanania arborescens</i>	<i>Haemodorum parviflorum</i>
<i>Buchanania florida</i>	<i>Ischaemum australe</i> var. <i>arundinaceum</i>
<i>Caesia setifera</i>	<i>Jasminum aemulum</i> var. <i>aemulum</i>
<i>Cartonema trigonospermum</i>	<i>Leea rubra</i> , <i>Nymphaea hastifolia</i>
<i>Cheilanthes nitida</i>	<i>Panicum trachyrhachis</i>
<i>Chrysopogon setifolius</i>	<i>Phyllanthus ciccoides</i>
<i>Corchorus acutangulus</i> var. <i>brachycarpus</i>	<i>Phyllanthus virgatus</i> var. <i>virgatus</i> ,
<i>Croton habrophyllus</i>	<i>Plagiocarpus axillaris</i>
<i>Curculigo orchiodes</i>	<i>Rotala mexicana</i>
<i>Cyperus javanicus</i> var. <i>armstrongii</i>	<i>Sauropus ochrophyllus</i>
<i>Cyperus trinervis</i> var. <i>superatus</i>	<i>Setaria oplismenoides</i>

<i>Dimeria ornithopoda</i> var. <i>ornithopoda</i>	<i>Sorghum intrans</i>
<i>Dipodium stenocheilum</i>	<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>
<i>Eragrostis rigidiuscula</i>	<i>Tephrosia nematophylla</i>
<i>Euphorbia bifida</i>	<i>Whiteochloa capillipes</i>

There are also an additional 15 species collected by him currently in the Kew collection.

According to the online Australasian Virtual Herbarium, specimens collected under the name of *Schultz*, *M. Schultze*, or *F. Schultze* collecting in 1869/1870 in the Northern Territory are held by:

The National Herbarium of Victoria	370
The National Herbarium of NSW	7
The National Herbarium of the NT	14
The Australian Natinal Herbarium	4

Melbourne holds specimens of:

Eriachne schultziiana
Indigofera schultziiana
Psoralea schultzi

although the latter is now known as *Flemingia parviflora*.

Article by Lon Wallis and Ray Dundon,
(Frederick Schultze's great-great grandson)

Report on the November plant sale

Saturday 24th November saw a very successful sale of native plants under the Woolworths verandah at Coolalinga.

Tim and Travis of Territory Native Plants, Jess from Plants Direct, Paul Johns, Marj King and Russell Dempster provided plants on the day. The resulting stalls were well stocked, well presented, and well patronised. The Citrus Canker Team also had a public information stall. Sales were excellent with some of the species that sold well listed here:

<i>Abelmoschus moschatus</i>	<i>Acacia</i> sp
<i>Adiantum philippense</i>	<i>Aidia racemosa</i>
<i>Allosyncarpia ternata</i>	<i>Blechnum orientale</i>
<i>Clerodendrum costatum</i>	<i>Bridelia tomentosa</i>
<i>Crotalaria novae-hollandiae</i>	<i>Fagraea racemosa</i>
<i>Meiogyne cylindrocarpa</i>	<i>Micromelum minutum</i>
<i>Phaleria clerodendron</i>	<i>Phaleria octandra</i>
<i>Pittosporum moluccanum</i>	<i>Podocarpus grayae</i>
<i>Suregada glomerulata</i>	<i>Sterculia quadrifida</i>
<i>Templetonia hookerii</i>	

A follow up plant sale will be held on the 9th March, with extended hours of 8am to 2pm. Please help promote this event by distributing the fliers at the back of this newsletter.

New Butterfly Book Launch



Australian National University
PRESS

BOOK LAUNCH

THU 28 FEBRUARY 2019
5.00–7.00 pm

Theatrette, Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, 19 Conacher St, The Gardens Darwin NT 0820

ATLAS OF BUTTERFLIES AND DIURNAL MOTHS IN THE MONSOON TROPICS OF NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

M.F. BRABY, D.C. FRANKLIN, D.E. BISA, M.R. WILLIAMS, A.A.E. WILLIAMS, C.L. BISHOP AND R.A.M. COPPEN

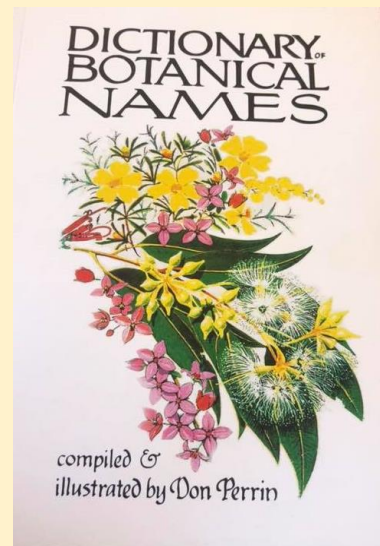
Northern Australia is one of few tropical places left on Earth in which biodiversity—and the ecological processes underpinning that biodiversity—is still relatively intact. However, scientific knowledge of that biodiversity is still in its infancy and the region remains a frontier for biological discovery. The butterfly and diurnal moth assemblages of the area, and their intimate associations with vascular plants (and sometimes ants), exemplify these points.

However, the opportunity to fill knowledge gaps is quickly closing: proposals for substantial development and exploitation of Australia's north will inevitably repeat the ecological devastation that has occurred in temperate southern Australia—loss of species, loss of ecological communities, fragmentation of populations, disruption of healthy ecosystem function and so on—all of which will diminish the value of the natural heritage of the region before it is fully understood and appreciated. Written by several experts in the field, the main purpose of this atlas is to compile a comprehensive inventory of the butterflies and diurnal moths of northern Australia to form the scientific baseline against which the extent and direction of change can be assessed in the future. Such information will also assist in identifying the region's biological assets, to inform policy and management agencies and to set priorities for biodiversity conservation.

ISBN 9781760462321 (Print)
ISBN 9781760462338 (Online)

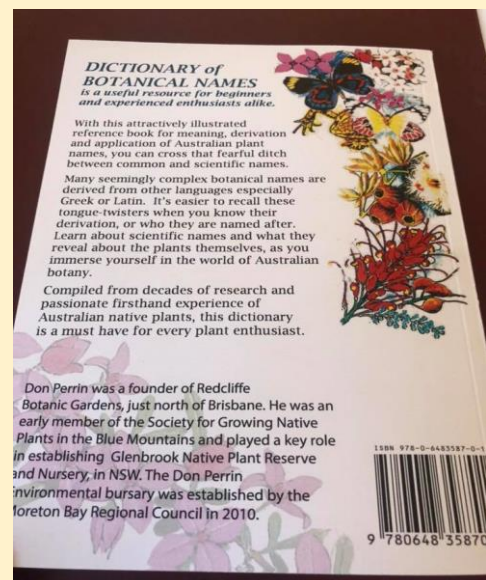
press.anu.edu.au/publications/atlas-butterflies-and-diurnal-moths-monsoon-tropics-northern-australia

A new publication now available



compiled & illustrated by Don Perrin

This is a well-researched, attractively illustrated 200 page book for the meaning and derivation of botanical names.



DICTIONARY of BOTANICAL NAMES
is a useful resource for beginners and experienced enthusiasts alike.

With this attractively illustrated reference book for meaning, derivation and application of Australian plant names, you can cross that fearful ditch between common and scientific names.

Many seemingly complex botanical names are derived from other languages especially Greek or Latin. It's easier to recall these tongue-twisters when you know their derivation, or who they are named after. Learn about scientific names and what they reveal about the plants themselves, as you immerse yourself in the world of Australian botany.

Compiled from decades of research and passionate firsthand experience of Australian native plants, this dictionary is a must have for every plant enthusiast.

Don Perrin was a founder of Redcliffe Botanic Gardens, just north of Brisbane. He was an early member of the Society for Growing Native Plants in the Blue Mountains and played a key role in establishing Glenbrook Native Plant Reserve and Nursery, in NSW. The Don Perrin Environmental Bursary was established by the Forreton Bay Regional Council in 2010.

ISBN 978-0-6485587-0-1



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The book has been compiled and illustrated by Mutiara Perrin's father, Don Perrin, who was an early member of the Society for Growing Native Plants and sadly died last year. Don played a key role in establishing Glenbrook Native Plant Reserve in NSW and was a founder of Redcliffe Botanic Gardens in QLD. The Don Perrin Environmental Bursary continues today and there is a foreword in the book by Jan Sked, who authored a number of books on native plants.

The RRP is \$29.95, plus postage and handling.

Contact: Mutiara Perrin

Email: greendataprojects@gmail.com

Phone: 0421 465 464

Date: 2nd March 2019

Time: 10am–12pm

Charles Darwin University
Ellengowan Dr, Casuarina, NT
Room Blue 2A.1.01

<https://www.cdu.edu.au/sites/default/files/CASmap12.pdf>



© Michael Braby

The Butterflies Australia Project

Top End Launch

The first national database for butterfly sightings

Come and hear about butterflies from some experienced Lepidopterists: details about the project, and a new Australian butterfly phone app.

Speakers include:

A/Prof Michael Braby – Principal author of the newly published *Atlas of Butterflies and Diurnal Moths in the Monsoon Tropics of Northern Australia* and many other butterfly books, papers and field guides. Michael will talk about how to identify butterflies in the Top End as well as how butterfly datasets can assist in conservation.

Dr Suzi Bond – Author of the *Field Guide to the Butterflies of the ACT*. Suzi will talk about how to survey for butterflies, and some of the amazing discoveries citizen scientists have already made for butterflies in Australia.

Chris Sanderson – Research Officer for the Butterflies Australia Project. Chris will talk about the need for more butterfly data for conservation and research, the work the project is doing, and the Butterflies Australia phone app and web portal.



Facebook: @ausbutterflies
Instagram: ausbutterflies
Twitter: @ausbutterflies
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ANPSA

What's New at the National Level

On the 27th of November the second ANPSA meeting was held as a teleconference preceded by the Annual General Meeting. Except for the Annual meetings, when there are two delegates, each member society is represented by one delegate. The Top End Native Plant Society from the Northern Territory was an apology, but all other member societies were represented by their delegate.

If you have any questions or concerns re conservation issues that you think would be of interest at the national level, contact your delegate. With all the elected officers the teleconference included 17 participants.

Time differences ranged from 5 pm in WA to 8 pm in the Eastern states with daylight saving time. It brings home what a big country Australia is!

At the AGM the previously discussed changes to Rules and Bylaws were ratified. The main alteration was to simplify the appointment of officers such as "Newsletter Editor" by not specifying their titles. This eliminates the need to formally change the Bylaws every time it is found expedient to change or discontinue a role. One of the motions adopted at the Biennial meeting was the publication of the Rules and Bylaws on the ANPSA website.

What is this national body with the cumbersome acronym ANPSA? It is not a "peak body" in the usual sense: it does not dictate policies to the member societies in each state and territory, which are independent. It creates an opportunity to present a united front of many members across Australia to promote our aims. Matters can be brought to the attention of the politicians at the federal level. The four "objects" (should perhaps be objectives?) specific to ANPSA as stated in the Bylaws are:

1. To further collaboration between autonomous member societies.
2. To promote all aspects of the horticulture of Australian plants.
3. To promote the conservation of Australian plants and their habitats.
4. To speak with one voice for member societies at a national level.

CONSERVATION

Eddy Wajon as the ANPSA conservation officer has led action on three major conservation issues in the past year. The threat to the bushland reserve surrounding the Jandakot airport in WA, the continuing damage caused by Brumbys in the Kosciusko National Park and the ever increasing threat to Australian plants by the spread of the Myrtle Rust. A delegation from WA and ACT took the Jandakot airport issue to various federal government representatives in Canberra. They were received favourably but final decisions will take up to 18 months. Alternative solutions continue to be proposed at the local level.

Riitta Boevink, President
January 2019

Prepare for the wet, get your native plants now!

Plant Sale



Where: Coolalinga, out the front of Woolworths

When: Saturday 9th March 2019

Time: 8am-2pm

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