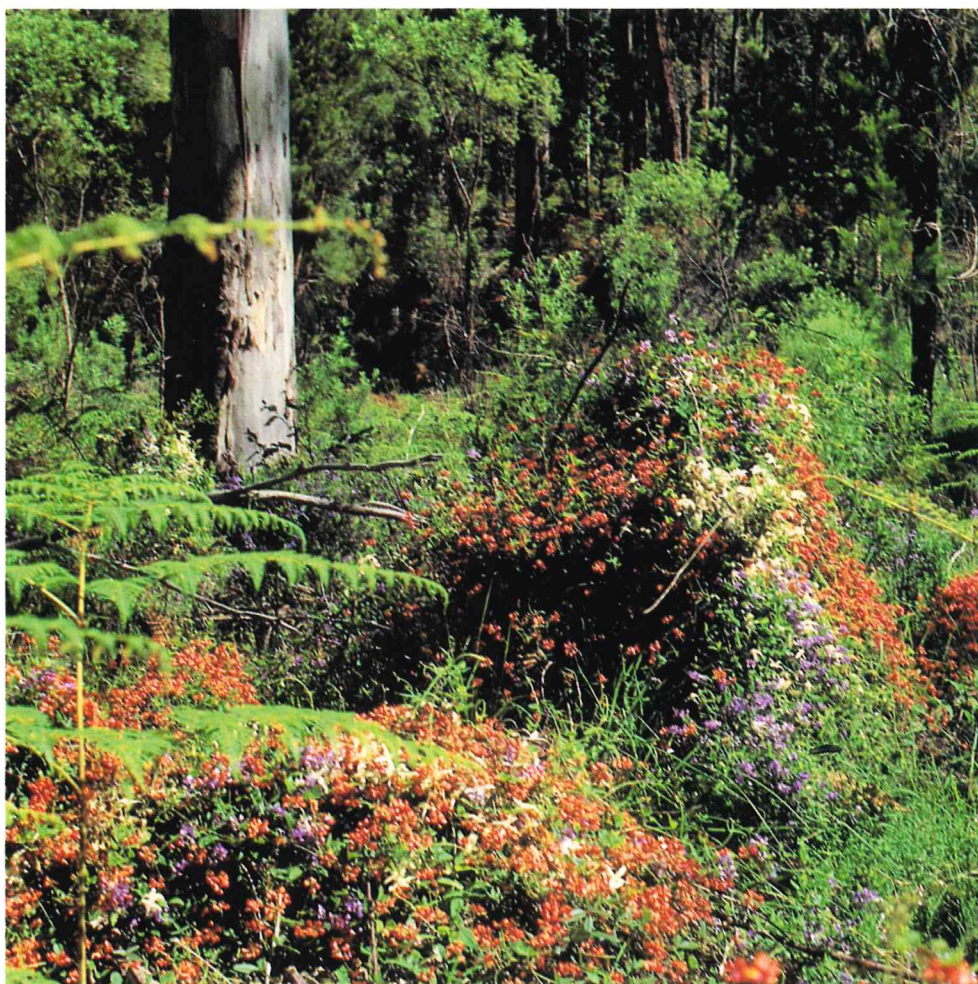


photo: Cliff Winfield



Karri forest wildflowers

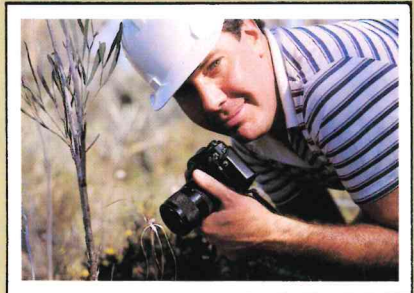
F Foresters at work

Flowers are a heritage that Western Australians guard well. The variety of wildflowers in the forest country of the south-west is unique in the world. It is estimated that 75 per cent of south-west botanical species are found nowhere else in the world.

Foresters work to ensure that the structure of forests in the south-west and the management of those forests encourage the continued growth of rare indigenous species.

Flowering trees in the understorey of the jarrah forest include members of the Banksia family, the Christmas Tree which is so named because its golden blossoms flower at Christmas time, the Sheoak and the remarkable Blackboy and Zamia. The highly aromatic Boronia and varieties of eucalypts delight the senses of visitors to Western Australia's forests.

Further information on life in the forest can be obtained from the Information Branches of the Forests Department at Como, Bunbury or Manjimup.



Cliff Winfield who works as an extension officer in the Forests Department takes many of the beautiful photographs seen in Forest Focus and other publications.

When Cliff is not looking through his lenses he might be found sailing or swimming.

Cliff began his career with the Forests Department six years ago as a seed store officer.



Caring for wildflowers

RARE PLANTS GROWING IN STATE FORESTS

Chittering grass wattle
(*Acacia anomala*)
Leafless rock wattle
(*Acacia aphylla*)
Yellow jugflower
(*Adenanthos detmoldii*)
Meisners Scott River Banksia – var.
ascedens
(*Banksia meisneri*)
Purdie's donkey orchid
(*Diuris purdiei*)
Hamelin Bay mallee
(*Eucalyptus calcicola*)
Plumed lanoline bush
(*Franklandia triaristata*)
Varied-leaf grevillea
(*Greavillea circiifolia*)
Drummond's grevillea
(*Grevillea drummondii*)
Collie ripicola
(*Grevillea ripicola*)
Orange miniata
(*Hibbertia miniata*)
Northcliffe kennedia
(*Kennedia glabrata*)
Augusta kennedia
(*Kennedia macrophylla*)
Round-leaf honeysuckle
(*Lambertia orbifolia*)
Green honeysuckle
(*Lambertia rariflora*)
Helena velvet bush
(*Lasiopetalum bracteatum*)
Brown leek orchid
(*Prasophyllum lanceolatum*)
Dark leek orchid
(*Prasophyllum triangulare*)
Dwarf pea
(*Ptychosema pusillum*)
Skinner's pea
(*Pultenaea skinneri*)
Helena synaphea
(*Synaphea pinnata*)

Western Australian wildflowers have great scientific and economic value, they are well worth conserving.

Geographic isolation over millions of years has enabled nature to evolve and preserve many species not found elsewhere in the world.

Scientists have found it important to study our wildflowers in their natural habitats so that they can learn more about the management of our environment.

Wildflowers have many economic benefits for the community. Tourists are attracted to Western Australia just to see the rare beauty of the more than 6,000 varieties of local flora. Wildflower cultivation has become an increasingly large section of the nursery industry, serving both local and international trade.

In nature the local flora provide food and shelter for indigenous animals. In a harsh and infertile environment the local flora are often the only check on erosion.

For these reasons the picking of wildflowers is prohibited in Western Australian forests and other Crown Lands. Some species are so rare that it is not permitted to pick or collect seed, even on private land. Twenty-one of these species are found in State forests and are listed on the left.