

S.G.A.P. ACACIA STUDY GROUP
NEWSLETTER NO. 24
MARCH 1977

John Arnold
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Armidale
NSW 2350

ACACIA STUDY GROUP ACCOUNTS

Balance as at Newsletter No. 23			\$48.53
Add:	subscriptions		<u>\$5.00</u>
			\$53.53
Less:	Cost of N/L No. 23	\$12.50	
	Envelopes	\$1.20	
	Postages	\$12.04	<u>\$25.74</u>
Balance on hand at 7/3/77			\$27.79

NEWSLETTER NO. 24

Contrary to popular opinion, the Acacia Study Group is alive and well, but decentralized to the cool, clean air of the Northern Tablelands, among 117 species of Acacia.

Subscriptions are now due, and have been set at \$2 per member for 1977. This increase is required to cover the costs of keeping the PMG in the manner to which it would like to remain accustomed.

The seed bank is now open for business on the same basis as before:

Maximum order 12 packets weekly, SAE enclosed and orders in ALPHABETICAL order.

Additions *A. pilligaensis*
Deletions *A. oxyclada*, *A. glaucocarpa*, *A. axillaris*, *A. pyrifolia*, *A. microcarpa* v.
linearis, *A. ramosissima*, *A. rhotinocarpa*, *A. spillerana*, *A. gunnii*, *A.*
falcata, *A. uncinata*

THE SEED BANK FUNCTIONS BECAUSE YOU SUPPLY THE SEED.

PLEASE SEND LABELLED SEED COLLECTIONS NOW.

ADDRESS: JOHN ARNOLD, PO BOX 89, ARMIDALE, NSW 2350

SUGGESTED OBJECTIVES FOR ACACIA STUDY GROUP

1. To encourage and promote the growing of species of Acacia.
2. To expand and maintain a collection of seed of different species of Acacia; which shall be freely available to all members of the study group.
3. To collect and collate information on the distribution of species of the genus Acacia, using herbarium materials.
4. To obtain some understanding of the physiology of species of the genus Acacia, with particular reference to:
 - (i) salt spray and sand tolerance;
 - (ii) heavy soil and clay tolerance;
 - (iii) frost and cold tolerance;
 - (iv) the viability of seed stored under different conditions;
 - (v) the optimal conditions for seed germination throughout the range of species;
 - (vi) reaction of dry area species to high rainfall.
5. To undertake a study of the evolution of the genus Acacia with particular reference to the ecological adaptations of individual species.
6. To facilitate the dissemination of information on the genus Acacia.

I would appreciate comments on the above objectives particularly omissions, and fields of interest for individual members.

INEZ ARMITAGE – IMMEDIATE PAST LEADER

The achievements of this energetic woman are really quite remarkable. During her extended term as Group Leader, she established, and maintained with the assistance of Group members, a seed collection of some 280 species of Acacia from all over Australia. From this collection, 4521 parcels of seed were dispatched to members. In between playing Group Leader, housewife and round Australia Travelling Botanist, she has compiled a portfolio of sketches and descriptions of all 700 odd species of Acacia. Hopefully, the Federal Council will accept this work for publication. Meanwhile, the study group have a sneak preview with the description lists incorporated in these newsletters.

From all the members, thanks for your efforts Inez. You are a difficult act to follow.

NEWSLETTER NO.25 FOR MID-APRIL

In the next newsletter, set for mid-April to restore the three issues per year, will be included:

- (i) current membership and seed bank lists;
- (ii) an article on salt tolerance in Acacia by Trevor Blake;
- (iii) further species descriptions by Inez Armitage;
- (iv) contributions by other members, to reach Armidale by 8th April, 1977.

DESCRIPTIONS OF ACACIA SPECIES (CONTINUED)

BY INEZ ARMITAGE

- A. macradenia*
Q
Shrub/small tree with lanceolate-falcate phyllodes and large deep yellow ball flowers in racemes which are distinctly zig-zag.
- A. maitlandii*
All states ex. TAS & VIC
Small medium-size inland shrub with short lanceolate pungent pointed phyllodes and small-medium ball flowers, deep yellow.
- A. mearnsii*
NSW, TAS, VIC
One of the bigger trees with bipinnate foliage, and rather pale flowers in racemes.
- A. megacephala*
WA
Low-medium shrub with small bipinnate foliage, with or without sharp splines; and large deep golden flowers borne singly.
- A. meisneri*
WA
Medium shrub, rather short lanceolate foliage, bluey-green, yellow ball flowers.
- A. melanoxylon*
All states ex. NT & WA
(Blackwood). Tree to 80ft in suitable locations. Broad lanceolate-falcate foliage, globular flowers pale yellow in racemes.
- A. merrallii*
WA
Low-medium shrub, small ovate phyllodes, thick and leathery, deep yellow ball flowers.
- A. microbotrya*
NT, WA
Shrub-small tree with medium length lanceolate phyllodes and deep yellow flowers in racemes.
- A. microcarpa*
NSW, SA, VIC
Medium shrub with narrow oblong phyllodes and medium yellow flowers singly, pairs or clusters.
- A. mitchellii*
NSW, SA, VIC
Small undershrub with small bipinnate foliage and large pale yellow flowers on single peduncles.
- A. montana*
NSW, Q, SA, VIC
Small-medium shrub with viscous narrow ovate phyllodes and yellow ball flowers.
- A. mooreana*
WA
Low shrub with triangular shaped phyllodes and ball flowers on single peduncles.
- A. monticola*
NT, Q, WA
Inland shrub, medium size, ovate phyllodes, viscid, very large deep yellow flowers on long single peduncles.
- A. mucronata*
NSW, TAS, VIC
Medium shrub/small tree with long narrow phyllodes and small pale flowers in loose spikes.
- A. muellerana*
NSW
Beautiful small tree with bipinnate foliage, 1-3 pairs of pinnae very widely spaced and creamy flowers.
- A. multispicata*
WA
Medium shrub with very impressive floescence. Terete phyllodes and branches massed with deep yellow closely packed spike flowers.
- A. murrayana*
All states ex. VIC & TAS
Inland shrub with narrow lanceolate phyllodes and racemes comprising only 2-6 flowers.
- A. myrtifolia*
All states ex. NT
Low rather stiff shrub with ovate phyllodes, usually reddish stems and pale creamy or yellow flowers in short racemes.
- A. neriifolia*
NSW, Q
Shrub/small tree, somewhat pendulous and very attractive, lanceolate foliage and flowers in racemes.
- A. neurophylla*
WA
Inland shrub with stiff lanceolate phyllodes with several parallel veins and a brilliant floescence in golden-yellow spikes.

<i>A. nigricans</i> WA	Low shrub with small bipinnate foliage and ball flowers on single peduncles.
<i>A. nitidula</i> WA	Low shrub with very narrow, very short phyllodes and small mid-yellow flowers on single peduncles.
<i>A. notabilis</i>	Large-medium shrub with lanceolate phyllodes, often blue-grey and a massive floescence in large gold ball flowers in racemes.
<i>A. obliquinervia</i> NSW, VIC	Small tree/shrub. Phyllodes oblanceolate to obovate with prominent midrib much closer to upper margin. Flowers bright yellow in racemes.
<i>A. obtusata</i> NSW	Erect shrub, phyllodes lanceolate, obtuse at apex. Bright yellow flowers in short racemes.
<i>A. obtusifolia</i> NSW, Q, VIC	Shrub/small tree with oblong phyllodes, obtuse apex and pale flowers in long loose spikes.
<i>A. orthocarpa</i> NT, Q, WA	Inland shrub with very fine terete foliage and flowers in small compact bright yellow spikes.
<i>A. oswaldii</i> All states ex. TAS	Shrub-small tree, very rigid habit, stiff leathery phyllodes, linear-lanceolate. Flowers almost sessile, bright yellow in pairs or clusters.
<i>A. oxycedrus</i> NSW, WA, VIC	Spreading shrub with short lanceolate phyllodes, viciously pungent pointed. Flowers in pale to mid-yellow spikes. Excellent as a hedge where a deterrent is required to cats, children and other marauders.