

DODONAEA STUDY GROUP



DODONAEA
VISCOSA SSP. ANGUSTISSIMA

NEWSLETTER NO. 27 - July, 1993

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Dear Members,

This newsletter is likely to be a small one as I mistakenly asked in the March newsletter for contributions by September!! The year goes by quickly enough as it is without my helping it along - so please NOW - contributions by September please. I would suggest that you reread the March 1993 newsletter to remind you of my requests.

I have recently sent off to Bill Payne, Editor of 'Australian Plants', what I hope will be the final draft of my manuscript on Dodonaeas. Many thanks to Judy West, Marion Simmons and Geoff Butler who proof read the text and made suggestions for improvement. It is far from perfect but I think it will fill a need of the SGAP membership for more information on our Dodonaeas.

I have now bought 4 Ring Binders and a box of plastic sleeves in which to mount a cross section of the best of our herbarium specimens. By doing this they hopefully will be accepted by a State Herbarium when the Study Group is no longer active. My efforts in the past have not been very professional so I hope to improve on this situation. This idea came from the Study Group Leaders Seminar. I have 2 filing cabinet drawers full of pressed and mounted specimens and it would be good if the best of them could be lodged in an accessible place eventually.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE

Welcome to new members Mr. R. Miller and Miss. A. Stevenson of 7 Sylvan Grove, Picnic Point 2213.

Thanks to the Regions and groups that send their newsletters to me. Much valuable information is extracted from them and frequently passed on to others.

Receipts		Expenditure	
Brought forward	109.61	Copying	27.60
Subscriptions	10.00	Postage	29.20
	-----	Folders and sleeves	<u>21.50</u>
	119.61		78,30
Balance \$	41.31		

Your subscriptions are due in June, so please send \$5 as soon as possible. As you can see from the above, I will barely have enough to cover the cost of this newsletter.

AUSTRALIAN FLORA FOUNDATION

SPECIAL RESEARCH GRANTS - 1993-94

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Applications for seeding grants to support research into the biology or cultivation of native Australian plants with commercial floriculture potential are invited from investigators in Australia. The species or genus of study should have potential to be third or fourth generation domesticated, native flowers (in the sense that *Anigozanthos* and *Chamaelaucium* are first generation, and, perhaps, *Blandfordia* or *Clianthus* are second generation).

The Foundation will enter into a contract with the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation, which will provide the funds for these grants; Researchers will enter into agreements with the Foundation. The Foundation envisages funding three or four of these seeding projects with \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year for up to two years. The funding period is likely to be October to September each year, subject to the chain of approvals.

In the first round of applications under this new Special Grants Scheme, full, rigorous applications will be required now, as time precludes the Foundation's usual practice of selecting a short list from preliminary, brief applications. Guidelines for the applications may be obtained by writing to the Hon. Secretary at the address below or from Research Offices of Universities or by faxing the President, Dr Malcolm Reed, on (02) 805 8245. Six copies of full applications should be posted (not faxed) to reach the Honorary Secretary by 30th July, 1993.

The Australian Flora Foundation will continue to provide its usual grants, which are funded by the community and Societies for Growing Australian Plants. The closing date for community funded grants is April each year, for funding in the following calendar year.

Special grant applications close: 30th July, 1993.

Send to: Hon. Secretary,
Australian Flora Foundation,
GPO Box 205,
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Leaders or members of S.G.A.P. Study Groups may be in a position to take advantage of these Special Research Grants.

Malcolm Reed
President



DODONAEA PROCUMBENS F. Muell.

Once again Marion Simmon's very detailed illustration of *D. procumbens* has inspired me to include a description - a sincere thanks to Marion.

This is a great little ground cover and should be used more in the garden. It will spread to a metre or more and make a dense cover sometimes rooting at the nodes. It looks good hanging over a rock wall and I feel sure would do well in a hanging basket.

The light green leaves are usually lobed and about 1-2cm long with margins slightly recurved. The flowers are usually unisexual but occasionally they are bisexual (having male and female parts on each flower). You will note in the illustration that these flowers are bisexual, as are the ones on my plant. They probably originated from the same source). These are followed by 3 (sometimes 4) winged capsules, which turn red-brown in summer. The wings of these fruits are very narrow and the capsules are small, so are not as showy as some species.

The distribution of this species is the Mt. Lofty Ranges in South Australia, in south western Victoria and near Cooma in south-western New South Wales. They are found in open woodlands as a ground cover under eucalypts.

D. inaequifolia	3	32	2K IBA &4K IBA	Mar.	90%	55%
D. lobulata	1	32	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA	Jan.	75%	65%
D. pinnata	2	36	2k IBA	Apr.	87%	50%
D. serratifolia	1	32	4k IBA	Sep.	81%	56%
D. subglandulifera	10	314	4K IBA	Nov.	87%	53%
D. tepperi	5	181	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA &2K IBA	Apr.	77%	49%
D. viscosa	4	135	4k IBA	Nov.	78%	46%
D. spp. (undeter- mined)	5	174	2k IBA	Aug. & Nov.	87%	55%

SEED :

Three seed sowings of *D. subglandulifera* undertaken in September 1990, registered germination in c.40 days.

Barrie Hadlow 10/5/93

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS, CANBERRA

AUSTRALIAN FLORA FOUNDATION

The letter on page 2 arrived recently, as you can see they are calling for applications for grants. I would appreciate ideas or comments from members.

IN THE GARDEN

I have just finished reading Diana Snape's delightful book - 'Australian Native Gardens - Putting Visions into Practice'. I would highly recommend this book in which Diana has included gardens of 30 Australian plant enthusiasts in south-eastern Australia.

These are described and illustrated with colour and black and white photographs and also include the philosophies of these gardeners and their favourite plants. Only Paul Thompson - a landscaper from Melbourne, whose work I greatly admire - listed a Dod as one of his favourite plants and that was *D. microzyga* (Brilliant Hop Bush) and his comment was - 'it is valuable for its foliage and fruit'. I happily agree!!

D. adenophora (although I suspect it is *D. sinuolata*) was mentioned as growing in Maureen Schaumann's garden in a Melbourne suburb. Maureen is a co-author of the invaluable reference book 'Australian Daisies for Gardens and Floral Art' produced by the Australian Daisy Study Group.

A photo of Roger and Gwen Elliot's garden (they are now in a new home and garden) features *D. procumbens* (Trailing Hop Bush) as a foil for *Eriostemon verrucosus* 'Semmens Double Wax Flower'. This is an encouraging indication that Dodonaeas are being used more in Australian gardens.

RESEARCH

With this newsletter I am including for active members only, a Flowering and Fruiting Record Sheet, which I hope members will fill in with a ✓ (tick) for flowering and a x (cross) for fruiting of the Dodonaeas in your garden. Please return in late June 1994. It will take some dedication to keep this up but I hope that many of you will - I certainly will try! Results will appear in a later newsletter.

When I was in Canberra for the Study Group Leaders Seminar last year, I met Barrie Hadlow, who is, I think, in charge of propagation for the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Barry spoke to us at the seminar and also asked to join our group. A short time ago, I received from Barrie a Dodonaea Propagation Report of his work with growing Dods in Canberra. This report I have copied in the following three pages and I wish to say a special thank you to Barrie. Apart from being very interesting to see the results and the methods used by Barrie and his staff, it has been a great help to me in preparing this newsletter.

DODONAEA PROPAGATION REPORT

ANBG ---- 1989-1992, Cuttings and (limited) seed propagation.

Cuttings were struck using a fogging glasshouse with a constant relative humidity of c.90 % throughout the year, and bottom heat set at 20-23 degrees C. in winter months. SARLON shade cloth over the propagation glasshouse, reduced the available light by 50%. Hand watering of cuttings punnets occurred approximately thrice weekly, as well as weekly cleaning away of contaminated or dead leaf material. Fungicide application was carried out every 2 to 3 weeks, using a range of suitable chemicals over time. The cuttings medium was a mix of perlite and peat moss at a ratio of 5 parts to 1. A fine textured peat moss was preferred.

The following chemical hormones were used to promote rooting, and were applied as a 5 second dip. :- Indolebutyric acid (IBA), and Napthalene-acetic acid (NAA), as formulations either individually or together, and always at known dilution rates. In the table below this is expressed as parts per million (ppm), the letter 'K' being synonymous with 1000. Both hormone acids were presented in a 50% alcohol solution (ethanol), in H2O.

Seedlings were raised within a glasshouse having the same or similar light and temperature conditions as the cuttings, however having greater ventilation and an evaporative cooler not present in the fog house. The seed sowing medium was a sand/perlite mix (c.3 parts to 1), steam sterilized.

The attached DODONAEA table, indicates species that have been propagated between the years 1989 TO 1992 at the ANBG nursery. Hormone treatments ranged from an 0.5K IBA & 0.5K NAA (mix), to IBA at concentrations of 2K through to 6K ppm.

The table lists :-

- a. The species.
- b. The number of successful propagation batches.
- c. The total number of cuttings made over all hormone treatments that were successful.
- d. The most successful hormone treatment/s.

e. The time of year for propagation of the most successful treatment/s.

f. The average percentage success (struck cuttings), for the best hormone treatment.

g. The average percentage success (struck cuttings), across all hormone treatments used.

	(a).....	(b)...	(c)...	(d).....	(e)...	(f)...	(g)...
Dodonaea biloba	2	80	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA	Feb.	12%	9%	
D. bursariifolia	2	37	2k IBA	Jan.	40%	23%	
D. ceratocarpa	1	32	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA	Aug.	68%	56%	
D. falcata	2	70	4k IBA	Apr.	53%	23%	
D. filiformis	6	160	4k IBA	Nov. &Jan.	84%	54%	
D. heteromorpha	2	30	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA	Jan.	77%	47%	
D. hexandra	3	96	0.5K /0.5K IBA-NAA	Jan.	81%	43%	
D. humifusa	3	82	2K IBA	Apr.	70%	40%	

