



Whitsunday  
Catchment  
**Landcare**

# Newsletter

June 2021

[www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au](http://www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au)



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Central QLD Coast  
**Landcare**  
Network

*A partnership for the natural resource management of catchments in the Central QLD Coast Bioregions.*

**CATCHMENT COORDINATOR:**

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**CONTACT US FOR INFORMATION:**

- Natural Resource Management
- Land management Plans
- Native plants
- Environmental weeds
- Volunteer activities

**BECOME A VOLUNTEER:**

Come seed collecting; learn to identify native plants; how to propagate them; improve your environment; enjoy the outdoors in a fun, social setting.

If you're interested in doing your bit for the environment and socialising with like-minded people, we offer coordinated activities on Tuesday & Thursday mornings and more. Contact us!

**WCL Management Committee:**

Graham Armstrong, Chair

Jacque Sheils, Secretary

Glenda Hodgson, Treasurer

Dale Mengel

John Casey

WRC representative- CR. Gary Simpson

One Community position vacant

**WCL is a community not-for-profit group, relying on grants & donations.**

We are a registered charity; donations of

\$2 or more are tax deductible. To make a donation please contact us or go to our page:

**Make a Donation**



WCL receives support from the following organizations:



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment



**Coming Up in June 2021**

**COMMUNITY NURSERY OPEN FOR PLANT SALES  
(CASH ONLY)**

**9am-12noon Tuesday, Thursday & the 1st Saturday  
of each month-**

**Next Saturday opening—5th June 2021**

**Volunteer Activities in June:**

**Thursday 17th June– 9am– 12noon.  
Revegetation Planting at Galbraith Park  
(Southern side)**

**Morning Tea & water top-ups provided.**

**At the Community Nursery in June:**

**33 Kelsey Creek Rd Proserpine  
Tuesday & Thursday 9am—12.30pm.**

Tuesday	Thursday
<b>1st:</b> Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	<b>3rd:</b> Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.
<b>8th:</b> Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.	<b>10th:</b> Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.
<b>15th:</b> Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	<b>17th:</b> Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery. <b>Alternate Activity– Revegetation Planting at Galbraith Park-See page 2 for details.</b>
<b>22nd:</b> Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	<b>24th:</b> Propagation, Seed processing, Potting, Record keeping etc. at the nursery.
<b>29th:</b> Nursery Maintenance & propagation activities	

## WCL Volunteers- Thursday 17th June– Alternate to Nursery activity



### Revegetation Planting at Galbraith Park–

(R 19-20 2021 outlined in red on aerial photo- Southern side to the right & behind the Community Garden)

### Galbraith Park Drive

9- 12noon.

### Morning Tea & water top-ups provided.

This is one of WCL's nominated long-term revegetation sites and the last bit to do in the park. We have 300 plants to get in the ground. Staff will be on-hand to assist.

### What to Bring:

- Closed in shoes & suitable clothing (trousers & long sleeves)
- Hat
- Water bottle
- Gloves

## Calling all landholders with creek lines on their properties !

Are you interested in stream bank protection and reducing erosion?  
If yes, this workshop is for you.

### Reef Catchments are hosting this workshop

**When: 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm Wednesday 23rd June**

**Where: Proserpine Community Centre (PCC), 36 Gardenia Street Proserpine, QLD 4800**

Please register on the Reef Catchments Eventbrite website:

[Erosion and stream bank protection workshop Tickets, Wed 23/06/2021 at 12:00 pm | Eventbrite](#)

It would be great if you could share with anyone you think will enjoy this.

Landholders are invited to learn about practical ways to protect wetlands and streams from erosion as well as hear about best practice methods for watercourse management.

Hear from stream bank erosion specialist Misko Ivezich. Misko is an environmental and civil engineer with Alluvium, and has core interests and skills in river restoration and the interactions between hydrology, hydraulics and fluvial geomorphology.

Refreshments will be provided.

This project is supported through funding from the Queensland Government's Natural Resources Investment Program.

**Don't hesitate to give Jessica Sabatino a call on 0409 898 296 if you have any questions**



## Our Magnificent Macropods- *Whitsunday Regional Council Area – A Macropod Hotspot*

Not many Regional Councils in Australia could be considered a hotspot for Macropod Diversity. Yet within the boundaries of the Whitsunday Regional Council exist no fewer than 13 species of Macropod (Kangaroo & Wallaby) including its very own endemic species – the **Proserpine Rock Wallaby** (PRW)- one of the world's most threatened macropod species. The coastal vine forest on rocky hills close to Proserpine and nearby islands is the only home of the PRW.

The **Unadorned Rock Wallaby** is much more widespread than the PRW and is found throughout the rocky ranges of the WRC area. In a few places to the west of Collinsville the **Allied Rock Wallaby** has also been recorded. Out on the Council's western boundaries, in the open country along the Sutor river, west of Mt Coolon, **Red Kangaroos** and **Spectacled Hare Wallabies** can be found. The drier uncleared ranges have large populations of the **Wallaroo**. Scattered in the densely vegetated areas throughout the region are shy **Swamp Wallabies** and even more secretive **Black-striped Wallabies**. The elegant Pretty-face (or Whiptail) Wallaby is more common in the low hills nearer to the coast and the grassy understorey of our residual open eucalypt woodland is home to the **Grey Kangaroo**, **Rufous Bettong** and the abundant **Agile Wallaby**. Finally, amongst the remnant rainforest of the flat, riparian areas there are also residual populations of the demur **Red-legged Pademelon**.

These animals are reflective of the variety of habitats that lie within the boundaries of the Whitsunday Regional Council. Much of the inland region remains low in human population with Cattle Grazing the main land use. Retention of these habitats on grazing lands is key to maintaining much of this macropod diversity and the current species list reflects positively on our improving land management practices despite the overall decrease in the populations of some species e.g. Black-striped Wallaby. Sadly we often only become aware of the presence of these wonderful animals when they become the victims of vehicle strike on our roads and highways.

There is another species of Wallaby, the Bridled Nail-tail Wallaby, that was once found within WRC area but is now represented by a few hundred individuals being kept under close conservation management in a small scientific park to our west, just north of Clermont. Wouldn't it be great if feral cat and fox populations could be controlled so that this small wallaby species could be successfully reintroduced to an appropriate site within the WRC area thus adding to our region's great reputation as a regional Macropod Hotspot. ( *Pictures continued over page*)



Above: Unadorned Rock Wallaby @Bogie River; Garlone Moulin

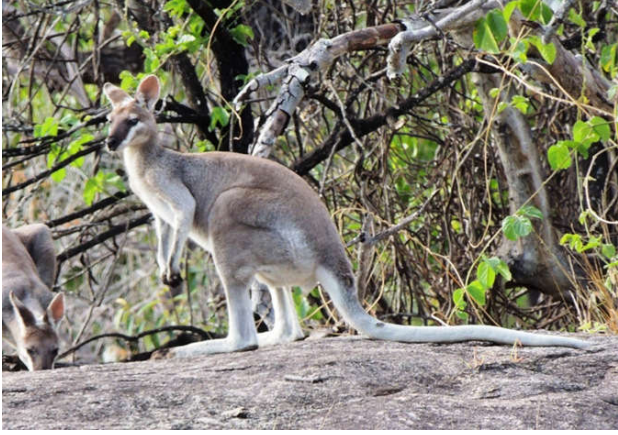


Above: Rufous Bettong @Bogie River; Photo G. Armstrong

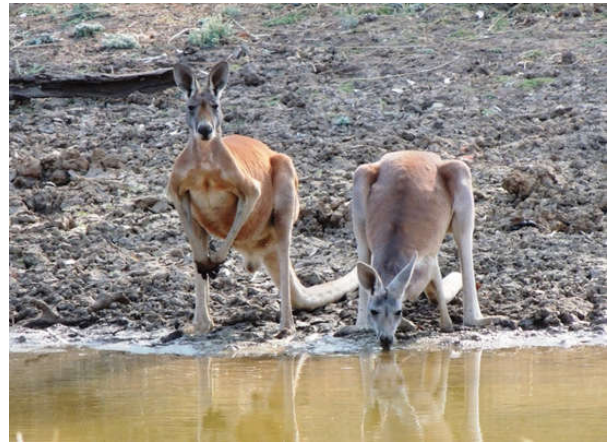


Left: Male Wallaroo@Bogie River; Photo G. Armstrong





*Above:* Pretty-face Wallaby near Collinsville.  
Photo G. Armstrong

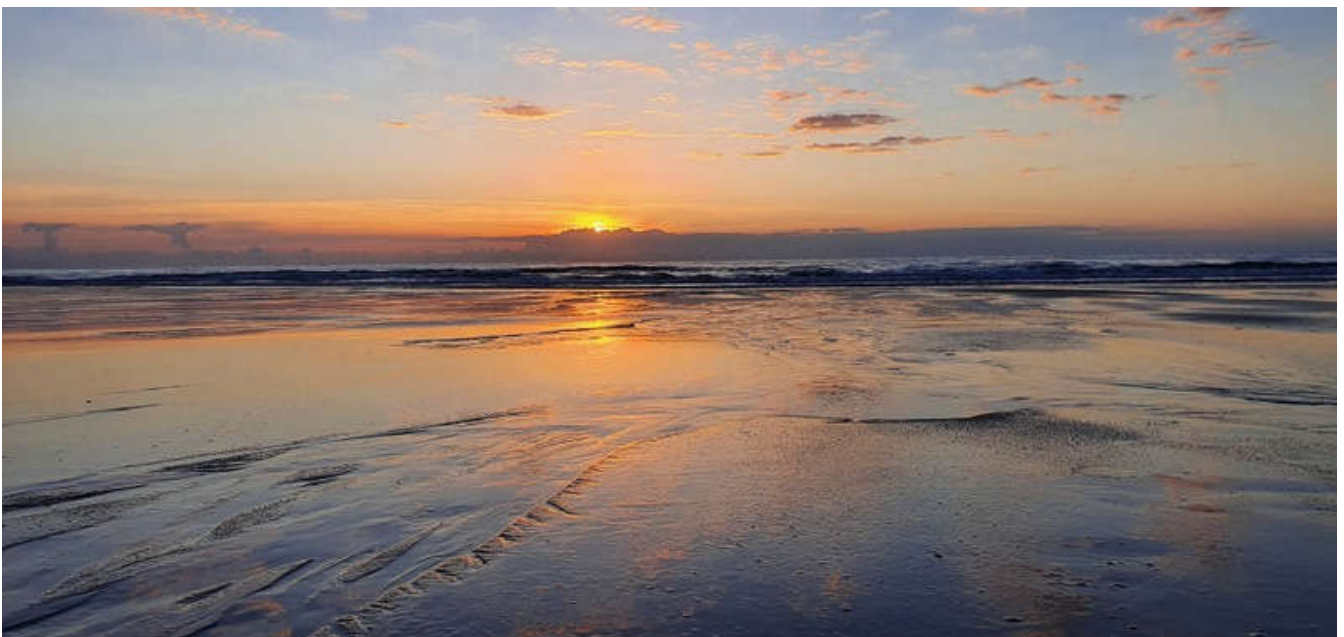


*Above:* Red Kangaroo @ Suttor River;  
Photo: G. Armstrong

Right: Black-striped Wallaby dead near  
Collinsville Photo G. Armstrong



## HAPPY WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY– JUNE 5TH 2021



*Above:* Dawn at Cape Upstart. Photo: Jaymie Raines NQ Dry Tropics

## Cape Upstart Station– Semi-evergreen vine thicket of the Nandewar Bioregion (Beach Scrub) rehabilitation project.



WCL has been contracted by North Queensland Dry Tropics (NQDT) to undertake weed control & marine debris collection at specified Beach Scrub Project sites at the Cape Upstart Station.

The Beach Scrub Project aims to improve the condition and extent of endangered Beach Scrub regional ecosystems within semi-evergreen vine thickets on the coastal plains.

Project sites have undergone bio-condition assessment by NQDT and recommendations were made for on-ground works to improve the condition and extent of the Beach Scrub. The resulting Site Action Plans are reviewed annually based on stakeholder feedback, including Community group staff and volunteers and NQDT threat assessments.

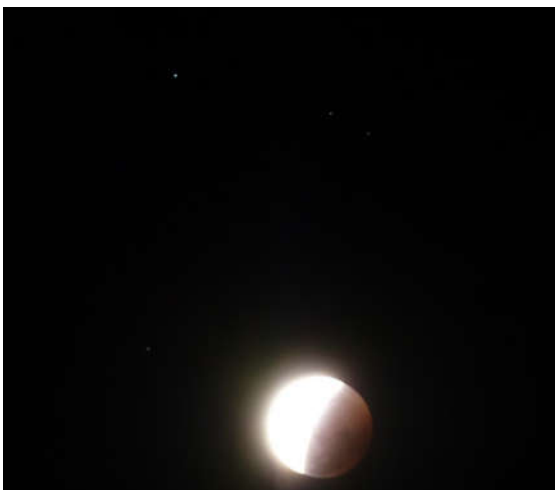
Complete eradication of weeds is not always practical, therefore weed removal must primarily happen to stop the threat and damage from existing weeds (i.e. fire promoting weeds must be removed adjacent to beach scrub vegetation, vine weeds removed where weighing on canopy), and removal of individuals to avoid seed spread. Secondly weeds must be removed to allow beach scrub vegetation to recover and create a weed free buffer on the edge of beach scrub areas.

WCL recently hosted a 3 day volunteer event at the Cape Upstart Station site. 10 WCL staff & volunteers ventured forth, set up camp and proceeded to survey a specified area of beach scrub for weeds and a lot of plant identification & seed collection when found. Suffice to say we all had a great time, worked hard removing weeds & marine debris, had quite few laughs and of course looked at and for lots of flora & fauna.



Right: Just some of the WCL gang  
Photo: Elmer Ten Harken

*Below: A big old Mimusops elengi being strangled by a Ficus virens.  
Photo: J. Sheils*



*Left : The Luna eclipse in progress  
Photo: J. Sheils*



## What's Showing

**Family : Acanthaceae**

**Scientific Name: *Hypoestes floribunda***

R.Br.Brown, R. (1810) *Prodromus Florae Novae Hollandiae* : 474. Type: Queensland, Shoalwater Bay, Conical Pine Hill, 3 Sept. 1802, R. Brown 2949; lecto: BM; iso: BM, K, (MEL, BRI, G-DC. probable iso.).

**Common name**

Native Holly; Musk-scented Plant

**Stem**

Usually flowers and fruits as a herb or shrub up to about 1 m tall.

**Leaves**

Twigs usually pubescent, longitudinally ridged. Leaf blades about 0.7-9 x 0.8-2.5 cm, pubescent on both the upper and lower surfaces, more densely so on the midrib and lateral veins on the under surface. Leaf oil dots or glands elongated, streaky when viewed with a lens.

**Flowers**

Calyx segments usually shorter than the inner bracts. Corolla tube about 5-10 mm long, upper lip 7-14 mm long. One lip of the corolla held at right angles to the main axis of the flower. Lips of the corolla reddish purple but the corolla tube +/- white. Staminal filaments pubescent at least in the basal half. Base of the ovary surrounded by a large lobed gland.

**Fruit**

Calyx green, persisting at the base of the fruit but completely hidden by the bracts. Capsule narrow-oblong, clavate, about 9-12.5 mm long, approximating or extending beyond the involucre. Seeds confined to the upper half of the capsule. Seeds flat, patelliform, testa rugose. Cotyledons much wider than the radicle.

**Seedlings**

Cotyledons about 9-15 x 10-17 mm. Cotyledons +/- 3-veined and the outer veins loop around and rejoin the midrib near the apex. First pair of leaves opposite, leaf blades densely clothed in white prostrate hairs on the undersurface. At the tenth leaf stage: stem, petiole and leaf blade underside clothed in very short pale hairs. Stems swollen just above each pair of leaves. Seed germination time 33 to 80 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**

Endemic to Australia, occurs in WA, NT, CYP, NEQ, CEQ and southwards to north-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 1000 m. Grows in a variety of forest types from brigalow scrub to frontal dune vegetation. When found in rain forests it is usually in the drier more open rain forests, monsoon forest and vine thickets.

**Natural History & Notes**

Food plant for the larval stages of the Blue Argus Butterfly. Sankowsky & Nielsen (2000). Leaf and stem material of this species was active against some tumors. Collins et al. (1990). Several varieties are recognised.

**Herb (herbaceous or woody, under 1 m tall)**

Source: [http://www.canbr.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/RFK7/key/RFK7/Media/Html/entities/Hypoestes\\_floribunda.htm](http://www.canbr.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/RFK7/key/RFK7/Media/Html/entities/Hypoestes_floribunda.htm)



Above: *Hypoestes floribunda* at Cape Upstart in littoral rainforest Photo: J. Sheils.



Above: *Hypoestes floribunda* flower detail Photo: J. Sheils.

# Pest Hall of Fame

**Common name:** Sickle Pod

**Scientific Name:**

***Senna obtusifolia***

**Appearance:** Annual or short-lived perennial sub-shrub to 2m. Young stems have short hairs. Produces a distinctive foetid smell when leaves are crushed.

**Leaves:** Total length 30–100mm, including the 15–20mm long channelled stalk. Leaflets usually three pairs, bluish-green, obovate, 40–50 x 20–30mm, with a small soft point; prominent orange 2–3mm long cylindrical gland present between the basal leaflets. Stipules persistent, narrow and up 20mm long.

**Flowers:** Bright yellow, about 10mm long, usually in pairs borne in the upper leaf axils.

**Fruits/Seeds:** Pods sickle-shaped, cylindrical, sparsely and minutely hairy, brown 120–180 x about 3mm, with 30–50 plump shiny chestnut-brown seeds, 4–6.5 x 2–4mm.

**Spread by:** Seeds expelled from opening pods, water, contaminated soil on machinery (harvesting, earthmoving, and 4WDs), animal hooves, manure, contaminated harvest material and fodder. Also in garden waste for species such as Easter Cassia *Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*.

**Invades:** 'Everywhere'; grazing, agriculture and the environment are all under threat.

**Notes:** Native to Tropical America. Sicklepods produce numerous seeds that, in a short time, may accumulate a large soil seed-bank. As the seeds remain viable for up to a decade or more, germination can take place over many years, whenever conditions are suitable. They can form dense stands that compete with pastures and crops for light, moisture and nutrients and their roots can exude compounds which reduce the growth of seedlings of other species nearby.

Sicklepods are toxic to cattle and while mature pods and seeds are sometimes eaten, the plants are relatively unpalatable and soon die off. Normally an annual, it can survive for two years if slashed or if chemical treatment is insufficient to kill the plant.

## Legal requirements

- Sicklepod is a restricted invasive plant under the Biosecurity Act 2014.
- It must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment without a permit.
- The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants and animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO).
- At a local level, each local government must have a biosecurity plan that covers invasive plants and animals in its area. This plan may include actions to be taken on certain species. Some of these actions may be required under local laws. Contact your local government for more information.

## Management

Avoid seed production as seed can be viable for up to ten years. Hygiene is important when moving stock, vehicles, machinery and water.

## Mechanical Control

Slashing can maintain sicklepod at a manageable level and under the right conditions can kill a large percentage of adult plants. Use blunt slasher blades to knock down plants as sharp blades will encourage regrowth.

## Pasture Management

Good pasture management by maintaining a good level of cover, will enable desirable vigorous grasses to out compete sicklepods.



*Senna obtusifolia*  
PHOTO: Peter Alden



*Senna obtusifolia* Flowers and leaves  
PHOTO: C. Peterson



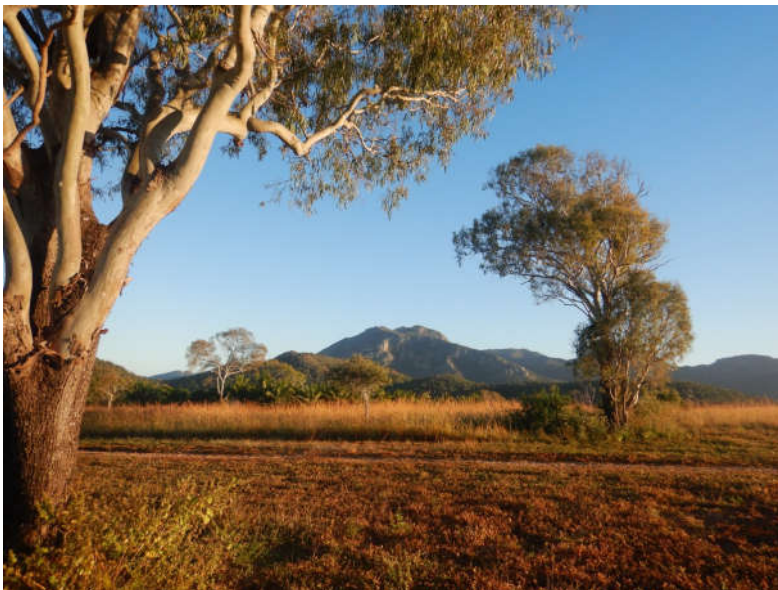
*Sicklepod infestation*  
PHOTO: Steve Booth

[https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0013/51052/sicklepod.pdf](https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0013/51052/sicklepod.pdf)





Above: A very old Cycad  
Photos: C. Campbell



Above: & Right A few more picture of the  
stunning Cape Upstart Station & Beach  
Photo: J. Sheils



### INTERESTING WEB SITES:

#### Native Animals, Insects, Birds:

[www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au](http://www.whitsundaylandcare.org.au)  
<http://www.wildlife.org.au/magazine/>  
<http://www.aussiebee.com.au>  
[www.birdsinbackyards.net](http://www.birdsinbackyards.net)  
[www.australianmuseum.net.au/reptiles](http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/reptiles)  
<http://birdlife.org.au/locations/birdlife-mackay/activities-mac>

#### Native plants:

<http://ausgrass2.myspecies.info/content/oplismenus>  
<https://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/cd-keys/rfk/>  
<https://www.eucalyptaustralia.org.au/>  
<http://sgaptownsville.org.au/>  
[www.facebook.com.au/sgapmackay](http://www.facebook.com.au/sgapmackay)

### Wetlands

<http://wetlandinfo.ehp.qld.gov.au/wetlands/ecology/components/flora/mangroves/mangrove-moreton.html>

**Feral Animals:** [feralflyer@invasiveanimals.com](mailto:feralflyer@invasiveanimals.com)  
<https://alumni.uq.edu.au/cane-toad-baits>

#### Feral plants:

[www.weeds.org.au](http://www.weeds.org.au)  
[www.environment.gov.au › Biodiversity › Invasive species › weeds](http://www.environment.gov.au/Biodiversity/Invasive%20species/weeds)  
[www.iewf.org/weedid/index\\_by\\_reserve.htm](http://www.iewf.org/weedid/index_by_reserve.htm)  
[www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/herbarium/](http://www.anbg.gov.au/cpbr/herbarium/)  
<https://www.vision6.com.au/em/mail/view.php?id=1769275019&a=17056&k=a87f8df>



## WCL Community Nursery– Always Needs Seeds

The WCL Nursery is very keen to source endemic seed so please keep an eye on your flowering native trees, shrubs & grasses for the volunteer nursery. Some of the species we need are:

<i>Abutilon auritum</i>		<i>Lagerstroemia archeriana</i>	
<i>Abutilon albescens</i>		<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box
<i>Acacia aulacocarpa</i>		<i>Lophostemon grandiflorus</i>	Nthn Swamp Mahogany
<i>Acacia leptocarpa</i>		<i>Lysiphyllum hookeri</i>	Hookers Bauhinia
<i>Acacia leptostachya</i>		<i>Macaranga tanarius</i>	Macaranga
<i>Acacia simsii</i>		<i>Melaleuca dealbata</i>	Blue Tea Tree
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>		<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i>	
<i>Alphitonia petriei</i>		<i>Melaleuca viminalis</i>	Weeping Bottle Brush
<i>Antidesma parviflorum</i>		<i>Melicope elleryana</i>	Corkwood, Euodia
<i>Aphananthe philippinensis</i>		<i>Memecylon pauciflorum</i> var. <i>pauciflorum</i>	
<i>Archontophoenix alexandrae</i>	Alexander Palm	<i>Micromelum minutum</i>	Native Lime Berry
<i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i>	Black she-oak	<i>Omphalea celata</i>	
<i>Allocasuarina luehmannii</i>		<i>Pandanus</i> sp.	
<i>Aidia racemosa</i>	Archer Cherry	<i>Petalostigma pubescens</i>	
<i>Atalaya rigida</i>	Veiny Whitewood	<i>Planchonia careya</i>	Cocky Apple
<i>Breynia oblongifolia</i>	Coffee Bush	<i>Ptychosperma elegans</i>	Solitaire palm
<i>Cajanus reticulatus</i>	Native Pigeon Pea	<i>Phyllanthus novae-hollandiae</i>	
<i>Carallia brachiata</i>	Freshwater mangrove	<i>Sterculia quadrifida</i>	Peanut Tree
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River oak	<i>Syzygium australe</i>	River cherry
<i>Chionanthus ramiflorus</i>	Native Olive	<i>Tabernaemontana orientalis</i>	
<i>Cordia dichotoma</i>		<i>Timonius timon</i>	Tim Tam Tree
<i>Cordia subcordata</i>	Sea Trumpet	<i>Trema tomentosa</i> var. <i>aspera</i>	Peach-leafed Poison Bush
<i>Corymbia clarksoniana</i>		<i>Trema orientalis</i>	
<i>Corymbia intermedia</i>	Pink Bloodwood	<i>Vachellia bidwillii</i> (WAS <i>Acacia bidwillii</i> )	Corkwood
<i>Corymbia tessellaris</i>	Morton Bay Ash	<i>Vitex trifolia</i>	Vitex
<i>Corymbia erythrophloia</i>	Red Bloodwood		
<i>Cryptocarya hypospodia</i>	Large leafed Laurel		
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo		
<i>Diospyros compacta</i>			
<i>Diospyros geminata</i>			
<i>Diospyros hebecarpa</i>			
<i>Dysoxylum gaudichaudianum</i>			
<i>Elaeocarpus grandis</i>	Blue Quandang		
<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i>	Narrow-leafed Ironbark		
<i>Eucalyptus platyphylla</i>			
<i>Eucalyptus exserta</i>	QLD Peppermint		
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	QLD Blue Gum		
<i>Euroschinus falcatus</i>	Ribbonwood		
<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	Cluster fig		
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native frangipani		
<i>Indigofera pratensis</i>			
<i>Ixora timorensis</i>			
<i>Ganophyllum falcatum</i>	Scaly Ash		

### Guidelines for seed collecting:

- Only collect seed from your own property or with written permission
- Source plants must have grown from seed from the Whitsunday Region
- Collect ripe, mature seed & no more than 10% of the seed from any one plant
- Collect from several parts of the plant, mainly the middle & upper branches
- Use paper bags (not plastic) to store the seed & keep them in a cool place
- Label the bag with the species, location, date and your name. Not sure of your plant identification? Include a stem with some leaves & /or take a photo.

You can drop seed off at the nursery on Tuesday or Thursday mornings, or at Reef Catchments Office 30 Main St Proserpine, or call 0483 811 229.

You can make a tax deductible donation to the Whitsunday Catchment Landcare Fund at any time. Just go to <http://www.givenow.com.au/whitsundaycatchmentlandcare> All donors will receive a receipt from Givenow at the time of the do-

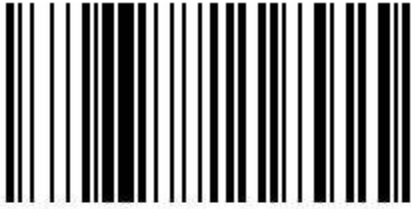
If you would like to receive this e-newsletter please email [coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au](mailto:coordinator@whitsundaylandcare.org.au) with your request. Or you can phone Cath on mbl:0483 811 229 to request one.

Disclaimer: Information in this newsletter is offered as a guide only and while every care is taken to ensure its accuracy, Whitsunday Catchment Landcare does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.



**Thank You Everyone!**

Thank you to so many of you who have generously and kindly donated your container refunds to WCL. Your contributions are allocated to the WCL Public Fund which allows WCL to take on various projects for the ongoing education of our members and the wider community. Please find below our Containers for Change ID number to conveniently cut off and include in your bags. Anything Environmental who manage the local container exchange have moved to a QR Code– please find the new WCL ID below. Thank You again!



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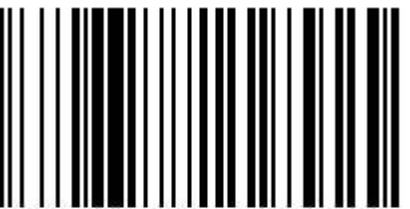
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