**Plant cuttings – December 2021**

**Worrying about weeds: Australia's invasive species – The Conversation Hour, 24 November 2021**

From cacti in Maldon to gorse in South West Victoria, weeds are clogging waterways, increasing fuel loads for bushfires and causing havoc for farmers.

So what happens if weeds continue to run rouge? A CSIRO report says actions taken now will determine how much weeds control our land in the future.

<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/melbourne/programs/theconversationhour/the-conversation-hour/13636018>

**The disappearing forests – ABC News, 30 November 2021**

Central to Ian Moore’s work is sustainability and Victorian ash is pitched as “the most environmentally friendly building product available”.

“When I first looked at it, you know, you read the material about sustainable logging… I would have said that it was a very good choice from a sustainable point of view,” says Mr Moore.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-11-30/vicforests-accused-of-failing-to-regenerate-logged-forests/100652148?utm_source=Environment+Victoria&utm_campaign=feab6320aa-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2021_11_26_02_32&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_c6b62620d2-feab6320aa-297428598&mc_cid=feab6320aa&mc_eid=2d3989345e>

**Biologist Merlin Sheldrake says without fungi, 'there would be no land plants' – ABC Radio National, 1 December 2021**

Merlin Sheldrake describes fungi as something strange and peculiar. But it's also fascinating, which is why the study of some of the world's tiniest and largest organisms has consumed his life for almost three decades.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-01/merlin-sheldrake-entangled-life-fungi/100649456>

**Victoria’s once-common plants and animals in serious decline - The Sydney Morning Herald, 2 December 2021**

Victoria’s native animals and natural landscapes are in a state of serious decline, as population growth and land clearing put ecosystems under pressure and climate change causes more extreme natural disasters such as bushfires. A wide-ranging state [government inquiry into the state of health of Victoria’s environment](https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/file_uploads/LCEPC_59-05_Ecosystem_decline_in_Vic_Y9rT7Z1v.pdf?mc_cid=8690706515&mc_eid=b59e18f1dd) has found clearing of native vegetation and the creep of invasive species are threatening the state’s biodiversity.

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/victoria-s-once-common-plants-and-animals-in-serious-decline-20211202-p59e3l.html>

**AUDIO: 124 animals and plants added to the threatened species "red list" – ABC News Radio, 10 December 2021**

The "red list" published by International Union for the Conservation of Nature, has been updated with over 120 new entries for Australian wildlife.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-10/124-animals-and-plants-added-to-the-threatened/13671304>

**Trees get sunburnt too – but there are easy ways to protect them, from tree ‘sunscreen’ to hydration – The Conversation, 15 December 2021**

We all know how hot and damaging the summer sun can be in Australia and most of us are only too willing to take sensible precautions, and slop on sunscreen. But have you ever wondered about sun damage to plants? Can trees be sunburnt? It may surprise you to know the answer is actually yes!

<https://theconversation.com/trees-get-sunburnt-too-but-there-are-easy-ways-to-protect-them-from-tree-sunscreen-to-hydration-172953>

**Three million hectares of WA land to be released for carbon farming – The Sydney Morning Herald, 15 December 2021**

The WA government will make 3 million hectares of land available for carbon farming to create Indigenous jobs in remote areas, rehabilitate abandoned pastoral leases and create offsets for industries that cannot reduce their emissions.

<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/sustainability/three-million-hectares-of-wa-land-to-be-released-for-carbon-farming-20211214-p59hkv.html>

**Events and Opportunities**

**13th Australasian Plant Conservation Conference 'Seeds to recovery'** - **3-7 April 2022, Albury, NSW**
The themes for the conference are seeds, bushfire recovery, threatened species & communities, and engaging people with conservation & restoration. Partnership opportunities are now available. Please visit the conference webpage for more information <https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/apcc13/>

**An-me Arri-ngun: The Food We Eat (2nd Edition)**

A second edition of this landmark book is now available. The book is the culmination of decades of work describing the bush tucker of the World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park, one of Australian’s best known tourist destinations. <https://marrawuddi.com.au/artwork/9780980831269/>

**Research opportunity – Honours student**

Ryan Tangney has an exciting opportunity for an Honours student who could be based at UNSW in Sydney or UWA in Perth. The project is titled ‘When, why, how, and how much: The ethical, philosophical, and practical considerations required before undertaking post-fire seeding in Western Australia.’ Applications close 10 January 2022, contact Ryan for more information r.tangney@unsw.edu.au

**ESA Applied Forest Ecology Scholarship – Honours or Masters student**

The ESA and an anonymous donor are providing an **Honours or Masters level student scholarship**in the field of applied forest conservation science. The scholarship supports a student conducting research into issues important to the management and sustainability of forests. Applications close 28 February 2022. <https://www.ecolsoc.org.au/awards/student-awards/applied-forest-ecology-scholarship>

**Australian Flora Foundation Grants**

Applications have opened for grants to support original scientific projects on the biology and cultivation of Australian plants are invited from research workers in Australia. Applications must be either for a Malcolm Reed (Large) Grant or a Small Grant. Preliminary applications due 18 March 2022. <http://aff.org.au/grants/grant-criteria/>

**Landcare Webinar Series**

The Landcare Webinar Series brings people interested in sustainable land management and conservation activities together. It showcases the rich diversity of knowledge, passion and expertise within the landcare community. The next two webinars will be held on 2 and 10 December, register or watch recordings of previous webinars here <https://landcareaustralia.org.au/webinars/>

# International Society for Seed Science – September 2022

The seventh edition of the Seed Ecology Conference of the International Society for Seed Science will take place in Gijón/Xixón, Asturias (Spain) from September 6 to September 9, 2022. Seed Ecology VII will accept presentations dealing with all aspects of seed ecology, with a special focus on the variation of seed functions in world ecosystems. The meeting is planned to be face-to-face, assuming the COVID situation is improving globally. <http://www.unioviedo.es/seedecol7/>

**DAWE Podcast – Detect and Protect**

In addition to the National Biosecurity Series webinars, the department has recently launched Detect and Protect – the new Australian biosecurity podcast. The discussions include the key components of Biosecurity 2030, the significant pest and disease threats facing Australia, how innovation and collaboration is helping strengthen the biosecurity system and the important role of the public in supporting biosecurity. <https://www.awe.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/policy/australia/public-awareness/detect-protect>

**1st International Plant Translocation Conference**

After it has been postponed due to the pandemic the 1st International Plant Translocation Conference is now ready to resume in a hybrid format, with in person sessions and the possibility to follow the whole programme online. The University of Roma Tre will host the 1st International Plant Translocation Conference from June 20-23, 2022 in Rome. The conference will be a unique occasion for conservation biologists from around the world to share their experiences, successes and misfortunes in restoring threatened plant species.  <https://host.uniroma3.it/eventi/IPTC2022/>