**Plant cuttings – January 2022**

**Bladderworts suck in animals and eat them alive. But which species are meeting this grisly demise? - ABC Esperance, 5 December 2021**

Although the hunting tactics sound messy, they are in fact so covert that no one has managed to identify exactly what species of animals the plants are ingesting. Mr Krueger, a PhD student at Curtin University, hopes to change that. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-05/bladderworts-carnivorous-plant-meat-eating-diet-wa-esperance/100669608>

**Native species seed bank brings rare plants back from the brink of extinction – ABC Eyre Peninsula, 20 December 2021**

A project to help recover some of South Australia's rare flowering plants is blooming on Eyre Peninsula, thanks to a seed bank that aims to ensure more than 80 per cent of the state's most-threatened species survive into the future. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-20/native-plant-seed-bank-saves-flowering-species-from-extinction/100710226>

**Secret crop of near-extinct Oaklands donkey orchids discovered in the Riverina – ABC News, 21 December 2021**

Rangers have discovered a secret meadow of near-extinct native orchids on a travelling stock reserve in the Riverina. The extremely rare Oaklands donkey orchid comes from the genus Diuris, known for its petals that poke up like "donkey ears". <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-21/secret-crop-of-near-extinct-native-orchid-discovered/100715998>

**Professional seed hunter completes his mission to find an endangered plant — with barely a day to spare – ABC News, 29 December 2021**

Botanist Gavin Phillips has spent the past six years searching for the rare and endangered Torrington Pea. He never imagined finding a budding plant on the second-last day of his career as a professional "seed hunter". <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-12-29/seed-hunter-finds-endangered-plant-on-second-last-day-on-job/100652650>

**VIDEO: Plant breeders in WA create blue variant of kangaroo paw – ABC, 10 January 2022**

The red and green kangaroo paw is a well known and much loved native flower, now plant breeders at Kings Park Botanic Garden in Western Australia have managed to create a blue version. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-01-10/plant-breeders-create-blue-variant-of-kangaroo-paw/13700326>

**We’ve unveiled the waratah’s genetic secrets, helping preserve this Australian icon for the future – The Conversation, 13 January 2022**

When the smoke cleared after the Black Summer bushfires of 2019-20, the bush surrounding the [Blue Mountains Botanic Garden Mount Tomah](https://www.bluemountainsbotanicgarden.com.au/) was charred. Among the casualties was a NSW waratah, Telopea speciosissima, that had recently become the first of its species to have its genome sequenced. We have [published this genome](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/1755-0998.13574) in the journal Molecular Ecology Resources. <https://theconversation.com/weve-unveiled-the-waratahs-genetic-secrets-helping-preserve-this-australian-icon-for-the-future-174772>

**Dinosaur food and Hiroshima bomb survivors: maidenhair trees are ‘living fossils’ and your new favourite plant – The Conversation, 21 January 2022**

Most of us are captivated by the thought of a “living fossil”, which is any organism that appeared millions of years ago in the fossil record and survives today, relatively unchanged. The maidenhair tree, *Ginkgo biloba*, ticks all the boxes of this definition. <https://theconversation.com/dinosaur-food-and-hiroshima-bomb-survivors-maidenhair-trees-are-living-fossils-and-your-new-favourite-plant-164630>

**Documentary series: The Green Planet**

David Attenborough’s new documentary The Green Planet casts the spotlight on plants and their ability to inspire us. Over five episodes, The Green Planet will reveal the strange and wonderful world of plants like never before. For Australian audiences this show will be coming to channel Nine in February 2022. <https://www.bbcearth.com/shows/the-green-planet>

**In a hotter Sydney, some trees will thrive while others will wither – The Sydney Morning Herald, 24 January 2022**

The big bad banksia men of May Gibbs’ classic children’s books are older than Australia, dating back millions of years. But the tough native species named by botanist Joseph Banks in 1770 may survive climate change only with a big dose of TLC and plenty of water. <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/in-a-hotter-sydney-some-trees-will-thrive-others-will-wither-20220119-p59pe5.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. Early bird registrations and call for abstracts open <https://www.anpc.asn.au/conferences/apcc13/>

**New book on Norfolk’s plants**

A new book was released in December 2021 titled ‘A guide to propagating Norfolk Island’s native plants and seeds’ The handbook covers an important selection of native species found on Norfolk Island. Most of the species selected are endemic and EPBC listed, as these species are unique to the island and are in the most need of propagation to increase populations. There are also some native species included because they are popular for gardens, good for revegetating property, and/or easy to grow. To access a pdf of the book head to <https://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/publications-and-tools/a-guide-to-propagating-norfolk-island-s-native-plants-and-seeds>

**Soil Ecology Research Chapter**

The Ecological Society for Australia has created a Soil Ecology Research Chapter in response to the number of researchers working on plant-soil interactions. For more information on the chapter and to join their events, such as the online Journal Club, head to their website <https://www.ecolsoc.org.au/category/research-chapters/plant-soil-ecology/>

**Ecologist Mental Health Resource**

The Ecological Society of Australia **with the** [**Australian Psychological Society**](https://psychology.org.au) **have developed an information sheet to help ecologists and conservation scientists identify signs of distress, highlight strategies to help manage this stress and know where to seek help if needed. Find it here** <https://www.ecolsoc.org.au/resources/improving-mental-health-and-wellbeing/>

**Celebrating Women in Conservation Breakfast**

**On Thursday 3 March 2022 the Trust for Nature and Bush Heritage Australia are holding the 11th annual Celebrating Women in Conservation Breakfast. The event includes guest speakers** Victoria McKenzie-McHarg and Linh Do. **Online tickets to the event are still available, head to the website to learn more** <https://events.humanitix.com/celebrating-women-in-conservation-breakfast-2022?_ga=2.200993510.958540430.1642630107-2038555706.1629161827&utm_campaign=wicb-2022&utm_medium=email&utm_source=bbcrm&utm_content=invite-virtual+tickets>

**The Ian Potter Foundation**

The Sustainable – Environment funding round for The Ian Potter Foundation will open for expressions of interest on Monday 14 March 2022. This funding aims to support the environment sector, applied environmental science research projects and on ground conservation of natural environment projects. For more information head to the website <https://www.ianpotter.org.au/what-we-support/environment-and-conservation/>

**7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress - Melbourne - Sept 2022**

The 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress will be a joint BGCI/BGANZ Congress, hosted by Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria, held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre in Melbourne, Australia. To be held 25 – 29 September 2022. For more information and to register your interest please visit the congress website [**www.7gbgc.org/**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001YhJ2dtoHLthQkk_rAiM9KueuZaVRhA1yfxpKqUyDihQMQFdth6iATZecuK_40Q5rcm6-eD-2najs0R9cDz4i7mhjWxDgfDrCrx0SBpnjZzjXM1zMOohtV4sQcK8mIGX8QsfteU94O2w=&c=k_p5rPCckPJ21Yix7eyAmTq7KoE5c6OzAlPMiKHbFfOtrbYyuqJP4Q==&ch=YEdIxbBfMa6OaxthasknbJw8e31m8TLSSIo2nL9Nky14Z01wLVtXkA==)

**Botanic Gardens Day 2022**

For the month of May, Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand Inc (BGANZ) #plantchallenge everyone to share their love of and passion for plants by posting photos  / a 30-60 second video to your/our Facebook page or upload a plant image to your Instagram page or other favourite platform with a short message about what plants mean to you and how plants influence your lives, using hashtags #plantchallenge and #BotanicGardensDay. <https://www.bganz.org.au/botanic-gardens-day-2022/>

**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/>

# 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/>

**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/>