**Plant Cuttings – February 2022**

**The ancient, intimate relationship between trees and fungi, from fairy toadstools to technicolour mushrooms – The Conversation, 1 February 2022**

You may be familiar with the red toadstool with white spots, which are often the homes of fairies in children’s stories. These toadstools are also a small part of grander magical story: they are striking examples of mycorrhizas. <https://theconversation.com/the-ancient-intimate-relationship-between-trees-and-fungi-from-fairy-toadstools-to-technicolour-mushrooms-165974>

**‘Time is their secret weapon’: the hidden grey army quietly advancing species discovery in Australia – The Conversation, 6 February 2022**

Each year, many new species of Australian plants, animals and fungi are [discovered and described](https://www.taxonomyaustralia.org.au/australias-biodiversity). It’s detailed, time-consuming work, and much of it could not be done without the contribution of older Australians. I’m an evolutionary botanist and I use DNA sequencing to better understand relationships between plant species – a field known as phylogenetics. My job involves collecting plant specimens in the furthest corners of Australia. <https://theconversation.com/time-is-their-secret-weapon-the-hidden-grey-army-quietly-advancing-species-discovery-in-australia-175189>

**Gold Coast botanist discovers new rainforest tree species 'minutes from the M1' – ABC News, 10 February 2022**

When botanist Lui Weber visited his local physiotherapist for back treatment, he left with his head spinning after discovering a new rainforest tree species, the Wongawallan walnut *(Endiandra wongawallanesis),* in his backyard.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-10/new-tree-species-discovery-on-gold-coast/100812328?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=mail&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web>

**Giant rubber plant growing in Hobart stairwell could be 'world's biggest', fans say – ABC News, 13 February 2022**

At ground level, leaves of the giant rubber tree at Construction House in Hobart's CBD press against the glass, visible to passers by. What they can't see is the plant grows up through the entire seven-storey stairwell. Steven Holdway has been an arborist for three decades and looks after the 20-metre plant. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-13/giant-rubber-tree-growing-in-hobart-stairwell/100803190>

**How to control a pest like Mother of Millions? – Audio on North West & Western QLD Rural Report, 17 February 2022**

A mob of cattle in south west Queensland were struck down after ingesting Mother of Millions, a restricted invasive plant. The poisonous weed often grows along shady waterways and is hard to control or eradicate. Doug Allpass from Desert Channels Queensland says it takes many years to control the pest weed once it appears. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/westqld/programs/north-west-and-western-queensland-rural-report/mother-of-millions-kills-stock-in-western-queensland/13763602>

**Collecting seed from native plant species in Wodonga – ABC Goulbourn Murray, 17 February 2022**

A native seed is a treasured resource. Horticulturist Sue Brunskill said seeds are important for native plants to regenerate and for animals to feed on. She said collecting native seeds are an investment in the species future and a great way to understand the life cycle of a plant. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/goulburnmurray/programs/breakfast/collecting-seed-from-native-species/13757314>

**WA on cusp of eradicating gamba grass as Queensland and Northern Territory battle to contain it – ABC News, 21 February 2022**

At first glance, gamba grass appears to fit right into Australia's natural landscape, but the tall green tussocks are an insidious threat to native animals, homes and lives.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-21/gamba-grass-eradication-close-in-wa-/100836152?utm_campaign=abc_news_web&utm_content=mail&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_news_web>

**Gold Coast community, council helping critically-endangered Ormeau Bottle Tree come back from extinction - ABC News, 22 February 2022**

As many native plant and animal species struggle for survival in the fast-developing region of south-east Queensland, the critically-endangered Ormeau Bottle Tree is quietly taking root and fighting back from the brink of extinction. A survey in 2009 found the species was existing with just 161 mature trees growing within a one square kilometre range of dry rainforest at Ormeau, on the northern Gold Coast. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-02-22/gold-coast-ormeau-bottle-tree-back-from-extinction/100839302>

**Events and Opportunities**

**Weeds Conference 2022**

The Combined NSW and Vic Weeds Conference will be held in Albury NSW from 21 – 23 March 2022. The program for this in person event contains great speakers and field trip options. Registrations are still open so head to the website to find out more. <https://www.nswweedsconf.org.au/>

**Restoration questionnaire**

Emille Boulot, PhD Candidate at McGill University and a Tasmanian local is undertaking research examining the regulation of restoration across Australia. Emille is looking for restoration/rehabilitation practitioners interested in participating in an anonymous survey. This survey aims to investigate regulatory barriers and opportunities as well as regulatory processes and arrangements for ecological restoration projects. The survey can be found here, <https://survey.alchemer-ca.com/s3/50124992/The-regulation-of-ecological-restoration> and should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. Please read the consent statement before deciding whether or not to participate in the research. For more information contact Emille at [emille.boulot@mail.mcgill.ca](mailto:emille.boulot@mail.mcgill.ca)

**ALCA 2022 Conference**

The Australian Land Conservation Alliance are holding their conference as a virtual event this year. From 8-10 March 2022 you can join the online conference with the theme ‘Recover, Restore, Redouble’. Registrations are still open and the program contains an exciting host of speakers including a presentation on the Germplasm Guidelines, recently revised by the ANPC. <https://www.alcaconference.org.au/>

**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**

BGANZ have organised a number of webinars and forums to celebrate Botanic Gardens Day in May. Aimed at plant lovers and professionals there is something for everyone with presentations on carnivorous plants, paleobotany, plant hunting and interpretation stories. For dates and speaker information, be sure to sign up to BGANZ’s e-newsletter for more information.

<https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Get-ready-for-Botanic-Gardens-Day-2022-.html?soid=1109591060709&aid=u0t1MTOz_7U>

**Social Media Volunteer**

BGANZ are looking for a social media lead/liaison to work on an international project for 6 weeks (April 15 – May 31). You will join a team contributing to ideas and strategy development with a commitment to one meeting per month until mid-June 2022. For more information contact Eamonn Flanagan at [secretariat@bganz.org.au](mailto:secretariat@bganz.org.au)

**ESA Conference**

This year the Ecological Society of Australia are partnering with the Society for Conservation Biology Oceania to host their annual conference on the theme ‘Reconnecting’. The conference will be held from 28 November to 2 December 2022 in Wollongong, NSW. They have opened the call for symposia, with submissions closing 8 April 2022. <https://www.esascbo2022.org.au/>

**AABR events**

The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators have an array of exciting events scheduled for the months ahead. Head to their website to get involved. <https://www.aabr.org.au/events/?mc_cid=63ca370cc9&mc_eid=dce52669a1>

**SERA 2021 recordings**

Recordings of presentations made at the 2021 Society for Ecological Restoration Conference are now available on their website. <https://www.seraustralasia.org/conference-2021?mc_cid=b9b05f8cea&mc_eid=12073da183>