**Plant Cuttings – January 2023**

**Why plants matter - Reuters**

Reuters have put together an interesting website where you scroll through a story and statistics on why plants matter. Check it out here. <https://www.reuters.com/graphics/GLOBAL-ENVIRONMENT/PLANTS/jnpwyygywpw/index.html>

**Shifting cultures – saving our species, ABC RN, 25 April 2022**

Australia is famous for its unique wildlife and landscapes but we also have the highest mammal extinction rate in the world, and there are big declines in frogs, reptiles, and birds caused by introduced predators and land clearing. Some species are hanging on in small numbers on private land. Could paying farmers and Indigenous landowners to return parts of their properties to nature or turn them into carbon farms help solve our biodiversity crisis? <https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/earshot/saving-our-species/13809204>

# Scientists tackle rusty plant threat – The University of Queensland, 19 December 2022

# University of Queensland scientists have developed an environmentally friendly RNA-based spray to help combat myrtle rust, which has wiped out many Australian plants. <https://www.uq.edu.au/news/node/133861>

# Unusual bush tomato with ladder-like features discovered in Northern Territory national park – ABC Alice Springs, 8 January 2023

During a nature walk along one of the Northern Territory's most spectacular lookouts, botanist Peter Jobson and his companions were stopped in their tracks by an unusual looking plant. The bush tomato was low-growing, and had dozens of unique right-angle spines below each flower. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-08/bush-tomato-species-discovered-nt-national-park/101806166>

# Foul-smelling corpse flower in bloom in Adelaide – ABC, 9 January 2023

# Plant-lovers are flocking to the Adelaide Botanic Gardens to see a corpse flower, which blooms once every ten years. The flower is endangered in its native Sumatra, so programs like this can help ensure its survival. <https://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/pm/foul-smelling-corpse-flower-in-bloom-in-adelaide/101838792>

# Turning a blind eye – Roxanne Fitzgerald and Hannah Meagher, 11 January 2023

Hundreds of kilometres from regulatory eyes, out of sight and scrutiny*,* environmentalists claim the Northern Territory is the perfect hotbed for cowboy antics. Now it’s feared one of the last untouched tropical savannas and unimpacted river networks in the world is at risk. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-11/land-cleared-for-cotton-farming-northern-territory/101651092>

# VIDEO: Visitors to Canberra's botanic gardens return to pre-pandemic levels – ABC, 12 January 2023

# The National Botanic Gardens in Canberra saw half-a-million visitors last year and is set to add to its native tropical plants collection in 2023. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-12/visitors-to-canberras-botanic-gardens-back-to-normal/101847504>

# Jaya Hunn uses passion for plant and animal conservation to win 2022 Landcare Junior photography competition – ABC, 15 January 2023

Jaya Hunn was at home sick when he learned his picture of a sundew plant had won a national photography competition hosted by Landcare Australia. The 11-year-old Canberra boy's passion for conservation and plant life was recognised for the image of the plant glistening with dew at Umbagong District Park in Canberra's north. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-15/act-jaya-hunn-sundew-plant-photo-contest-landcare/101855696>

# One million seagrass seeds deployed in Cockburn Sound – Fishing World, 15 December 2022

## Recreational fishers, volunteer divers and boaters, school students, and local businesses have come together to deploy one million seagrass seeds in one of Australia’s biggest conservation initiatives. <https://www.fishingworld.com.au/news/one-million-seagrass-seeds-deployed-in-cockburn-sound>

# Events and Opportunities

**Information Session**

The Department of Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry are holding an information session on the import of Xylella cultures for research. The session will be held online from 3-4:30pm AEDT on Thurs 9 February 2023. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/information-session-import-of-xylella-cultures-for-research-tickets-504065291857>

**International Conservation Translocation Conference**

The 3rd International Conservation Translocation Conference will be taking place on 13-15th November 2023 in Fremantle, Western Australia. The conference theme is “Learning from the past, adapting to the future”. Registration and the call for abstracts is now open. <https://conservationtranslocations.com/>

**New Biodiversity Council**

The Biodiversity Council has been formed to advocate for biodiversity and foster recognition of the biodiversity crisis. To learn more about them and subscribe to their newsletter visit <https://biodiversitycouncil.org.au/>

**Bushfire Conference 2023**

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW has announced dates for its 13th biennial bushfire conference on from Weds 24-Fri 26 May 2023. The theme for the conference is “Managing bushfire together: applying science, skills and stories”. Abstract submissions are open until Monday 27 February. <https://www.nature.org.au/bushfire_conference_2023>

**4th International Congress on Biological Invasions**

Will be hosted in Ōtautahi Christchurch, New Zealand on 1-4 May 2023. Abstract submission is open now and will close on 31 January 2023. For more details visit <https://mailchi.mp/94f596a3acbc/abstract-submissions-open-for-rgc11-6173911?e=eece585c63>

**International Association for Vegetation Science 65th Annual Symposium**

The annual symposium for the International Association for Vegetation Science (IAVS) is being held in Coffs Harbour, NSW from 4-8 September. To express your interest in the event head to the website. The call for abstracts will open soon. <https://iavsaustralia2023.com/program/>

**NSW Weeds Conference**

The NSW Weeds Conference will be held in Dubbo, NSW from 7-10 August 2023. It will showcase the latest research and ideas for managing the establishment, impact and spread of weeds. Submissions are now open to present at the conference. <https://www.nswweedsconf.org.au/>