

In Flower in October 2010

Caesalpiniaceae	<i>Cassia queenslandica</i>	Myrtaceae	<i>Chamelaucium uncinatum</i>
Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea baileyana</i>		<i>Syzygium 'pink cascade'</i> (<i>S.leuhmannii</i> x <i>S.wilsonii</i>)
	<i>Grevillea dryandrii</i>		
	<i>Hakea persihana</i>	Rutaceae	<i>Melicope rubra</i>
Rubiaceae	<i>Gardenia psidioides</i>		

Cleistanthus dallchyanus
Euphorbiaceae

This illusive tree occurs in considerable numbers in some of our coastal ranges, often in large stands creating a forest canopy.

Illusive because I can only find it listed in one reference book for the Townsville region (*Cooper Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest*) and even there the flower colour is described as "unknown".

It ranges from Townsville to Rockhampton, and is named for John Dallachy 1808-71 who collected extensively for Mueller in North Queensland and was a member of the original expedition to settle the Cardwell area in 1861.

This tree can be seen in copious flower and fruit at both Mt Cleveland, and Many Peaks Range. Please let me know of any other sightings.

John Elliott.



Garuga floribunda

Burserceae

Garuga



Unlike the *Cleistanthus*, which in Townsville is at the northern end of its range, *Garuga floribunda* is at the southern end and extends north all the way to the Torres Straits Islands.

This tree can obtain a height of 35 metres, and may be buttressed, but in the Townsville region is more likely to be much smaller, with a squat, spreading habit. *Garuga* is deciduous in the dry months and the foliage returns after the flowering period in the spring, usually crowded at the ends of the branches. The leaves are compound, each containing 8-20 leaflets, both sides usually hairy, and a distinguishing feature is the distinct stipule like growth resembling a miniature leaf.

The inflorescence is an axillary panicle, with small yellow, cream or green flowers with 5 petals, mildly fragrant. The fruit matures to a black drupe, about 25mm wide, containing 1-5 seeds in January-May.

See the website for more information:

<http://www.sgaptownsville.org.au/Garuga-floribunda.html>

John Elliott.



Calytrix microcoma at the Burra

Although I have been visiting the Burra Range for 30 years, I have not until several weeks ago managed to visit when *Calytrix microcoma* was in flower. However in September this year I had occasion to pass through the area four times in three weeks, and had the good fortune to find the Calytrix in full flower on the first trip. It flowers much later than the Grevilleas, Wattles, Jacksonias and Melaleucas that we usually make our trips for, but I'm sure that you will agree from the attached photos that a trip to see this display is well worthwhile.



We would be very keen to have a SGAP visit next year, but there are difficulties in ensuring the correct time. Calytrix appears to flower uniformly but drops the flower quite quickly and I would guess that we have a window of only 10-14 days. In fact I would say that my first visit was at the peak of flowering, but on my second visit 6 days later about 80% of flowers had dropped. Only a few isolated plants were flowering to a different timetable. If any member is visiting the area next year, and has information about flowering we would appreciate immediate notification to help us to organise a quick trip.



It is a bit of an enigma - driving through on the Flinders Highway you will not see a single Calytrix, but going in toward the campground you will find several areas where Calytrix is the dominant plant, and there is little in the way of taller or dominant shrubs and trees. There are only a few isolated plants away from these and soil type appears to be important in these areas. I do not know if this years flowering is typical, or if the regular rainfall experienced has produced a better than usual display.



There are other plants flowering, although I did not spend a lot of time searching. Those I noted were *Grevillea parallela* (much more prominent than when we visited in July), *Lysicarpus angustifolius*, *Persoonia falcata*, *Thryptomene parviflora*, *Hibbertia exutiacies* and *Psydrax attenuata* (*Canthium attenuatum*). There were no doubt others, but I did not spend time visiting other spots. I did spot a magnificent *Capparis mitchellii* near Prairie.

Keith Townsend.

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Society for Growing Australian Plants Townsville Branch Inc ABN 32 302 397 597

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