

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 14 Number 2, March 1992

FERN SOCIETY OF VICTORIA Inc.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: Single - \$15.00 (Pensioner/Student - \$11.00)

Family - \$18.00 (Pensioners - \$13.00)

Overseas - A\$30.00 (by Airmail)

Subscriptions fall due on 1st July each year.

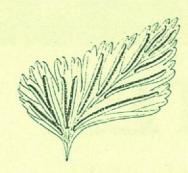
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

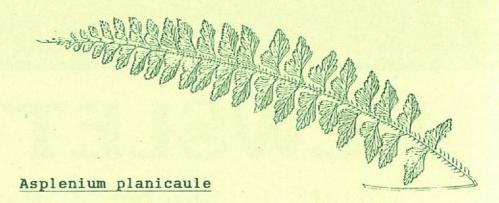
The meeting program got off to an excellent start this year with Chris Goudey's informative and down-to-earth talk and demonstration on methods of propagating ferns other than by spore. And thanks to Chris and to Betty Allgood, most members went home with bulbils of Asplenium falcatum x bulbiferum and Asplenium obtusatum x bulbiferum to put one aspect of the talk into practice.

Our March meeting will be a Members' Fern Night. We want everyone to bring along at least one fern. We are not looking for prize-winning ferns - just a fern which appeals to you or one which may be a bit unusual. And if you have trouble in deciding between ferns, don't worry, bring along several ferns. The more ferns we have at the meeting the better.

In May there will not be any meeting at the Herbarium. Instead there will be a fern display and sale in Wangaratta on Saturday, 30th May organised by Mary Frost. I recommend that members make a weekend of it and we will put together an itinerary for visits to various spots on the Sunday. Transport and accommodation will be left to private arrangements. If anyone would like a lift please ring me and we will try to arrange it.

Barry White.





NEXT MEETING

DATE: Thursday, 19th March, 1992.

TIME: Commencing at 7.30 p.m.

VENUE: The National Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens,

Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra. (Melway Directory Ref. 2L A1)

TOPIC: Members' Fern Night.

(see paragraph 2 of President's Message).

MEETING TIMETABLE

7.30 p.m. Pre-Meeting Activities: - Sales of Ferns, Spore, Books

and Special Effort Tickets; Library Loans.

8.00 p.m. March General Meeting.

8.30 p.m. Members' Fern Night.

9.40 p.m. Special Effort Competition.

9.45 p.m. Supper.

10.00 p.m. Close.

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1992 FERN SHOW

at

Nunawading Horticultural Centre

82 Jolimont Road, Forest Hill (Melway Ref. 62 F4)

Saturday, 4th April 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday, 5th April 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Show will be only three weeks away by the time you receive this Newsletter and we need to gain maximum effect from our publicity efforts during this period. Please continue to promote the Show right up to the time of the event by distributing our advertising leaflets and by any other means that occur to you. Two leaflets are included with this Newsletter and more will be available at the March meeting (or by phoning me on 836 1528). Please try to have them displayed prominently at suitable public places in your neighbourhood (nurseries, libraries, shops, garages, etc.) to attract the attention of potential visitors to the Show.

(continued over)

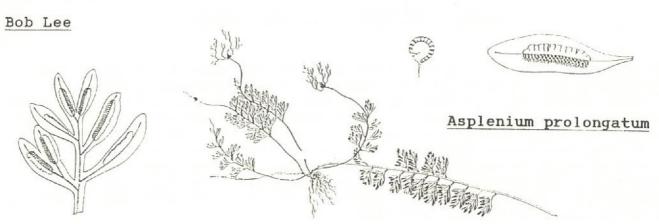
Setting up the fixtures in the display hall and fern sales area will begin at 12 noon on Friday, 3rd April. We should like to receive both display and sale ferns as early as possible in the period 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., but definitely not before 2 p.m. please, as we will not be organised to handle them before then. Members with only a few ferns to sell, who will find it difficult to bring them on Friday, are welcome to deliver them to the Show on Saturday or Sunday before 9.30 a.m., but only by prior arrangement, please.

The display will consist of bench and floor displays of potted ferns plus a pergola with hanging specimens. All members who can are asked to bring along some of their favourite plants to help produce a spectacular display with wide variety of attractive and interesting ferns, which will give pleasure to our visitors and help stimulate their interest in the subject. Do not forget to label all display plants with their botanical names plus some suitable identification to ensure their safe return to you. It would be a big help to the group preparing the display labels for the specimens if members would make a list of the names of their ferns in advance and present it when they deliver their plants to the hall.

Would all Members who wish to sell ferns at the Show please advise Bernadette Thomson of their intention, either at the March meeting or by phoning 399 1587. Only healthy plants free from pests and disease should be offered for sale, and all must have individual labels. In fairness to customers, please mark labels clearly where hot-house or other special growing conditions are required. Please remember that we cannot accept small tubes and that people offering ferns for sale must contribute plants for the display. As suggested earlier, it would be a help to customers if, where ferns of very small size are offered for sale, a larger specimen of each type is provided for inclusion in the display as a guide to the appearance of the mature plant.

We should like to hear soon from members willing to help with the various activities at the Show to ensure that all periods are covered adequately. There are plenty of jobs for all levels of expertise in setting up and later dismantling the display and sales areas, staffing them during opening hours, providing the refreshment service, etc. Some reserves are necessary to give workers some spare time to enjoy the Show and socialise with their fellow members.

Please contact a member of the Show Committee with offers of help or any queries, etc. Their names and telephone numberes were listed in the February Newsletter.



SPEAKER REPORT - GENERAL MEETING - 20TH FEBRUARY, 1992

Speaker: Chris Goudey

Subject: VEGETATIVE PROPAGATION

"Vegetative Propagation" is reproduction from parts of a growing plant, as opposed to reproduction from spore. This method yields plants that are exactly the same as the parent, whereas spore-grown plants sometimes show variations from the original. The parts of ferns that can be used for vegetative propagation and the methods employed vary with the species.

(1) Bulbils.

Some ferns produce on their fronds miniature plants or bulbils that can be used to grow new plants. Ferns which can be grown from bulbils include

- Adiantum: Species such as A. caudatum, A. incisum and A. philippense have long fronds with tip buds that produce roots when they contact soil.
- Asplenium: Many species, such as A. bulbiferum and A. daucifolium, produce bulbils over the surface of the frond. There are many more varieties in cultivation now, mainly hybrids of A. bulbiferum crossed with species such as A. flaccidum, A. hookerianum, A. oblongifolium, A. obtusatum and A. surrogatum.

- Athyrium: A. accedens bulbils are produced along the rachis (mid-vein) at the pinnae joints.

- Dryopteris: D. erythrosora 'Prolifica' has very small bulbils. - Polystichum: Some of the English varieties of P. setiferum have bulbils all the way along the mid-vein of the frond, but Australian species such as P. proliferum and P. australiense have only one per

frond near the tip.

- Tectaria: T. gemmifera produces dormant bulbils (no leaves or roots) along the mid-veins of the fronds which drop off when mature. These are about the easiest of all bulbils to grow although they are a little cold sensitive. All the T. gemmifera Chris has grown in Australia have had bulbils only on the top of the frond whereas the ones he brought back from Africa have them on the lower side also.
- Woodwardia: W. radicans and W. unigemmata produce single large bulbils near the ends of the fronds. W. orientalis produces myriad tiny bulbils over the upper surface of the fronds.

The method used for reproduction from bulbils varies according to where the plant produces them:

(a) For bulbils on the tips of fronds, a simple method is to arrange a series of small pots around the mother plant and pin the bulbils to the surface of the medium with plastic-covered wire.

(b) Bulbils growing on the surface of fronds are pulled off and planted in a tray of medium composed of two parts peat moss and one part vermiculite or perlite or sand. Sphagnum moss is also suitable. Small holes are made in the medium with a pencil or similar object and the bulbils planted just deep enough to hold them firm. The crown must not be covered. The medium is pushed around the bulbils by hand and they are then set aside in a humid environment. Sage Horticultural and Rite-Gro market tray covers with adjustable vents that are very suitable for controlling humidity level.

The most important thing when propagating <u>Asplenium</u> by method (b) is to get a good fat bulbil wherever possible. The size of the baby fronds is unimportant; they may be very stunted under adverse growing conditions but this appears not to prevent the development of the bulbil into a new plant. Some species of <u>Asplenium</u> have very small bulbils but they will still take root.

(2) Offshoots.

Some ferns produce offsets or suckers at the base of the main plant which can be used to produce new plants; Asplenium shuttleworthianum was shown as an example. These can be handled in two ways:

- (a) Wait until the offshoot grows large and produces its own rhizome and roots before separating it from the main plant or
- (b) Cut it off early without waiting for roots and propagate it as a cutting after removing most of the fronds.

(3) Cuttings.

Ferns with exposed creeping rhizomes, such as <u>Davallia</u> and <u>Polypodium</u>, can be readily propagated from cuttings, as can <u>Selaginella</u>. Chris showed samples of <u>Davallia plumosa</u> to illustrate growing from cuttings by two different methods:

- (a) Terminal tip pieces about eight centimetres long are laid in trays of the peat-moss/vermiculite medium above (or sphagnum moss) at a slight angle to the horizontal, so that 1/3 to 1/2 of the rhizome from the cut end, the part where the root will form, is slightly buried to keep it moist (a stone on top has the same effect as part burying). A bent cutting may need to be held down with a peg of plastic-covered wire or a small stone.
- (b) Pieces of rhizome without terminal tips were stood vertically in 8 cm pots of medium, where they struck successfully but root development was much slower than by the previous method. Dormant buds along the rhizome spring into life when the terminal tip is removed. These cuttings would probably also have rooted successfully if laid in the medium as in (a).

Selaginellas are very easy to grow from cuttings, but the process is slow with some species. Pieces about 3 cm long are nipped from the plant and the cut ends pushed into holes in the medium made at an angle. Selaginellas when growing do not make roots under the soil surface but produce a form of aerial roots as the branches extend and these grow down into the soil. Hence the cuttings do not develop roots on the buried parts, but if kept moist in their container will put down aerial roots.

Propagation can also be done by dividing off larger pieces which have roots formed already. Conversely, cuttings even smaller than 3 cm will grow successfully and this can be useful for propagating some of the species which grow very slowly without defacing the parent plant. Chris showed a plant of <u>S. tamariscina</u> (a beautiful species from Japan with cultivars in many colours), which he had imported as a 10 cm pot in 1986 and which was still only about 20 cm across.

Bottom heat is a great aid in speeding up the development of plants from cuttings, as it is with many other propagating processes.

FERNS and THE FLORA AND FAUNA GUARANTEE ACT

Our December meeting was addressed by Mr Tim Harding, who is the Acting Director of Flora and Fauna in the Department of Conservation and Environment. In this position he has the statutory responsibility for the preservation of Victoria's flora and fauna. His address to our meeting followed an earlier letter seeking comments from our Society on a current review of the tagging system used to control the harvesting of tree-ferns for sale. Tim expressed his pleasure at being present, because of both the importance of communicating with flora interest groups in his official capacity and a personal interest in ferns.

He also had an affinity with our meeting venue, as his previous job was making a review of the Royal Botanic Gardens, which led to the recent passage of the new Royal Botanic Gardens Act. The main feature of this is the separation of the Botanic Gardens and Herbarium from the Department of Conservation and Environment and their amalgamation under an independent Board (from July, 1992). His reading of the history of botanic gardens during his review showed the important part played by these (notably the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, England) in introducing ferns to the public.

The talk covered two aspects of the title subject - the protection of threatened ferns (protection of all threatened flora is one of the major objectives of the Act) and the harvesting of non-threatened ferns, mainly tree-ferns.

The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988) provides the legislative framework for both these areas of activity, replacing the Wildflowers and Native Plants Protection Act of 1958. It has been hailed as one of the leading endangered species acts in the world and, as well as preservation, covers control of flora taking. These goals are reflected in the objectives of the Act:

- "to guarantee that all taxa of Victoria's flora and fauna... can survive, flourish and retain their potential for evolutionary development in the wild" and

- "to ensure that any use of flora or fauna by humans is sustainable", i.e. that flora and fauna reserves continue for future generations.

Protection:

The first objective is to be achieved in three main ways:

- (1) Listing of threatened species and communities and potentially threatening processes under the FFG Act on the recommendation of the Scientific Advisory Committee. This body is composed entirely of scientists, most of whom are independent of the Government.
- (2) Determination of the habitats most critical to the survival of these species in the wild.
- (3) Development of Action Statements setting out what the Department intends to do to achieve the objective of guaranteeing the survival of these species and communities. Action is along two main lines - habitat protection on both public and private land and 'ex-situ' protection.

Habitat protection on public land is done through the establishment of reserves and national parks and the implementation of appropriate management plans. For private land there is a range of controls, beginning with (preferred) voluntary co-operation and agreements such as the Land for Wildlife Scheme, covenants, leases, etc. If necessary,

there are planning controls through the Planning Environment Act such as the Native Vegetation Controls. A more expensive option, very difficult in the present economic climate, is land purchase and the last resort of all (never used yet) is an Interim Conservation Order where the Minister can set aside any existing permits or controls to ensure the survival of a species.

'Ex-situ' protection involves the captive breeding of fauna by zoos and the propagation of flora by botanic gardens. In the Melbourne Royal Botanic Gardens there are plants of some twelve very rare species (mainly rain-forest species, no ferns) of which about the only examples are found there.

An overall Flora and Fauna Guarantee Strategy is being developed to set out what the Government intends to do to achieve the objectives of the Act using the above measures.

Ferns:

The book "Rare and Threatened Plants in Victoria" by Gullan, Shiel and Walsh of the Flora and Fauna Division lists 43 species of ferns (in 22 genera) as rare or threatened. This subject was covered in detail in the talk by Dr Tim Entwisle of the Herbarium to our June, 1991 meeting. Of these 43 species, one is 'presumed extinct' (Asplenium polyodon, the Long-tailed Spleenwort), seven are 'endangered', 15 are 'vulnerable' and 20 are classed as 'rare'.

Two species of fern have been listed under the FFG Act so far - Cyathea leichardtiana (Prickly Tree-fern) and Adiantum diaphanum (Filmy Maidenhair). Two further species - Cyathea cunninghamii (Slender Tree-fern) and Adiantum capillus-veneris (Dainty Maidenhair) - have received preliminary recommendations from the Scientific Advisory Committee. The validity of listing A. capillus-veneris, which is a virtual weed world-wide and probably an escape in Victoria, ahead of such uncommon indigenous species as Cyathea marcescens was queried at question time. Tim explained that rareness in Victoria was the only criterion for listing and the object of the legislation was to retain some representatives of each species in the wild. A plant could be de-listed later if evidence was produced that it was an escape. Examining all the species in the Gullen et al. book for listing is a major task and only about one third have been processed in three years.

Flora Harvesting:

The second part of the FFG Act protects all flora and fauna in Victoria, not just rare and threatened species. Hence all native ferns are classified as protected flora and a permit may be needed to collect them:

- a permit is needed to collect any ferns from public (Crown) land as the Department must ensure that populations are maintained for the present and future enjoyment of all.
- harvesting of most ferns from private land is authorised by the Governor-in-Council, but a permit is required to take for sale all species of tree-ferns and <u>Todea barbara</u>.

Regulation of the taking of tree-ferns from private land is necessary to ensure that threatened dependent species and communities, e.g. epiphytes, are not damaged, and to help control illegal harvesting from public land. This is the reason for the tagging system. All tree-ferns offered for sale should have a Flora and Fauna Guarantee tag attached to

show that they have been collected under a permit from the Department of Conservation and Environment in an ecologically sustainable way.

The need for and operation of the tree-fern tagging system is being reviewed by a Flora Harvesting Working Group in the Department of Conservation and Environment. The Group is working in liaison with the Tasmanian Government to develop a common system. It is also consulting the tree-fern harvesting industry and the fern propagating industry which is developing in the Otways. Discussion papers will be produced if any significant changes are proposed and bodies such as the Fern Society could have an input at this stage. The aim is to make recommendations to the Government early in 1992 and changes to legislation may follow.

Various further points emerging at question time included:

- The Working Group is looking at ways of distinguishing propagated ferns to remove the need for tagging these. It was suggested that potted ferns could be distinguished at minimum cost by adding a Departmental logo to the back of the normal push-in labels.
- There will be a public education programme to alert people to the existence of and reasons for the tagging system if a new one is introduced. The use of tags will be enforced more rigidly.
- Some 300,000 to 400,000 tree-ferns are sold in Victoria each year. About 80% come from Tasmania and tags are affixed to these at the wharf, but the present tags do not distinguish them from ferns collected in Victoria. This highlights the need for co-operation with Tasmanian authorities in the development of the new tagging system.
- The tagging system is intended to control only ferns being offered for sale. There is no control on the collection of ferns from private land for personal use or for giving away, nor is there any requirement for a tag to be kept on a plant after it is taken home from a nursery (although it would be required if the plant was re-sold later).
- It was suggested that extra attention should be given to ensuring that the rarer tree-ferns such as <u>C. cunninghamii</u> and <u>C. marcescens</u> are not harvested at all. While permits would never be issued for these, it is very difficult for inspectors to identify them once they have been cut up for various uses.

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SPECIAL EFFORT WINNERS

February General Meeting

Dave White

Don Henderson

Betty Allgood

Alison Whytecross

Jack Barrett

Jean Boucher

Maxicrop

"Goodness from the sea"

- * Contains over 60 elements and minerals
- * Safe and easy to use.
- * Made from fresh growing seaweed.
- * Ideally suited for ferns
- * Maxicrop is available from nurseries and other places where garden products are sold.

Maxicrop

4/375 Bayswater Rd., Bayswater. Vic. 3153. P.O. BOX 302, Bayswater, Vic. 3153. Tel. Melb. (03) 720 2200



TRIP to LAMINGTON NATIONAL PARK

by Mary Frost

(cont'd from February issue)

The second day of our time in the Lamington National Park was spent in the O'Reilly's area, where we went on the Rainforest Circuit Walk, visited the O'Reilly's Orchid Garden and then traversed the Morans Falls Track (6 km) and the Python Rock Walk (5.4 km). We saw the following ferns:

Adiantum aethiopicum formosum hispidulum silvaticum Arthropteris beckleri tenella Athyrium assimile Asplenium attenuatum australasicum polyodon Blechnum cartilagineum patersonii Culcita dubia Cyathea australis cooperi leichardtiana

Davallia pyxidata
Dictymia brownii
Doodia media
Hymenophyllum sp.
Hypolepis punctata
" rugosula
Lastreopsis decomposita
" marginans
Microsorum scandens
Pellaea falcata
Platycerium bifurcatum
" superbum
Pteris tripartita
" umbrosa
Pyrrosia rupestris

We stayed overnight at Canungra and the next day visited the Cunninghams Gap National Park before setting off for home. This park was not as dry and there were far more ground ferns. Species sighted were:

Adiantum aethiopicum

" <u>diaphanum</u> formosum

" <u>hispidulum</u> Arthropteris tenella Asplenium australasicum

" polyodon Blechnum cartilagineum

Culcita dubia

Cyathea australis
cooperi

" <u>cooperi</u> Davallia <u>pyxidata</u> Dictymia brownii Doodia media (some beautifully

crested)
Hypolepis punctata

Lastreopsis decomposita

" marginans

Microsorum scandens

Pellaea falcata

Platycerium bifurcatum superbum

Pteris tremula umbrosa

Pyrrosia rupestris

On the way home we passed through Cottonvale, where we visited a superb Elk, Stag and Bird's-nest nursery. Then on via Wagga Wagga to home, which was reached after a round trip of 3700 kilometres.

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BUYERS' GUIDE TO NURSERIES

Please note two changes to the Buyers' Guide on the back cover:

- (i) The address and opening hours for Andrew's Fern Nursery have been changed.
- (ii) Kanerley Fern Exhibition and Nursery has been added to the New South Wales section.

SPORE LIST

Ordering: The following spore is free to those who donate spore. Otherwise, members 20 cents each sample, non-members 50 cents, plus \$1.00 to cover p. and p.. Available at meetings or by mail from Barry White, 24 Ruby St, West Essendon, Vic. 3040 (Ph 03 337 9793). There is no charge to overseas members, but to cover postage two International Reply Coupons would be appreciated. A booklet on spore collection and cultivation is available for 40 cents, or free to spore donors.

ADIANTUM concinnum 'Edwinii' 1/91 CYATHEA princeps 7/91 ADIANTUM formosum 7/91 CYATHEA tomentosissima 1/92 ADIANTUM fournieri 3/91 CYATHEA woolsiana 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Blue Moon' 4/91 CYRTOMIUM caryotideum 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Crested Pacottii' 1/91 DICKSONIA antarctica 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Gracillimum' 1/91 DICKSONIA sellowiana 3/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Grandiceps' 1/91 DIPLAZIUM, dilatatum 2/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Legrand Morgan' 3/91 DOODIA aspera 1/92 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Pacific Lady' 1/91 DRYOPTERIS atrata 1/92 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Pacific Maid' 1/91 DRYOPTERIS erythrosora 1/92 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Variegate Tesselate' 1/91 DRYOPTERIS hondoensis 1/92 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Victoria's Elegans' 1/91 DRYOPTERIS inaequalis 4/91 ADIANTUM raddianum 'Weigandii' 1/91 DRYOPTERIS sieboldii 12/91 AGLAOMORPHA meyeniana 2/91 GYMNOCARPUM oyense 8/91 ALSOPHILA capensis 4/91 HYPOLEPIS punctata 1/92 ANEMIA mexicana 7/91 LASTREOPSIS hispida 5/91 ANEMIA phyllitidis 7/91 LASTREOPSIS tinerocensis 2/91 ARACHNIODES standishii 8/91 LYGODIUM microphyllum 7/91 MACROTHELYPTERIS torresiana 1/92 ASPLENIUM australasicum 8/91 MICROSORUM parksii 8/91 ASPLENIUM oblongifolium 7/91 ASPLENIUM obtusatum 7/91 OSMUNDA regalis 10/91 ASPLENIUM scleroprium 7/91 PELLAEA quadripinnata 4/91 ASPLENIUM varians 8/91 PELLAEA viridis v. macrophylla 2/92 ATHYRIUM filix femina 1/92 PLATYCERIUM alcicorne 4/91 BLECHNUM camfieldii 6/91 PLATYCERIUM elephantotis 10/91 PLATYCERIUM stemmaria 5/91 BLECHNUM cartilagineum 1/92 PLATYCERIUM superbum 7/91 BLECHNUM chambersii 11/91 BLECHNUM discolor 1/92 PLATYCERIUM wallichii 4/91 BLECHNUM fluviatile 10/91 POLYPODIUM formosum 8/91 BLECHNUM gibbum 1/92 POLYSTICHUM fallax 7/91 BLECHNUM indicum 1/92 POLYSTICHUM formosum 7/91 BLECHNUM inflexum 4/91 POLYSTICHUM onocolobatum 7/91 POLYSTICHUM proliferum 1/92 BLECHNUM minus x watsii 7/91 BLECHNUM minus 10/91 POLYSTICHUM setiferum cv. 3/91 BLECHNUM nudum 10/91 POLYSTICHUM whitelegii 12/91 PTERIS cretica 'Parkeri' 3/91 BLECHNUM orientale 7/91 BLECHNUM sp. (Philipines) 1/92 PTERIS ensiformis 'Victoriae' 3/91 PTERIS hendersonii 1/92 BLECHNUM wattsii 11/91 CHRISTELLA dentata 3/91 PTERIS quadriaurita cv 'Argyrae' 11/91 CONIOGRAMME intermedia 1/92 PTERIS semipinnata 3/91 PTERIS umbrosa 7/91 CTENITIS languinosa 4/91 CYATHEA australis 2/92 PTERIS wallichiana 11/91 CYATHEA brownii 1/92 RUMOHRA adiantiformis (Austr.) 1/92 RUMOHRA adiantiformis (S.Africa) 1/92 CYATHEA cooperi 1/92 CYATHEA dealbata 2/92 SADLERIA cyatheoides 7/91 CYATHEA medullaris 5/91 SADLERIA pallida 7/91

SPORE DONATIONS

Thank you to the following who have contributed spore: Steve Clemesha, Rosina Bach, Rosemary Vulcz, Roy Pratt, Barry Hubbard, Joan Ballagh, Halyna Kuheana, Bill Taylor, Betty Allgood and Mrs P. Johnston.

BUYERS' GUIDE TO NURSERIES

VICTORIA:

Andrew's Fern Nursery - Wholesale and Retail.
Melbourne Road, Arcadia, 3613. Ph: (058) 26 7285.
Large range of ferns for beginners and collectors.
Open daily 10 am - 5 pm except Christmas Day.

<u>Austral Ferns</u> - Wholesale Propagators. Ph: (052) 82 3084. Specialising in supplying retail nurseries with a wide range of hardy ferns; no tubes.

<u>Dingley Fern Market</u> - Wholesale and Retail. Ph: (03) 551 1868. 233 Centre Dandenong Road, Dingley, 3172. Specialising in Ferns, Palms, Indoor Plants, Orchids and Carnivorous Plants. Open daily except Christmas Day.

Fern Acres Nursery - Retail.

Kinglake West, 3757. Ph: (057) 86 5481.

(On main road, opposite Kinglake West Primary School).

Specialising in Stags, Elks and Bird's-nest Ferns.

Fern Glen - Wholesale and Retail. Visitors welcome.

D. & I. Forte, Garfield North, 3814. Ph: (056) 29 2375.

R. & M. Fletcher's Fern Nursery - Retail.
62 Walker Road, Seville, 3139. Ph: (059) 64 4680.
(Look for sign on Warburton Highway, 300m east of Seville shopping centre). Closed Tuesday, except on public holidays.

Ridge Road Fernery - Wholesale and Retail. Weeaproinah, 3237. Ph: (052) 35 9383. Specialising in Otway native ferns.

Viewhaven Nursery - Wholesale and Retail.

Avon Road, Avonsleigh (near Emerald), 3782. Ph: (059) 68 4282

Specialists in Stags, Elks, Bird's-nests and Native Orchids.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Jim & Beryl Geekie Fern Nursery - Retail. By appointment. 6 Nelson Street, Thornleigh, 2120. Ph: (02) 484 2684.

Kanerley Fern Exhibition and Nursery - Wholesale and Retail. 204 Hinton Road, Nelsons Plains, via Raymond Terrace, 2324. Ph: (049) 87 2781. Closed Thursdays and Saturdays. Groups of more than 10 must book in advance, please.

Marley's Ferns - Retail.
5 Seaview Street, Mt. Kuring-gai, 2080. Ph: (02) 457 9168.

QUEENSLAND:

Moran's Highway Nursery - Wholesale and Retail.

Bruce Highway, Woombye (1 km north of Big Pineapple; turn right into Kiel Mountain Road). P.O. Box 47, Woombye, 4559. Ph: (074) 42 1613.