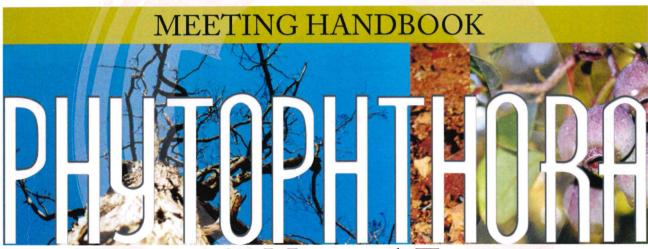
PROGRESS IN SELECTION AND PRODUCTION OF JARRAH (EUCALYPTUS MARGINATA) RESISTANT TO PHYTOPHTHORA CINNAMOMI FOR USE IN REHABILITATION PLANTINGS.

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Resistance to Phytophthora cinnamomi in jarrah (Eucalyptus marginata) is under strong genetic control. It has high heritability and is probably polygenic, and is durable in field trials. Resistant jarrah seedlings derived from healthy mother trees growing on long-term dieback sites were selected from glasshouse inoculation trials and micropropagated by tissue culture. The resulting clonal lines were planted in field validation trials on dieback-affected sites and soil at the base of the plants was inoculated with P.cinnamomi to test survival and growth. In spite of some drought deaths, survival of most resistant lines has been high. Some 50 unrelated resistant lines have been selected. However, due to high costs of production and establishment problems in forest sites, it is not feasible to use the clonal jarrah directly in large-scale operational plantings. Clonal seed orchards are now being planted to supply seed of resistant jarrah for use in rehabilitation of bauxite pits, plantings in dieback-affected forest and on cleared agricultural land. Jarrah is being included in trials on groundwater recharge sites on agricultural land where increasing soil salinity is a long-term problem.



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