

# LIBRARY

Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

This PDF has been created for digital preservation. It may be used for research but is not suitable for other purposes. It may be superseded by a more current version or just be out-of-date and have no relevance to current situations.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND LAND MANAGEMENT

**ESTABLISHING A SEED-BASED GENE BANK FOR CONSERVATION** Course

We welcome expressions of interest from participants for a new course on **Establishing a Seed-Based Genebank for Conservation**. The course will be directed to people working in Botanic Gardens and Conservation agencies whose organisations would like to establish a genebank but have neither the knowledge nor expertise.

The Western Australian Department of Conservation and Land Management's Threatened Flora Seed Centre (TFSC) is planning to host this course. The staff of the TFSC have had many years experience in the development and management of a seed-based genebank. The manager has recently returned from a Churchill Fellowship to visit genebanks around the world and will be able to provide up-to-date information on new techniques and procedures for genebanking. Western Australia has one of the most genetically diverse floras in the world with many species rare or threatened. We can offer a wealth of examples of conservation management problems and solutions, and a large number of researchers with expertise in the field of conservation.

This course is being offered at an opportune time. The ANPC has recently published its Germplasm Conservation Guidelines for Australia supported by the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council. This document has been written by experts in germplasm conservation throughout Australia and covers aspects of seed collection and storage for conservation purposes. This publication will be used as the basis for discussions on procedures for seed genebanking. In addition, the resolutions of the 1997 ANPC Conference Sharing the Vision have called for the provision of information and education on germplasm storage.

The course would be an extension of the ANPC's Threatened Plant Conservation Techniques Course which aims to provide participants with a general overview of plant conservation. In this course participants will be provided with basic skills in germplasm collection and storage amongst other topics. The **Establishing a Seed-Based Genebank for Conservation** Course would provide indepth information and hands-on experience with the latest procedures for establishing and maintaining a genebank. In addition, the role of conservation genetics will be discussed in relation to sampling strategies for germplasm collection and storage, and to reintroduction programs for threatened flora. The course will be both field and laboratory based and be held over one week. Topics discussed will include:

Genebank design and equipment  
Sampling strategies for maximising genetic diversity  
Germination testing , moisture content determination and seed drying  
Documentation and database design

It is anticipated that the course will be held mid 1998.

---

Please send your expression of interest to

Threatened Flora Seed Centre  
Department of Conservation and Land Management  
Locked Bag 104  
Bentley Delivery Centre  
Western Australia 6983

Phone: (08) 93340502  
Fax: (08) 93340515  
Email: [annec@calm.wa.gov.au](mailto:annec@calm.wa.gov.au)

---

Expression of Interest for **Establishing a Seed-Based Genebank for Conservation** Course

NAME:  
ORGANISATION:  
ADDRESS:

PHONE:

FAX:

EMAIL: