

THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Beauty is often found in the most unexpected places. The average suburban backyard is full of nature's art and design, if you pause to look. Of course, you might have to overcome a few prejudices about which creatures are beautiful. Spiders and insects are not warm-blooded, seldom furry and never cuddly; but as Aris de Jong of Parmelia will tell you, it is very much a question of the 'eye of the beholder'. Aris found and photographed this array of beautiful beasts in and around his garden.

This Salticidae (Jumping Spider) has excellent eyesight, like all members of its species. After all, jumping spiders have eight eyes, two large ones at the front, a pair of smaller ones on each side and four on top in a square pattern.



Jumping spiders are hunting spiders. They stalk their prey in daylight, and may take five to ten minutes to jump on it. They then drag it into their retreat, which is a little tube rather than a web.



Hymenoptera Chrysididae is commonly known as the cuckoo wasp because of its habit of laying eggs in other insects nests, such as those of the mud dauber wasp.



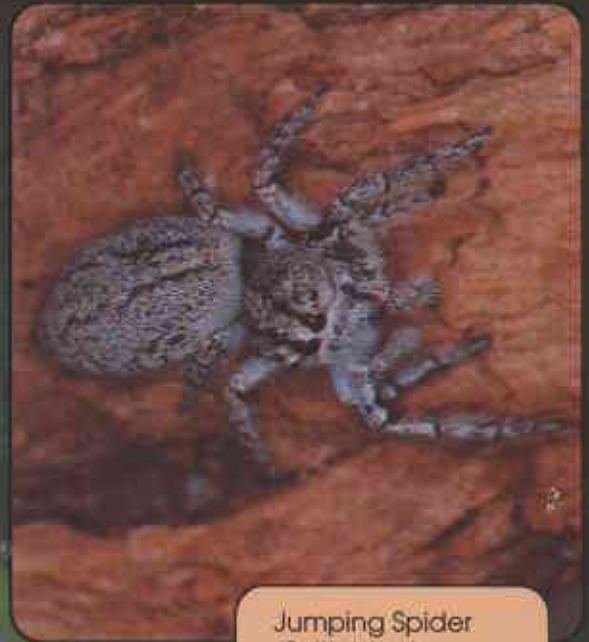
Maratus pavonis. This male jumping spider has typically bright colouring (left).

Diptera Dollicopodidae (below).





Hemiptera Lygaeidae, *Melanerythrus mactans*. These insects feed on seeds and are commonly found on the ground in the bush.



Jumping Spider (Salticidae)



LANDSCOPE



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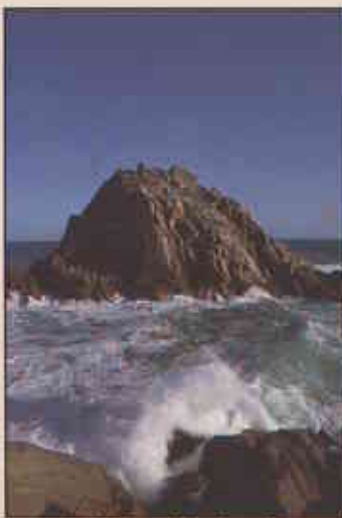
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EDITORIAL

The economic development versus environmental protection debate is a constant feature of our society today. No-one will disagree that our environment needs protection; there is also no doubt that Australia must improve its economic performance if we are to maintain our living standards and enjoy the natural environment which we are blessed with. This *Landscape* describes a project which combines environmental and economic advantages.

Australia's import bill for forest products is \$1.7 billion. Of this a considerable portion is paper which is made from eucalypt fibre. A Perth scientist was the first person to demonstrate that eucalypt could be made into paper, yet it is other countries that have capitalised on this discovery. For example, Brazil, Portugal, Chile, South Africa and Spain have established over 3 million hectares of highly productive eucalyptus plantations. Australia, home of the genus *Eucalyptus*, has only 40 000 hectares of eucalyptus plantations.

Despite our late start, there is no reason why W.A. cannot share some of the rewards which would come from capitalizing on the increasing world demand for high quality paper. We have the land and climate to grow the trees and the skills to do it competitively.

Widespread afforestation of the south-west is also an essential prerequisite to ameliorating salination and eutrophication of our waterways. It is unlikely that afforestation of the magnitude required could be achieved unless it is commercially driven. The production of trees for paper could provide the opportunity to carry out the afforestation program necessary for improving the environment at no cost to the State.

It would be ironic if the world demand for the much maligned woodchip provided the solution for what would arguably be two of the most serious environmental problems in south-western Australia.

Cover Photo

Trees loom out of the mist at Amelup near the Stirling Ranges.
Photograph by Robert Karri-Davies.