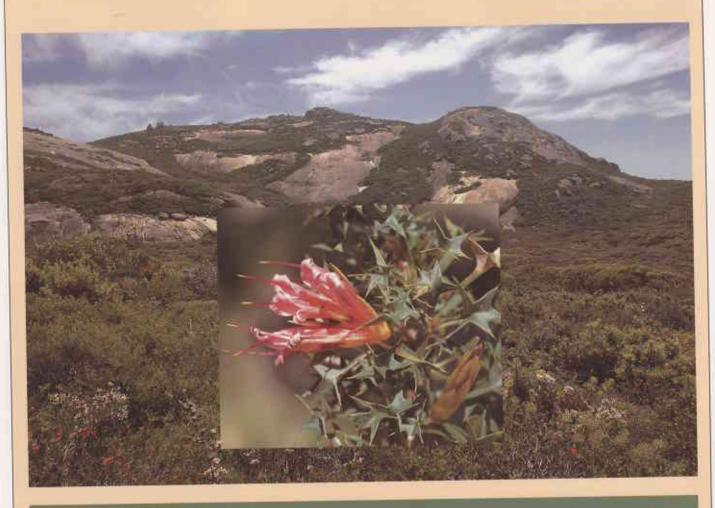


ENDANGERED!



PRICKLY HONEYSUCKLE

Prickly honeysuckle (Lambertia echinata subsp. echinata) is one of Western Australia's rarest plants. It was first collected in 1802 by Robert Brown, the English botanist attached to Matthew Flinders' voyage. It is still only known from the same collecting area within the Cape Le Grand National Park, which is on the south coast of Western Australia east of Esperance.

In 1980, the species was gazetted as "declared rareflora" because of its extreme rarity. Unfortunately since then, extensive survey work has not revealed any additional areas of distribution.

Prickly honeysuckle is one of ten species of *Lambertia* to be found in Western Australia. It is a many-branched shrub about one metre tall and is distinguished by its characteristic spiny leaves and attractive pink-red flowers. It most closely resembles *Lambertia propinqua*, whose taxonomy is under review and which may become a subspecies of *L. echinata*. This new subspecies has a more widespread distribution around Albany and it differs

by Suzanne Curry
Photos - Andrew Brown (inset)
and Jiri Lochman

in having yellow flowers and smaller, less divided leaves.

When not in flower, prickly honeysuckle can be hard to spot because in the scrub where it is found, its leaves superficially resemble the associated species prickly dryandra (*Dryandra armata*).

Although protected within the Cape Le Grand National Park, the honeysuckle, as a member of the Proteaceae family, is highly susceptible to dieback disease, caused by *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. Dieback is found in the park and poses a grave danger to this extremely restricted species.

Hopefully, other populations will be found.

LANDSCOPE



Twenty-three captive-bred chuditch were recently released in the Julimar forest in an attempt to establish a new population. The story of the 'Return of the Chuditch' is on page 10.



'Back in the Outback' (page 34) follows the trail of endangered mammals recently reintroduced into the Gibson Desert from Barrow Is.



VOLUME EIGHT NO. 2 SUMMER ISSUE 1992-3

In a remote corner of the Gibson Desert lies Lake Gregory, a birdwatcher's paradise. See page 16.



A silent workforce of volunteers assist CALM with a multitude of projects. Colin Ingram tells us more about these 'Volunteers for Nature' on page 28.



The urban cat vies with its feral cousin and the fox for top spot in the predator stakes. See 'Masterly Marauders' on page 20.

RETURN OF THE CHUDITCH KEITH MORRIS	10
LAKE GREGORY STUART HALSE, KARL-HEINZ WYRWOLL AND GRANT PEARSON	. 16
MASTERLY MARAUDERS JACK KINNEAR	20
VOLUNTEERS FOR NATURE COLIN INGRAM	. 28
BACK IN THE OUTBACK PER CHRISTENSEN AND CAROLYN THOMSON	34
EAST OF THE GULF TONY START AND NORM MCKENZIE	41
TREE CROPS FOR FARMS SYD SHEA, JOHN BARTLE AND GARY INIONS	47
REGULARS	
IN PERSPECTIVE	4
BUSH TELEGRAPH	6
ENDANGERED PRICKLY HONEYSUCKLE	40
URBAN ANTICS	54

COVER

The chuditch (Dasyurus geoffroii) was once found in every State and Territory of mainland Australia. Now it is only found in the jarrah forest and parts of the southern wheatlbelt in the south-west of WA about two percent of its former range.

The illustration is by Philippa Nikulinsky.



Managing Editor: Ron Kawalilak

Editor: David Gough

Contributing Editors: Verna Costello, Helenka Johnson, Carolyn Thomson Scientific and technical advice: Andrew Burbidge, Roger Underwood

Design and production: Sue Marais, Sandra Mitchell

Finished art: Gooitzen van der Meer, Sue Marais

Advertising: Estelle de San Miguel = (09) 389 8644 Fax: 389 8296

Illustration: Ian Dickinson, Sandra Mitchell Cartography: CALM Land Information Branch

Colour Separation by Prepress Services

Printed in Western Australia by Lamb Print

© ISSN 0815-4465. All material copyright. No part of the contents of the publication may be reproduced without the consent of the publishers.



Published by Dr S Shea, Executive Director Department of Conservation and Land Management, 50 Hayman Road, Como, Western Australia 6152.