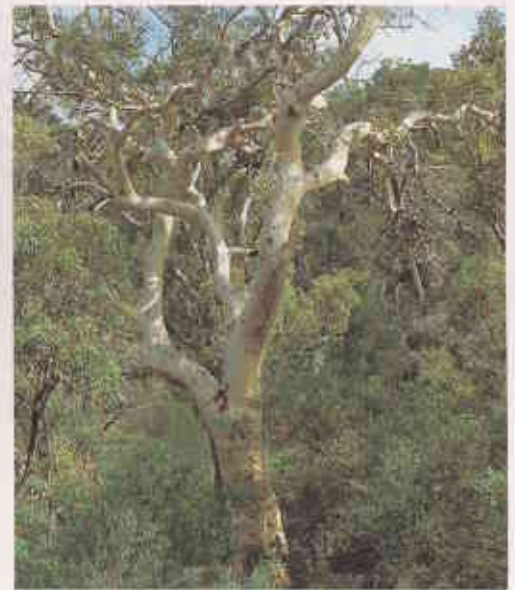


BARNEY'S FIND REDISCOVERED



A rare eucalypt has been rediscovered near Mount Lindesay - situated on the Denmark River, in the State's south-west - nearly 33 years after forester Barney White collected it during early timber assessments of the area.

The yet-unnamed eucalypt is a smooth-barked forest tree that grows up to 20 metres in height and has affinities with Lane-Poole's eucalypt (*Eucalyptus lanepoolei*), a smaller tree of broken distribution along the western scarp of the Darling Range and between Jurien Bay and Gingin.

Its habitat, among granite outcrops bordering karri and jarrah forest near creek lines, differs from Lane-Poole's eucalypt which occurs in woodlands and shrublands more than 300 kilometres to the north.

The stand was rediscovered by Grant Wardell-Johnson during his family's recent Christmas holiday. A separate stand was also found further up the Denmark River by Basil Schur, one of a group of dedicated local people eager to foster environmental awareness among the local community.

"Basil, Barney and I recently visited another site of this species discovered by Basil on farmland near Denmark. This site was believed to be planted, but a large coppice of long-burnt-out stumps suggest the trees are very old and from a natural stand," Grant said.

"The southern edge of the south-west forest is very species-rich, but the Mount Lindesay area is exceptional. This has been recognised in CALM's recommendations for its national park status, which

had their beginnings in land use plans that Barney helped formulate many years ago.

"Barney recognised the link between the dry eastern woodlands and shrublands, and the wet forests of the karri region. Many plants are outliers here, or are found only in this area, and can give us clues to the prehistoric environmental influences and patterns of the area. These large forest trees are no exception."

The now-retired Barney said that late in 1960, when he was officer-in-charge of the then Forests Department Shannon Division, he headed a party working on access tracks. During the track site selection process a great deal of the bush had to be covered on foot. It was during this phase of the work that the eucalypt was discovered at Mount Lindesay, which fell

Blossom of rediscovered eucalypt.

The rediscovered eucalypt.

Barney White takes a closer look at the rediscovered eucalypt.

Photos - Grant Wardell-Johnson

within the Shannon Division.

"We could tell Mount Lindesay was a special place, a place apart," Barney said.

"We noted the timber values were not high, but taking into account the water resources and the richness of the environment, we recognised it as a splendid wilderness.

"In the course of our travels we took note of soils, topography, the condition of the forest and any other forest values plus unusual occurrences, so it was exciting for me to discover a eucalypt I had not seen before."

LANDSCOPE

VOLUME EIGHT NO. 3 AUTUMN ISSUE 1993



'Where there's fire there's smoke'. We look at one of the lesser known and misunderstood products of bushfires on page 10.



Banksias and blackboys are normally associated with the sandplains of the coast and wheatbelt rather than the Great Victoria Desert. See page 22.



The mountains of the Stirling Range are a refuge harbouring many ancient species of spiders. Spider expert Barbara York Main shows us some of them on page 28.



The disappearance of the Zuytdorp remained a mystery for many years. The story of its rediscovery and the formation of the Zuytdorp Nature Reserve is on page 42.



A new book, Perth Outdoors, aims to encourage people to get outdoors and enjoy nature and to learn more about Perth's unique natural communities. See page 35.

FEATURES

WHERE THERE'S FIRE THERE'S SMOKE
RICK SNEEUWJAGT AND ROGER UNDERWOOD 10

PARRY LAGOONS
CHRIS DONE AND GORDON GRAHAM 17

BANKSIAS AND BLACKBOYS
IAN KEALLEY 22

SPIDERS OF THE STIRLING RANGE
BARBARA YORK MAIN 28

PERTH OUTDOORS
GIL FIELD AND DAVID GOUGH 35

ZUYTDORP: THE SEARCH CONTINUES
MIKE MCCARTHY 42

FLORA OF THE KIMBERLEY
JUDY WHEELER 49

REGULARS

IN PERSPECTIVE 4

BUSH TELEGRAPH 6

ENDANGERED WESTERN MOUSE 41

URBAN ANTICS 54

COVER

The palisade spider (*Neohomogona stirlingi*) is endemic to the Stirling and Porongurup Ranges. It builds a shallow burrow with an open entrance surrounded by a palisade, or collar of leaves and twigs, which may project several centimetres above the ground or litter.

The illustration is by Philippa Nikulinsky.



Managing Editor: Ron Kwallilak

Editor: David Gough

Contributing Editors: Verna Costello, Grahame Rowland, Carolyn Thomson

Scientific and technical advice: Andrew Burbidge, Roger Underwood

Design and production: Sue Marais, Sandra Mitchell, Stacey Strickland

Finished art: Sue Marais

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

Illustration: Ian Dickinson, Kellee Merritt, Sandra Mitchell

Cartography: CALM Land Information Branch

Colour Separation by Prepress Services

Printed in Western Australia by Lamb Print

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