

SOCIETY FOR GROWING AUSTRALIAN PLANTS (QLD REGION INC.)

Our meetings are held in the first year centre, Trinity Bay High School, Hoare Street, Manunda. Committee/General Meeting begins at 7.00pm. Guest Speaker 8.00pm. Supper follows and visitors are most welcome.

NEXT MEETING IS ON SEPTEMBER 4th. SEE YOU THERE.

To all the Dad's out there, Happy Father's Day for Sunday.

GUEST SPEAKER

Once again, Margaret Haupt has been approached to do a spot. This time she will be talking about and showing us some of the Callistemon cultivars as well as plant registration and PVR. (Plant Variety Rights).

EXCURSIONS

Bob Jago is heavily committed with work for the remainder of the year and will be unable to undertake any more excursions. If there is anyone out there who would like to lead us into the unknown (and back again) please speak up at the next meeting.

APOLOGIES

One of our new members is Amanda Platt but somehow this became Amanda Pratt and caused some confusion. Sorry about that and hopefully everything is now fixed.

I hope the Tablelands Branch had a successful display on Saturday, a lot of hard work, time and effort is put into the weeks and months leading up to their show and flower competition. A visit is most worthwhile.

CHAIRMAN.....Dave Warmington (5024820)
 HON. SECRETARY.....Elaine Pike (546994)
 TREASURER.....Peter Robbins (535036)
 NEWSLETTER.....Helen Moody (554982)
 LIB. & SALES.....Frances Boyd (552550)
 EXCURSIONS.....Bob Jago (552266)
 PUB. OFFICER.....Theo Utzinger (545266)
 DISPLAYS CO-ORD.....Dave Warmington
 TUCKEROLOGIST.....Graham Pike (546994)

EDITOR'S SPOT.

Another good attendance, including visitors, at last month's meeting heard Robin Smith's interesting fern talk. Robin is a former member and I think he has promised to lead us on a fern excursion in the wetter months of the year. Sounds good to me!

Another reminder for slides for our video to be dropped into Dave Warmington's office at the Gardens.

Theo has recently joined the staff there also, a good place for a publicity officer to be?

Over the last few months, most committee members have expressed dissatisfaction at the way meetings have been crammed into 30 minutes or less because members, yes YOU, find the starting time of 7.00pm inconvenient, arrive at 7.30pm and then the meeting has to be rushed through ensure the Guest Speaker is not late in starting. If the committee held a meeting on a separate night, items such as correspondence could be dealt with, general business items could be discussed and possible solutions presented to the next general meeting along with the various reports. The ordinary meetings would become more interesting and the starting time could possibly return to 7.30pm which, with the possible arrival of daylight saving would suit more people anyway. Non-committee members would always be able to attend comm. meetings, if interested. Some-

thing to be discussed (if time permits) at the next meeting?

T-SHIRTS

Graham Bennett is getting ready to order some more T-shirts for us from Sydney. They will have our emblem, Elaeocarpus bancroftii on the front and cost approximately ten dollars. Those interested can see Graham at the next meeting or contact him at home.

REGISTRATION OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

To save some time, money and stamp-licking, I am going to apply for registration of our newsletter through Australia Post. However, one of their conditions is that the publication must have a name: eg Townsville Branch call newsletter "The Native Gardener", so any suggestions will be gratefully accepted. Even if Australia Post does not accept our application, I feel a name would give added interest and identity.

SGAP CONFERENCE

Dorothy, one of the visitors at our last meeting is a resident of WA. and used the opportunity of the meeting to tell us about the SGAP conference planned for 1991 from Sept 30th - Oct 4th. These dates also coincide with the King's Park (Perth) Wildflower Festival and other excursions to look at the wildflowers have also been planned. At the present time the APEX fair to Perth is approx. \$760, so start saving!



FLOWERING THIS MONTH

Deplanchea tetraphylla, Callistemon spp. viminalis, polandi, Hen Camp Creek, salignus, Capt. Cook., Hoya spp., Neofabricia myrtifolia, Dillenia alata, Dendrobium spp., Acacia montfordia, Grevillea banksii, glossadenia, Misty Pink, Honey Gem, Macadamia spp., Dianella spp..

PLANT SWAP

Unfortunately, I was not quick enough to write down the names of the plants before they were swapped. It was pleasing to see so many donations and thanks also to Robin Smith for donating some of his ferns.

Does anyone know where I can get some seeds of Nepenthes mirabilis to grow for the White Rock School. Can someone, the existence of the pink Hoya macgillivrayi or is it being confused with another species.

→ confirm

FLOWERS

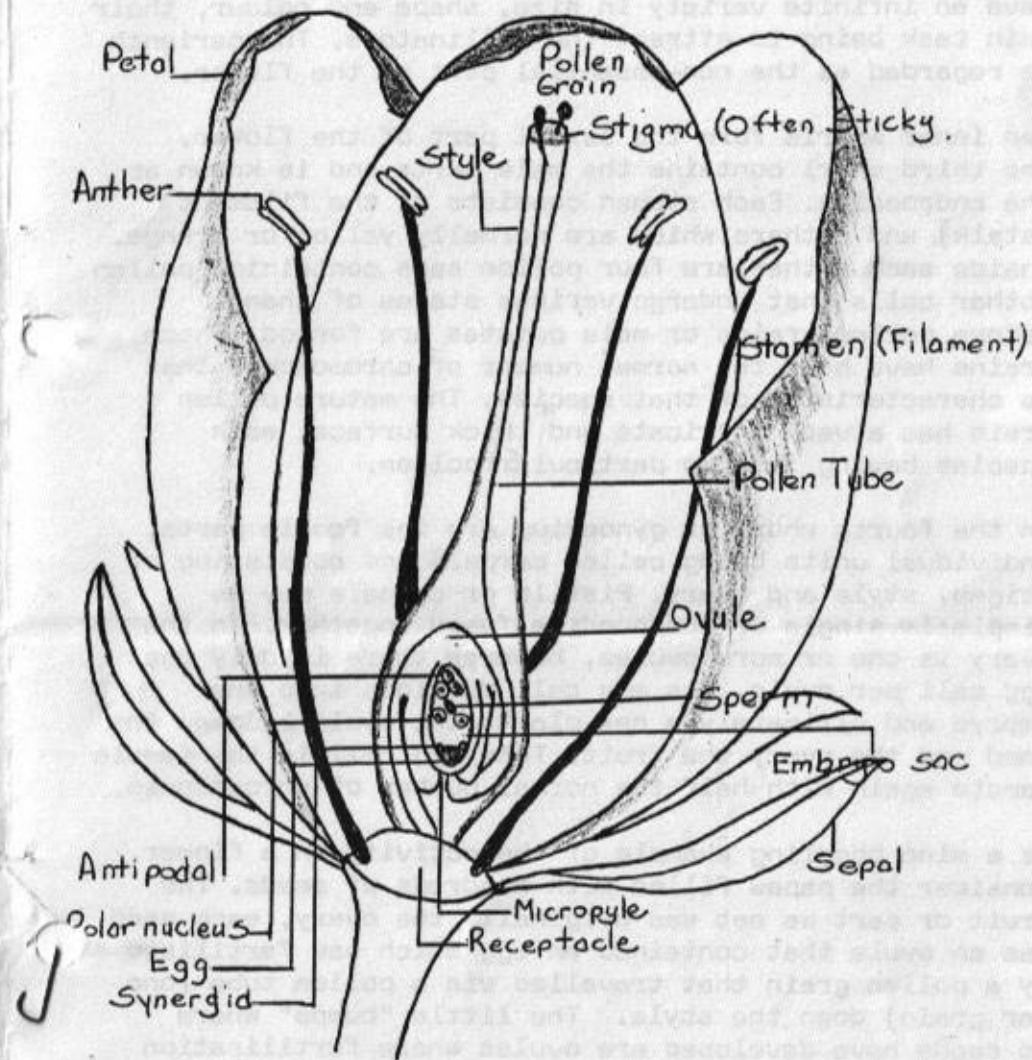
The following is one of three articles I am planning about flowers, their development, pollination and fertilisation.

Plants must reach a certain degree of maturity before a flower can develop and at this stage of maturity is also dependent on external cues such as temperature and day-length.

Flowers are essentially four whorls of modified leaves, the hormone (hypothetical) florigen being thought to be responsible for the reorganisation of the stem apex into flower formation.

The first two whorls to develop are the outermost ones, referred to as the perianth. Forming the outermost whorl is the calyx (units of which are sepals), its function being protection of the developing bud. They are often

CROSS SECTION OF A FLOWER



greenish but may be coloured and where they cannot be distinguished from the petals are collectively called tepals.

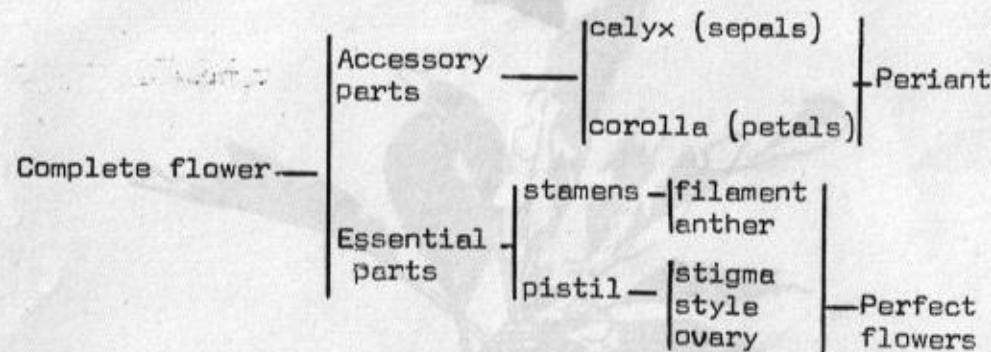
Forming the second whorl are the petals (corolla) which have an infinite variety in size, shape and colour, their main task being to attract the pollinators. The perianth is regarded as the non-essential part of the flower.

Two inner whorls form the sexual part of the flower. The third whorl contains the male parts and is known as the androecium. Each stamen consists of the filament (stalk) and anthers which are normally yellow or orange. Inside each anther are four pollen sacs containing pollen mother cells that undergo various stages of change before pollen grains or male gametes are formed. These grains have half the normal number of chromosomes that is characteristic of that species. The mature pollen grain has a very intricate and thick surface, each species having its own particular pollen.

In the fourth whorl or gynoecium are the female parts, individual units being called carpels and consisting of stigma, style and ovary. Pistils or carpels may be simple; i.e. single or compound; i.e. fused together. In the ovary is one or more ovules, however there is only one egg cell per ovule. The egg cell develops into the embryo and ultimately a new plant, the ovule becomes the seed and the ovary the fruit. This egg cell is the female gamete again with half the normal number of chromosomes.

As a mind boggling example of the activity in a flower, consider the papaw filled with hundreds of seeds. The fruit or part we eat was originally the ovary, each seed was an ovule that contained an egg which was fertilised by a pollen grain that travelled via a pollen tube (one per grain) down the style. The little "bumps" where no seeds have developed are ovules where fertilisation has not occurred and therefore no seed has formed.

The presence or absence of any of these whorls is a useful identification aid as well as the arrangement of the individual flowers in the inflorescence.



Incomplete flower	petals absent = apetalous flower
	sepals absent = asepalous flower
	stamens absent = pistillate flower
	pistil absent = staminate flower

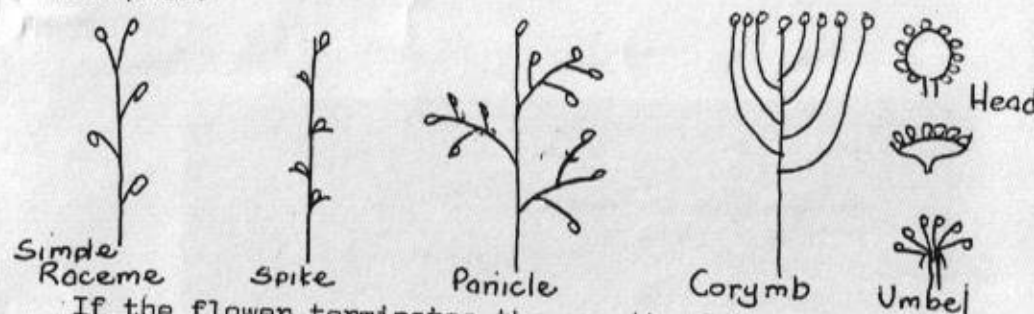
Imperfect flowers have either stamens or pistil lacking.

INFLORESCENCE TYPES

An inflorescence is a flower bearing branch or system of branches. The stalk of an individual flower is a pedicel, the stalk of an inflorescence is a peduncle. Individual flowers may be pedicellate (with a stalk) or sessile (without).

Racemose inflorescences have the oldest flowers at the base allowing further growth of the flowering stem.

Examples:



If the flower terminates the growth of the stem and further development occurs below this the inflorescence is Cymose.