

## PLANTS OF THE TROPICS

Wombat Berry - *Eustrephus latifolius*  
The following is adapted from the ASGAP website: <http://asgap.org.au/e-lat.html>

*Eustrephus latifolius* is the sole member of the genus, and is now placed in the Laxmanniaceae, related to *Cordyline* and *Lomandra*. It is usually a reasonably vigorous twining plant but may also occur as a scrambling ground cover. The leaves are lance-shaped to about 80 mm long and have conspicuous longitudinal veins. Flowers are about 15 mm diameter and occur in spring in the upper leaf axils. They are usually white or pale pink with very hairy petals. The flowers are followed by orange berries containing a number of shiny, black seeds. The fruits usually remain on the plant for many months.



**Wombat berry** *Eustrephus latifolius*

*Geitonoplesium cymosum* was formerly considered closely related, but is now placed in a separate family, Hemerocallidaceae, alongside the blue flax lily *Dianella*. In the

field, it differs in having flowers without hairy petals and with black fruits.

Wombat berry is hardy in a range of soils and climates and is best if grown in a semi shaded position. It tolerates extended periods of dryness once established. It is not excessively vigorous and is unlikely to become a problem by smothering other plants. With a little judicious pruning to excessively energetic shoots, it makes an attractive and hardy indoor plant.

The fleshy roots of the plant are edible.

Propagation is best carried out from fresh seed.

Thanks and goodbye

This newsletter is my last for the Cairns SGAP. I leave for the Sunshine Coast on 22<sup>nd</sup> September after 13 years in Cairns. Thanks everyone for your input, the opportunity to learn from you all, and most importantly, your friendship.

Who wants to put their hand up to do this job now??!! Let me know and I will forward the template for the newsletter.

Happy gardening,

*Stuart Worboys*

## SPECIES LIST FROM JULATTEN EXCURSION

### Ferns and Fern Allies

ADIANTACEAE	<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i>	
	<i>Taenitis pinnata</i>	Morse Fern
POLYPODIACEAE	<i>Belvisia mucronata</i>	
	<i>Drynaria rigidula</i>	Basket Fern
PSILOTACEAE	<i>Psilotum nudum</i>	Whisk Fern
SCHIZEACEAE	<i>Lygodium reticulatum</i>	Climbing Maidenhair
SELAGINELLACEAE	<i>Selaginella australiensis</i>	

## Conifers

ARAUCARIACEAE	<i>Agathis robusta</i>	Kauri
PODOCARPACEAE	<i>Podocarpus grayae</i>	

## Flowering Plants

APOCYNACEAE	<i>Alstonia muelleriana</i> <i>Alyxia ruscifolia</i> <i>Hoya australis</i> <i>Melodinus australis</i> <i>Parsonsia velutina</i>	Hard Milkwood  Hoya
ARALIACEAE	<i>Mackinlaya confusa</i> <i>Polyscias australiana</i> <i>Polyscias elegans</i> <i>Polyscias purpurea</i> <i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>	Ivory Basswood Celerywood
ARECACEAE	<i>Calamus australis</i> <i>Linospadix minor</i>	Hairy Mary
ARGOPHYLLACEAE	<i>Argophyllum lejourdanii</i>	
ARISTOLOCHACEAE	<i>Pararistolochia deltantha</i>	Native Dutchman's Pipe
ASTERACEAE	* <i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Bluetop
BALANOPHORACEAE	<i>Balanophora fungosa</i>	
BIGNONIACEAE	<i>Neosepicaea jucunda</i> <i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Jungle Vine Wonga Vine
CELASTRACEAE	<i>Hedraianthera porphyropetala</i>	
CLUSIACEAE	<i>Calophyllum sp.</i> <i>Garcinia warrenii</i>	
COLCHICACEAE	<i>Schelhammera multiflora</i>	
CUNONIACEAE	<i>Pseudoweinmannia lachnocarpa</i> <i>Pullea stutzeri</i>	Hard Alder
CYPERACEAE	<i>Gahnia aspera</i>	
DILLENIACEAE	<i>Hibbertia scandens</i> <i>Tetracera nordtiana</i>	
ELAEOCARPACEAE	<i>Elaeocarpus bancroftii</i> <i>Sloanea langii</i>	Kuranda Quandong
EUPHORBIACEAE	<i>Croton triacros</i> <i>Macaranga inamoena</i> <i>Macranga subdentata</i> <i>Mallotus polyadenos</i>	
FABACEAE	<i>Austrosteenisia sp.</i> <i>Mucuna gigantea</i>	Blood Vine
FLAGELLARIACEAE	<i>Flagellaria indica</i>	Flagellaria
GENTIANACEAE	<i>Fagraea cambagei</i>	
HEMEROCALLIDACEAE	<i>Dianella atraxis</i>	
LAURACEAE	<i>Cryptocarya mackinnoniana</i> <i>Cryptocarya murrayi</i> <i>Cryptocarya vulgaris</i> <i>Neolitsea dealbata</i>	Mackinnon's Walnut Murray's Laurel  Bollywood
LAXMANNIACEAE	<i>Cordyline cannifolia</i> <i>Eustrephus latifolius</i> <i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	Wombat Berry
MELIACEAE	<i>Aglaia meridionalis</i> <i>Dysoxylum klanderi</i> <i>Dysoxylum oppositifolium</i>	
MENISPERMACEAE	<i>Hypserpa decumbens</i> <i>Hypserpa laurina</i>	

MIMOSACEAE	<i>Acacia celsa</i> <i>Acacia flavescens</i> <i>Acacia polystachya</i>	Brown Salwood  Wattle
MONIMIACEAE	<i>Tetrasynandra pubescens</i> <i>Wilkiea sp.</i>	Tetra Beech
MORACEAE	<i>Ficus destruens</i> <i>Trophis scandens</i>	Rusty Fig
MYRSINACEAE	<i>Myrsine subsessilis</i> <i>Myrsine variabilis</i>	
MYRTACEAE	<i>Corymbia intermedia</i> <i>Eucalyptus pellita</i> <i>Melaleuca viminalis</i> <i>Rhodamnia spongiosa</i> <i>Syzygium tierneyanum</i> <i>Tristaniopsis exiliiflora</i>	Water Cherry Watergum
ORCHIDACEAE	<i>Bulbophyllum baileyi</i> <i>Cymbidium madidum</i> <i>Dendrobium discolor</i> <i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> <i>Dendrobium tegraronum</i> <i>Dockrillia teretifolia</i> <i>Pholidota imbricata</i> <i>Robequetia gracilistipes</i>	Golden Orchid King Orchid Spider Orchid
PANDANACEAE	<i>Freycinetia scandens</i>	Climing Pandan
PASSIFLORACEAE	<i>Passiflora sp. Kuranda</i>	
PHYLLANTHACEAE	<i>Breynia stipitata</i> <i>Cleistanthus discolor</i>	Fart Bush
PITTOSPORACEAE	<i>Bursaria incana</i>	
PITTOSPORACEAE	<i>Pittosporum ferrugineum</i>	
POACEAE	* <i>Urochloa mosambicensis</i>	Sabi Grass
PROTEACEAE	<i>Buckinghamia celsissima</i> <i>Carnavonia araliifolia</i> <i>Grevillea baileyana</i>	Ivory Curl
RHAMNACEAE	<i>Alphitonia whitei</i>	
RIPOGONACEAE	<i>Ripogonum album</i>	Supplejack
ROSACEAE	* <i>Rubus alceifolius</i>	Raspberry
RUBIACEAE	<i>Atractocarpus fitzalanii</i> <i>Atractocarpus sessilis</i> <i>Gardenia ovularis</i> <i>Tarenna dallachiana</i>	
RUTACEAE	<i>Acronychia laevis</i> <i>Flindersia bourjotiana</i> <i>Flindersia iffaiiana</i>	Queensland Silver Ash Cairns Hickory
SAPINDACEAE	<i>Arytera pauciflora</i> <i>Cupaniopsis foveolata</i> <i>Guioa acutifolia</i> <i>Mischocarpus exangulatus</i>	
SAPOTACEAE	<i>Pouteria castanosperma</i> <i>Pouteria chartacea</i>	
THYMELEACEAE	<i>Lethedon setosa</i>	
VERBENACEAE	* <i>Lantana camara</i>	
VITACEAE	<i>Cissus penninervis</i> <i>Tetrastigma nitens</i>	Shining Grape