



Gympie & District
LANDCARE

Code of Practice
for the sustainable harvest of seeds
and propagation material
from native plants

DRAFT

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General Purpose

1. Gympie and District Landcare Group Inc is a not-for-profit organisation which operates a plant nursery dedicated to providing non-weedy native Australian plants to the community with a focus on plants of local provenance. The nursery aims to:
 - a. support maintenance of the local environment, revegetation projects and habitat strengthening
 - b. promote the use of native Australian plants in amenity and general plantings, and
 - c. promote the conservation of native plants of limited distribution or occurrence.
2. Seeds and propagation material is primarily donated freely after being collected by volunteers, members and the general public on an opportunistic basis. Sometimes donors of propagation material are unaware of the legal requirements. The group provides advice and information to donors to improve understanding of legal requirements.
3. Those collecting and donating seeds or other propagatable material for Gympie & District Landcare Group's nursery are asked to be aware of and follow the following guidelines to ensure sustainable harvesting of propagation material.

Minimise the spread of plant pests and pathogens

To minimise the spread of plant pests (e.g. Weedy Sporobolus Species, Parthenium, Annual Ragweed) and pathogens (e.g. *Phytophthora cinnamomi*) and maintain good phytosanitary practices especially in natural areas:

1. Keep the undercarriage and tyres of vehicles clean when moving between properties to avoid the spread of weed seeds or plant pathogens.
2. If driving in the immediate vicinity of a plant community of conservation interest, inspect the vehicle and remove soil or plant material that may introduce weeds or plant pathogens.
3. Remove soil from boots and shoes and remove propagules from clothing before entering the vicinity of a plant of conservation interest.
4. Prior to any harvesting clean tools.

Promote genetic diversity of harvested material

To help ensure there is genetic diversity among the plants raised at the nursery, and to minimise any effect of harvesting on natural stands of the plants, wherever practical

1. Harvest seed from several plants within a stand, rather than a single plant.
2. Harvest seed from several stands of the species, in preference to a single stand.
3. Limit the harvest of seeds or vegetative material to less than 20% of the material available on a particular plant.

Labeling of the material harvested

Labeling of the seed or other propagatable material is important. The following details should always be recorded and is a legal requirement if material is harvested from a protected or

classified plant:

1. The scientific name and common name (if any) of the plant or plant part taken.
2. The number individual plants from which material has been harvested.
3. The date and approximate time when the plant or plant part was taken.
4. The location of harvest. A GPS recording of latitude and longitude is preferred. A street address can be helpful. The title reference for the land from which each plant or plant part was taken and other details may be appropriate if known.
5. A description of the material harvested (seeds, cuttings, wildings or other) including the number of each or the volume / weight if this is more appropriate.
6. The name of the person who took the plant or plant part and, if a vehicle was used, its registration number.
7. If the plant was taken under contingent salvage only—a description of and identification number for the protected plant clearing permit, environmental authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* or authority issued under another Act under which the plant was lawfully taken.
8. If material is taken from a cultivated plant – an appropriate description of the location and owner.

Storing of harvested material

1. Fruits and seeds with fleshy coverings should be stored in an unsealed plastic bag under cool conditions e.g. esky or refrigerator.
2. Fruits and seeds with hard dry capsules should be stored in a paper bag initially and then in a sealed jar in the refrigerator or cool position after air-drying has occurred.
3. Vegetative material for propagation should be kept moist and cooled and delivered to the Landcare nursery as quickly as possible.

Provisions for Plants protected under section 174A of the Nature Conservation Act 1992.

1. Plants grown in the nursery from time to time that are subject to the provisions of the Nature Conservation Act 1992 include:

Alloxylon flammeum

Archidendron lovelliae

Boronia keysii

Boronia rivularis

Callitris baileyi

Clausena smyrelliana

Cossinia australiana

Diploglottis campbellii

Eucalyptus argophloia

Eucalyptus conglomerata

Eucalyptus curtsii

Eucalyptus dunii

Fontainea rostrata

Phaius australis

2. Anyone collecting propagatable material of these or other species of conservation interest should be familiar with the Code of Practice for the Harvest and Use of Protected Plants Nature Conservation Act 1992. This Code of Practice can be downloaded from the internet:
<https://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/licences-permits/plants-animals/documents/code-of-practice-protected-plants.pdf> . This Code applies to harvesting, growing and trade activities authorised under the Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006 ('the Wildlife Management Regulation').

General requirements for the harvest of a plant part from a restricted but not an endangered plant

- 1 When collecting seeds, fruit or other propagating material, collect no more than 20% of the seeds, fruit or propagating material from any one plant in any 12-month period.
- 2 Remove no more than 20% of the flowers, fronds, foliage or other parts from any one plant in any 12-month period.
- 3 For plants that reproduce by spores and rhizomes, harvest no more than 20% of the plant stems from each plant.
- 4 Only harvest bark from dead or fallen trees, or harvest dead bark only from live trees with a minimum trunk diameter of 15cm at breast height.
- 5 When taking cycad parts— Seed must be ripe and shed from the plant or be on the point of being shed

Specific requirements for the harvest of a plant part from an individual of a restricted but not an endangered species

1. When collecting seed, a person must not take—
 - i) if the seed of the species is larger than 1cm in any dimension—
 - a) more than 20 seeds of the species in a month; or
 - b) more than 100 seeds of the species in any 12-month period; or
 - ii) if the seed of the species is larger than 2mm but not larger than 1cm in any dimension—
 - a) more than 50 seeds of the species in a month; or
 - b) more than 250 seeds of the species in any 12-month period; or
 - iii) if the seed of the species is not larger than 2mm in any dimension—
 - a) more than 10g of seed of the species in a month; or
 - b) more than 100g of seed of the species in any 12-month period.

Requirements for a protected plant trade record

To meet the requirements of s.124 of the Administration Regulation, the following particulars must be recorded in the protected plant trade record for each plant species:

1. The scientific name and common name (if any) of the plant or plant part.
2. For a plant or plant part moved (where there is no change of ownership or trade)—all of the following—
 - i) the street address of the place where the plant or plant part was moved from
 - ii) the street address of the place where the plant or plant part was moved to
 - iii) the total number of plants or plant parts being moved
 - iv) the identification code of the official tag attached to each plant or plant part moved
 - v) the date of movement of the plant or plant parts.
3. For each transaction by which a plant or plant part was sold or given away—all of the following—
 - i) the identification code of the official tag attached to each plant or plant part
 - ii) the date of the transaction
 - iii) the full name of the person who sells or gives away the plant or plant part
4. For plants propagated, or plant parts cultivated, from wild harvested plants or plant parts— all of the following—
 - i) the total number of plants or plant parts produced by the propagation or cultivation
 - ii) the identification code of the official tag attached to each plant or plant part
 - iii) if a plant taken or otherwise obtained under a protected plant trade exemption dies or is lost or stolen—
 - a) the date the plant was reasonably believed to have died or been lost or stolen
 - b) the total number of plants that died or were lost or stolen
 - c) if an official tag was attached to, or accompanied the plant—the identification code for the tag.