



APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A PLANT COLLECTION

The Garden Plant Conservation of Australia (GPCAA) aims to conserve Australia’s garden plant diversity and, with the collaboration of Botanic Gardens of Australia & New Zealand (BGANZ) and affiliated authorities, ensure the conservation of registered significant plants and/or plant collections. Registration of plant collections is open to all plant enthusiasts, including home gardeners, garden groups, professional horticulturalists, land managers, plant specialists, garden societies or clubs, commercial nurseries, botanic gardens etc.

Notes:

You may be aware of another collection or owner of the same taxon that has registered their plant collection. It is valuable to have two collections in different climatic conditions. Collections are maintained independently of the GPCAA.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete the

- Application for Registration of a Plant Collection (Page 1)
- Plant List (Page 2)
- Collection Overview (Pages 3-4)

Lodge your Application online (Page 5)
or Print & post: GPCAA Inc.
C/- Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne,
100 Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Victoria, 3141

Collection Name.....
(PLANT GROUP)

Site of Collection.....

Owner of Plant Collection (if other than you).....

First Name.....

Last Name.....

Address.....

.....STATE..... Postal Code.....

Telephone (BH)..... (AH)..... Mobile.....

EMAIL ADDRESS:

****I have read and understood the Conditions of Registration (Page 5) and Environmental Weed Policy (Page 6)***



APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION
OF A PLANT COLLECTION
PLANT LIST

Note: Use this form only if you are unable to provide or attach your own filed version

Name of Collection.....

Location of Collection.....

Genus	Species/	Origin/Source of Plant (if available)



NATIONAL PLANT COLLECTIONS REGISTER
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION
OF A PLANT COLLECTION
COLLECTION OVERVIEW

(PAGE 1)

Name of Collection.....

Location of Collection.....

1 BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

A brief summary of your horticultural background (if any) and interest in your particular collection

2 PUBLICATIONS

Include any publications written by you or others relevant to your collection

3 ESTABLISHMENT OF COLLECTION

Include dates and other information relevant to your collection

4 SITE DESCRIPTIONS

Include soil type, climate - e.g. rainfall, temperature range, wind etc., physical aspects



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COLLECTION OVERVIEW
(PAGE 2)

5 PRESENT STATE/CONDITIONS

Include current climatic conditions and other factors influencing your collection

6 MANAGEMENT OF COLLECTION

Routine horticultural management, pests & disease control, pruning, procedures specific to collection

7 SUPPORT GROUP

Other societies/organisations with common interest

8 OTHER COLLECTIONS/COLLECTORS:

Those who either hold a collection or who may assist you/GPCAA with the preservation/extension of the collection

9 MAJOR TEXTS/REFERENCES

List what you use as your principal references

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OF A PLANT COLLECTION
CONDITIONS OF REGISTRATION

1. *Ensure that the collection is maintained in good health.*
2. *Add to or otherwise improve the collection so that it remains as representative as possible.*
3. *Maintain, as far as possible, accurate lists and records of the plants and label or map the individual plants or plant groups in the collection.*
4. *Provide regular Plant Lists.*
Regular updates of your Plant List are required to maintain current records on the National Plant Collections Register. From time to time, we might also ask you to complete Species Data Sheets for specific plants held in your collection.
5. *If required, provide plant material for herbarium specimens.*
6. *On your advice and by prior arrangement make your collection available to GPCAA members and, if possible, the general public.*
It is encouraged (but not required) that collections are, at least occasionally, open to the public. Tours and visits to members' collections are occasionally organised by the GPCAA to raise funds for the Association.
7. *When feasible and if possible, provide plant material for shows, lectures, displays and the GPCAA's Annual General Meeting Rare Plant Auction.*
8. *Maintain registration of collection in the National Plant Collections Register by ensuring current membership of the GPCAA at the relevant annual subscription rate.*
9. *Read and understand the GPCAA's Environmental Weed Policy.*
10. *Relinquish registration if it is considered that these conditions have not been met.*

BACKGROUND

The natural environment is being steadily degraded by the incursion of non-indigenous plants and animals.

Weeds are a major problem in natural and agricultural ecosystems world-wide. They pose one of the greatest threats to biodiversity and their control is a major cost in both developed and undeveloped countries.

Unfortunately, many of today's weed problems have resulted from well-intentioned human introductions. Examples in Australia include the deliberate spread of blackberry seed, *Rubus fruticosus*, in the wild by Ferdinand von Mueller, and the escape from gardens of Paterson's Curse (Salvation Jane), *Echium plantagineum*.

In Australia, after land clearing, environmental weeds are one of the most serious conservation problems affecting natural ecosystems. In 2000, the Victorian flora comprised 4331 species of which 1110 species (25.6%) were naturalised.¹ The percentage of naturalised plants is increasing, both nationally and at a state level, every year.

Much research has been devoted to determining the biological and ecological characteristics that lead to weediness. However "little has emerged that might help to identify species that have a high risk of becoming weeds, beyond the simple generalisation that those that have become weeds when introduced in one part of the world are likely to cause problems if introduced elsewhere".²

In spite of the difficulties of determining "weediness", the GPCAA does not wish to contribute in any way to weed invasion of ecosystems. The GPCAA acknowledges that, as an organisation specialising in rare and unusual plants, there is a responsibility to assess collections for their environmental weed potential.

Respecting the natural environment (from which our garden plants came), the GPCAA supports the principles of environmental protection and conservation, and the preservation of biodiversity; it encourages environmentally responsible horticulture.

POLICY

The GPCAA is aware of the need to prevent the collection and/or spread of environmental weeds. The following practices are adopted:

- The Scientific and Collections Committee assess the appropriateness of new collections in relation to potential environmental weeds.
- Collection holders should not grow the following:
 - Declared noxious weeds.³

¹ Carr, G.W., Yugovic, J.V. & Robinson, K.E. (1992). *Environmental weed invasions in Victoria: conservation and management implications*. Department of Conservation and Environment, E Melbourne.

² Randall, R.P. (2002). *A Global Compendium of Weeds*. R.G. & F.J. Richardson, Meredith, Victoria.

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ENVIRONMENTAL WEED POLICY

(PAGE 2)

A proclaimed noxious weed is one that is legally banned under noxious weed legislation. In Victoria this legislation is the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* which lists banned plants. Please note that the declared plants are also illegal in the metropolitan area. Other states have their own proclaimed weed legislation.

- Plants that have a history of weediness.

This includes plants which are not legally banned but are listed in scientifically acknowledged compendia of environmental weeds, also plants that have proved weedy overseas and which will be growing in similar conditions in Australia. An environmental weed is defined as a plant that invades native vegetation, usually adversely affecting regeneration and survival of the indigenous flora and fauna.

- Collection holders are required to monitor for weediness:
 - New accessions
 - Those that are from groups known to contain widespread weeds (e.g. *Echium*)
 - Plants that show the capacity to propagate rapidly - by seed, fleshy fruit, vegetatively, etc.
 - Annuals
 - Those with fruits that are easily spread by birds and animals
- Propagation and exchange of environmental weeds is not approved by the GPCAA.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE

www.nre.vic.gov.au Landcare Notes (1998). Declared Noxious Weeds. KTRI ISSN 1329-833X

DEFINITIONS

ENDEMIC - having a natural distribution restricted to a particular region.

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED - a plant that invades native vegetation, usually adversely affecting regeneration and survival of the indigenous flora and fauna.

INDIGENOUS - native to the area, not introduced, and not necessarily confined to the region discussed (hardly distinct from native).

NATIVE - naturally occurring in a particular area but not necessarily confined to it.

NATURALISED - originating elsewhere but established and reproducing itself as though native to the area.

PROCLAIMED NOXIOUS WEED - a plant that is legally banned under noxious weed legislation.

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Last updated 2008