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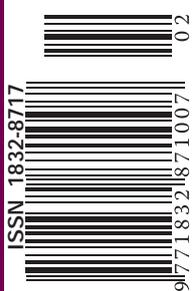
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ISSUE 15
QUARTERLY

subTropical Gardening

and landscaping in warm climates

**local advice for
local gardeners**



■ TROPICAL
– plant success



■ COLLECTABLES
– begonias and orchids



■ FRUIT & VEG
– rosellas, figs & more



■ CALENDAR
– this season



contributors

PAUL PLANT
FAIH
Ipswich



Keen plants man and horticulturist, Paul was born and trained in Queensland, resulting in a passion for subtropical and tropical gardening. He has taught horticulture, worked in the landscape and nursery sectors, been writing gardening articles since the early 90s and occasionally stands in for Colin Campbell on radio 4BC.

ARNO KING
FAIH
Brisbane



Arno is a landscape architect and horticulturist based in Brisbane. His particular interest is planting design in warm climates and the use of appropriate plants in gardens and the broader landscape. A keen gardener, his garden is full of uncommon plant species being trialled for possible use on various projects.

CLAIRE BICKLE
MAIH
Brisbane



A qualified Brisbane horticulturist for nearly two decades, Claire has been educating the public in all areas of horticulture through garden centres and now also teaches at TAFE. Claire has a love especially for sustainable horticulture, natives, plus a passion and drive to educate and share this knowledge with the public.

CYNTHIA CARSON
MAIH
Redlands



Cynthia is an extension horticulturist with extensive experience as an author and advisor - having worked in state departments of agriculture since the mid-80s. Cynthia is currently a lifestyle horticulture specialist with the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Queensland and has a particular interest in turf and native cut flowers.

DANIEL COLE
MAIH
Byron Bay



Daniel is a horticulturist, trained at Hawkesbury - Sydney, now based near Byron Bay with experiences in managing public parks, residential landscape design and construction, nurseries and print media. He is currently working as a horticulturist for a landscape architecture firm and has a commitment to warm climate design and horticulture.

HARRY CRANE
MAIH
Brisbane



Gardening has been a lifetime enjoyment made all the more interesting by looking after several suburban Brisbane gardens. Having an Advanced Certificate of Horticulture has helped to appreciate the intricacies of plant life. When not working in gardens Harry can be found enjoying himself in a game of lawn bowls.

HELEN CURRAN
MAIH
Sydney



Trained in New South Wales, Helen has worked in the nursery industry for many years. A love of experimenting with tropical plants in Sydney's colder western suburbs for over 10 years has provided gardeners with a trusted source of information for those in cooler climatic zones.

JOAN DILLON
MAIH
Sunshine Coast



An appreciation of our native flora in its natural environment, plus its value in horticulture, has been Joan's life-long passion. She trained as a plant pathologist specialising in diseases of ornamentals, later taught horticulture in the Northern Territory and has been active in community revegetation projects for many years.

MARIAN HAMMOND
MAIH
Brisbane



Landscape designer, horticultural consultant and arborist, Marian first trained in New South Wales at the Ryde School of Horticulture (1977) and has since spent the last 25 years in South East Queensland. Identification of pests and diseases and the culture of botanical life are Marian's most passionate horticultural interests.

GRANT LARKIN
MAIH
Brisbane



Locally born and trained, Grant grew up surrounded with foliage plants to develop an interest in jungle-type plants from a very early age and now has a passion for palms, other tropicals but is generally an all round plant lover. Grant currently works in the retail nursery industry and garden design.

JOHN SULLIVAN
MAIH
Cairns



Principal designer of his own business, Hortulus, John has specialised in tropical horticulture for over 20 years. Designing gardens on the principles of identifying a strong sense of the tropics, the environment and the future management of the landscape, John has worked on residential and commercial projects across Australia.

ANTON VAN DER SCHANS
Singapore



Internationally respected landscape architect and renowned plants man, Anton has done extensive work throughout northern Queensland and Asia. He is currently involved with Singapore National Parks in the development of new parklands. Anton's diverse horticultural interests inspire the public to consider alternative species when gardening.

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*Beautiful
Begonias*

10 FAVOURITE HANGING BASKET PLANTS

Each issue we ask five qualified horticulturists to list their favourite plant types on a selected theme.

The decision can depend upon many factors such as soil, climate, drought tolerance, aesthetics or just plain personal preference!



Claire Bickle MAIH
Horticulturist – Brisbane

Ceropegia woodii – Chain of Hearts
Hoya species – Wax Flower
Schlumbergera truncata – Zygocactus
Senecio rowleyanus – String of Pearls
Stanhopea tigrina – Upside Down Orchid



John Sullivan MAIH
Horticulturist – Port Douglas

Freycinetia scandens – Flowering Pandan
Ipomoea horsfalliae 'Briggsii' – Cardinal Creeper
Medinilla balls-headleyi
Neomarica gracilis – Walking Iris
Peperomia obtusifolia 'Variegata'
– Variegated Baby Rubber Plant



Daniel Cole MAIH
Horticulturist – Byron Bay

Bougainvillea cultivars – Bambino & 'double forms'
Calibrachoa cultivars – Perennial Petunia
Mandevilla boliviensis – White Dipladenia
Neomarica gracilis – Walking Iris
Torenia fournieri cultivars – Perennial Torenia



Joan Dillon MAIH
Horticulturist – Sunshine Coast

Dampiera diversifolia – Dampiera
Hibbertia aspera – Rough Guinea Flower
Lobelia trigonocaulis – Forest Lobelia
Mentha diemenica – Native Mint
Plectranthus graveolens – Native Plectranthus



Paul Plant MAIH
Horticulturist – Brisbane

Acalypha reptans var. *pygmaea* – Summer Love
Cissus rhombifolia 'Ellen Danica' – Grape Ivy
Pelargonium peltatum – Ivy-leaved Geranium cultivars
Sedum morganianum – Donkey's Tail
Stanhopea tigrina – Upside-down Orchid

ROSELLA

While we are celebrating Queensland's 150th birthday, it's a prime time to plan growing its most famous edible plant – the Rosella. There can be no other 'fruit' or jam that is so closely associated with the state, as Arno King explains.

01

01 The red fleshy calyx of the fruiting body is sometimes referred to as a vegetable.

02 *Hibiscus sabdariffa*



The summer just past has been a great season for the Rosella and many people have had bumper crops. Whilst it is a bit late to start growing them now in most parts of Australia, you can locate seeds and plan for the coming season's crop.

While many people refer to rosella as a fruit, we actually eat the fleshy calyx of the flower. Inside this fleshy covering is the dry pod of seeds.

The succulent calyx is translucent and deep crimson to bright red in colour appearing stunning on the bush with the sun shining on them. Rosella is a hibiscus (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*) and creamy yellow hibiscus flowers add to the attractiveness of the bush in the garden.

Why Queensland?

Rosella is thought to have originated in central Africa, however they were introduced to Asia in prehistoric times, and grow wild right down to northern Australia. The rosella plants we grow today are likely to have originated in India, being an introduction to our shores by early colonialists.

And whilst the rosella may have reached cult status in Queensland, it was not recorded as growing wild in the state prior to European settlement. However it was found growing wild in the Northern Territories. There is some conjecture regarding whether these plants were introduced by early Indonesian visitors prior to European settlement. As expected, the