

PLANT ADDITIONS FOR HUIA RIDGE AND HUIA DAM TRACKS

E.K. Cameron

On 29 October 1989 Maruia Society repeated the wet ABS trip of June 1988. A few additions (mainly due to the different season) were seen to the species list of Jones (1989):

Corybas acuminatus 1, just starting to fruit
C. oblongus 6, in full flower
C. rivularis (ex C. orbiculatus) 6, leaves only
C. trilobus 6, leaves only
Phebalium nudum 5
Pterostylis banksii 1, 6, in full flower
P. graminea s.s. 1, 6, in full flower
Thelymitra longifolia 5, in flower bud
Uncinia uncinata 1,6

Numbers as for Jones (1989). The Quintinia serrata on the Huia Ridge Track was a magnificent sight in full flower.

REFERENCE

Jones, S. 1989 Huia Ridge, Nugget, Huia Dam Tracks. Auck. Bot. Soc. Journal 44(1):1-3.

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OASES IN THE DESERT: NOT A TOUR OF "PUBS IN THE OUTBACK" BUT WATERHOLE VEGETATION IN AUSTRALIA

Geoff Davidson

The August meeting was well attended by members keen to hear Howard Esler continue the story of the flora that has adapted to the harshness of Australia's deserts.

Highlighting this tour of outback oases, Howard compared them to waterholes of the world and showed the adaptations that have made Australian plants so unique. The 6 types of waterhole he illustrated had specialised plant life dependent upon the amount of water available and its duration.

For those of us oblivious to anything but plants Howard assured us "There is more to waterholes than just plant life" and proceeded to illustrate his lecture with gallahs so important in seed dispersal, and the adobe homes of fairy martins. The problems of introduced species have reached the outback, despite the arid conditions, with invasive hordes of wallowing water buffalo and cane toads. Howard's imitation of the latter deserves recognition and we look forward to another evening with him in the future.

August 1989.