

News and Views

Phill Mann (16 Osborne Road, Mt. Barker, 6324, West Australia)

During the month of July I succeeded in traveling the 4,500 kilometers to the north west of our state, an area known as the Kimberly's. I stayed with friends at the Drysdale River Station and managed to make time to search for C.P.'s in the surrounding areas. During the week and a half there I found four forms of *Drosera indica* — green plants with light pink flowers, green plants with deep pink flowers, red plants with very dark pink flowers and red plants with orange flowers. *Byblis liniflora* grew everywhere in three forms — white flowered, type plants with pink flowers and the very dark form with dark pink flowers. *Drosera petiolaris* grew in many locations and the four forms appeared to be very common. Although it was very dry at this time and most *Drosera* were going dormant *D. petiolaris* was still very large and attractive. The small form growing in the damp creek beds and only managing 1 cm in size, to the great wooley form reaching 8 cm across. *Utricularias* were everywhere and the most common was *U. chrysantha* as it gave some of the valleys the golden tinge of colour. There were two blue flowering terrestrial utrics, two yellow aquatics and a beautiful tiny utric that only grew 2 cm tall with white flowers having a light touch of mauve. I located this utric after spending a few hours on hands and knees locating the tiny *Drosera banksii*. Just north of Drysdale (150kms) is the Mitchell river plateau, an area that is unique and very spectacular, and a botanist's heaven as there exists small pockets of rain forest, but most are inaccessible. I made one such trip by helicopter, the area was so amazing as there were plants everywhere that were so strange and so many that were not known from our state. Unfortunately I ran out of time and film, so I have made plans for the return trip, but I have decided I will fly the 4,500kms as I wasted so much plant collecting time on the road. I collected seed of most of the C.P.s and have sent most of it to the C.P. Seed banks for those who wish to try these great plants. I am now attempting to introduce these plants into tissue culture with some great success so far.

Chad Williams (2929 S. Branson, Marion, IN 46953)

I've been a member for one year now, and I must say I am very pleased with the Newsletter (magazine) that the ICPS puts out. I enjoy reading all the articles in it. I only have a small collection of carnivorous plants consisting of *D. capensis*, *D. capillaris*, several *Sarracenia*, and Venus flytraps. I also had very good luck with an outdoor bog this past summer, it was a small one, only having about 15 *Dionaea muscipula*, and several *Sarracenia*s. I would like to say a special thanks to Peter Pauls Nurseries, for answering so many questions for me, and sending very healthy plants. I would love to hear from anyone who has interests in CP's.

CARNIVOROUS PLANTS OF WHANGAMARINO SWAMP NEW ZEALAND

by

Bruce Salmon, 13 Rothery Road, Manurewa, Auckland, New Zealand

In late November, 1991, three friends and I drove about 45 minutes south of Auckland to the northern flood plain of the Waikato River. Called Whangamarino Swamp, this wetland is used in times of flood to contain the waters of the Waikato River which drains the central high country of the North Island from Lake Taupo.

Whangamarino is made almost entirely of Sedge neat although it does have

hummocks of sphagnum moss here and there. The year before we visited a large fire had swept through the swamp and burnt most of the sedge back to ground level, Consequently the two utricularia species common to this swamp were in mass flower.

U. novae-zelandiae is a beautiful species with its usually solitary flower (1 cm across) atop a 10 cm tall scape. The lower lip of the corolla is light lilac with dark mauve veins and has a yellow palate with a dark mauve margin. The upper lip is also light lilac with dark mauve veins.

U. delicatula was found in abundance in slightly more elevated areas, Its slender scones up to 10 cm tall bear 1-8 dainty flowers about 1cm across with usually no more than two open at a time. The lower lip of the corolla is white with a tinge of lilac an its extremities, as is the upper lip. The upper lip is very variable in shape ranging from a single narrowly elliptical lip to two narrowly elliptical lips to an intermediate

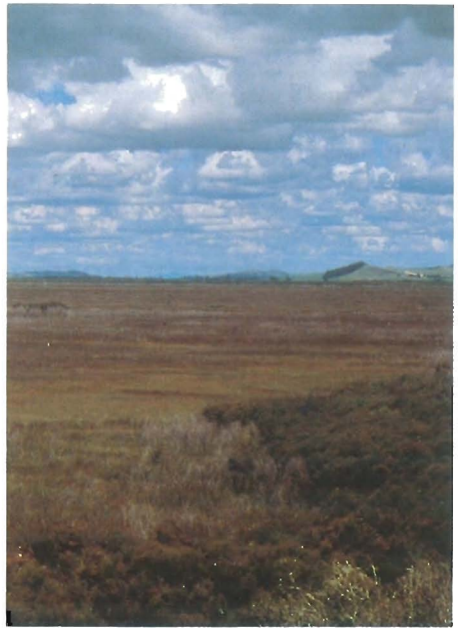


Figure 1. Whangamarino Swamp, New Zealand.



Figure 2. *Utricularia novae - zelandiae*, Whangamarino Swamp, New Zealand.

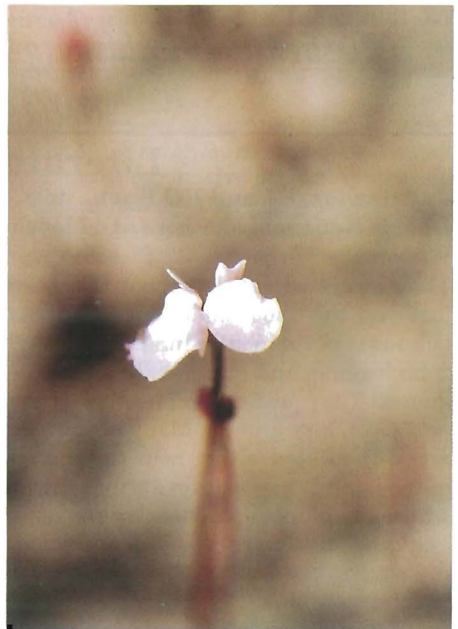


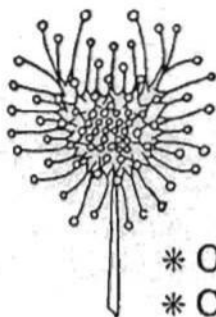
Figure 3. *Utricularia delicatula*, Whangamarino Swamp, New Zealand.

where the two are fused together. All these variations may occur on a single scape.

We also managed to find - few *D. binata* growing in the Sphagnum hummocks which probably protected them from the fire. Only one *Drosera spatulata* was found that day and I can only summarize that the rest were lost to the fire, although *D. spatulata* grows very locally at best particularly so in large swamps.

It seems to me that fire is a necessary part of swamp dynamics especially for the smaller plants to survive. Otherwise, the sedge will usually smother the area within three years.

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Literature Review

Judziewicz, EJ and RG Koch. 1993. Flora and Vegetation of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and Madeline Island, Ashland and Bayfield Counties, Wisconsin. Mich. Bot. 32:43-189.

The Apostle Islands is a group of a dozen or so islands in western Lake Superior, just over the line from Michigan's upper peninsula in Wisconsin. Only one of the islands is permanently inhabited, but the islands have suffered over the years from logging, and attempts to establish homesteads which were largely abandoned. They present an interesting mixture of some undisturbed original growth and secondary growth. Many of the islands have sphagnum bogs (no fens described), located either near the shorelines or as small depressions in the summits of the islands. Wisconsin's only occurrence of *Pinguicula vulgaris* is on shale cliffs where the plants grow nearly inaccessibly in dripping water on one island. *Drosera anglica* and *D. linearis* are described as rare throughout the state and have been reported in the past on these islands but were not seen during this survey (nor are vouchers on file). Other CP noted were: *D. intermedia* (rare), *D. rotundifolia*, *Utricularia cornuta*, *U. vulgaris* (sic), *U. intermedia*, *U. resupinata*, and *Sarracenia purpurea*.

Earley, LS. 1993. Black market wildlife. Wildlife in North Carolina. 57:4-11.