

November 2008
Volume 6 Issue 1

Calendar

Seed Collection Dec 5th
Workshop - Creswick 2008

Feature Species
Kennedia prostrata
Family: Fabaceae
Running Postman



Running Postman is a great groundcover species that occurs widely across the Corangamite Catchment region. It is often a locally common plant, occurring in a variety of habitats and is particularly plentiful after fire. Described as a prostrate subshrub with stems to 2m long, Leaves in groups of three, leaflets 6-35mm across and large red pea flowers with yellow centres 15 to 25mm long. Seed collection from Early December to Late January, pods will shed as soon as mature. Propagation is from scarified see, pour boiling water over seeds and soak until water cools which should germinate 11-30 days after sowing. Running postman is a useful groundcover plant that can be used for embankments and slight slopes, useful for minor erosion control, recolonises bare areas after fire and prefers well-drained soil and full sun

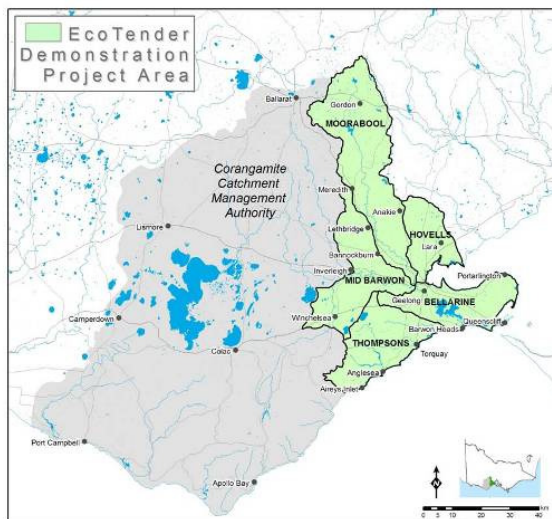
Flowering time:
September-November
Seed collection time:
December to Late January



Demonstrating EcoTender in the Corangamite

In July 2006, the state government released its *Our Environment, Our Future—Sustainability Action Statement*. The statement included an initiative to design and test efficient markets for ecosystem services that private property can offer such as offsets and tradeable permits. One such market is EcoTender, where landholders are able to competitively tender for contracts that can lead to works and actions that will provide benefits to the ecosystem, such as remnant protection, revegetation or salinity control.

EcoTender in the Corangamite region is the first of three demonstrations being delivered. A total of 33 landholders have successfully been funded \$1.1 million to carry out a range of environmental works



Successful bids were selected by an evaluation panel. Their assessment was based on a combination of the landholder's quote for the EcoTender work and how much the environment is expected to improve on and around the site. A total of 52 bids were submitted for the Corangamite EcoTender and successful landholders will be paid annually over five years to implement the work.

According to the state government Climate Change Minister, Gavin Jennings, Corangamite EcoTender will result in 333 hectares of private land being protected and rejuvenated through on-ground actions including

fencing, planting native vegetation, pest control and controlled grazing.

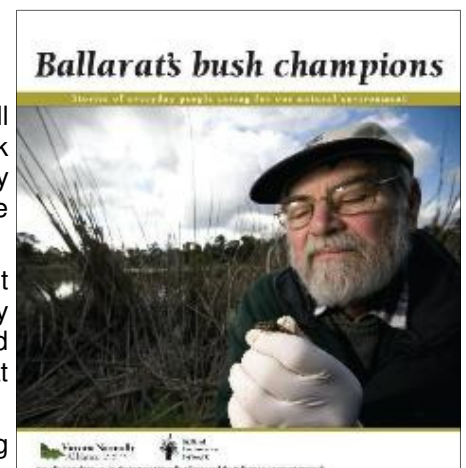
Information on the EcoTender initiative is available at www.dse.vic.gov.au/ecoMarkets and www.ccma.vic.gov.au

Stories of the Bush

Ballarat's Bush Champions is a 24-page, full colour book celebrating some of the great work being carried out by individuals and community groups that are protecting and restoring the region's natural environment.

A joint initiative of the Ballarat Environment Network (BEN) and the Victoria Naturally Alliance, the stories for the book were inspired by nominations for the 2008 Ballarat Environment Awards.

The book is available from BEN by contacting Hedley Thomson 5331 7831.



The Changing Faces of seed supply and revegetation



The project has seen some dramatic staff and role changes in the last six months, we say goodbye and good luck to Michelle Butler who has left the project for pastures new in an Ecomarket Implementation role with DSE in Melbourne. Michelle has done some great work with the Revegetation and Seed Supply network for the last 5 years, she will be sadly missed by us all. The Corangamite Revegetation Coordinator role will now filled by Simon Heyes.

At the same time we also give a warm welcome to Andrew Pearson (pictured on the left), who joined the project as the new Seed Supply Coordinator on the 6th October.

Andrew joins the Seed bank with over 20 years experience in Natural Resource management, he has worked at various locations in Victoria for DPI, Goulburn Broken CMA, Greening Australia, CSIRO and the nursery industry. His passions are threatened flora species protection, landscape scale revegetation, seed collection and seed germination techniques. Andrew will be working with the Corangamite Revegetation Coordinator to promote and encourage quality direct seeding and large scale revegetation in the Corangamite. Andrew is hoping to run a Seed Collection workshop late in December and various related workshops and field days during 2009.

Equipment for hire

Do you want to earn some spare Christmas pocket money or simply looking to collect some seed for your revegetation projects? The seed collection trailer is available for hire throughout the year and is ideally suited for community groups. The trailer includes - identification texts, tarps, secateurs, pole pruners, gloves, safety vests, hard hats, sieves and a vacuum cleaning box. All for only a \$30 hire fee. If you're interested call Andrew Pearson on (03) 5345 2200.



New Corangamite Region Guidelines CD



This CD contains the entire collection of technical notes produced by the Corangamite Seed Supply and Revegetation Network. It includes the Species Notes, Defining Seed Collection Ranges and our new Seed Production Area Guideline. This is a handy tool for anyone working or interested in revegetation and seed supply. For a copy of the CD contact Simon Heyes.

Contact us

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