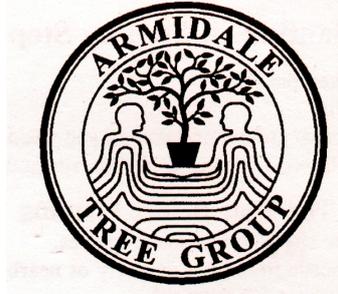


ARMIDALE TREE GROUP NEWSLETTER

Number 110 Spring Edition

September 2017



Did we fix Dieback? **By David Carr**



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Cover Picture: *Saumarez TSR*. Photo: David Steller

Editor's note: 2017 Spring Edition

With the coming of Spring there is a lot of energy expended in getting projects underway. **Every Tree Counts** is gaining momentum as plantings are organised, landholders are met with and proposed plans for revegetation discussed and sponsors and supporters are sought. Have you considered a donation or do you know a business or organisation who will support us?



Donations over \$2 to the Armidale Tree Group Fund for **Every Tree Counts** are Tax deductible.
Go to our website for details.

Does Dieback still occur? We all want to know if we've made a difference after all these years! As you know dieback was the reason the Tree Group formed, and combating dieback became our obsession. David Carr has written our feature article and outlined the causes of dieback for those of us who need a recap on this. David has skilfully presented the results of the online survey in the 'Community Dieback Monitoring' project from the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Small Community Partnerships Grants program. See what he has to say. Are we winning?

Also in this edition:

- Notice of ATG's **AGM** on 11th October at 5.30pm.
- Alicia's **Manager's Report** and a profile of our new staff members
- Ruth Tremont - Great Outcomes as the **Koala and Quoll Project** Wraps
- Where to get the new **Gunnedah Koalas** brochure from NWLLS.
- Warren Sheather describes the **Wattles of Bundarra Rd**
- **Education for Conservation Biodiversity** for the Woodland Centre (ARC Grant) by Kerry Steller
- **ATG Open Day** – Saturday 28th October
- **Black Gully Music Festival**- Saturday 11th November
- **National Register of Big Trees**

Enjoy the read!

Kerry Steller (editor)

NOTICE OF ATG AGM

Date: **11 October 2017**

Time: **5:30pm**

Place: **Mike O'Keeffe Woodland Centre, [80 Mann St, Armidale NSW 2350](#)**

At the meeting all committee positions will be declared open and members will have the opportunity to:

- Nominate and elect new committee positions.
- Find out about ATG's operations and finances.
- Ask questions about the operations and finances of ATG.
- Speak about any items on the agenda.
- Vote on any resolutions proposed.

If you would like to nominate a member for election as an office-bearer of the association, nominations must be made in writing, signed by two members and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate. The nomination must be delivered/sent to the following address at least 7 days before the date of the AGM.

Manager's Report

Alicia Cooper

Spring is in the air here at the ATG, where thoughts turn to fresh vegetable seedlings, budding shrubs and the start of the tree planting season. Our Environmental Services division have made a great start to the season, with a western planting seeing many thousands of native seedlings planted out for a koala corridor. A touch more rain would make us all happier, but our commitment to continuing the restoration of the New England landscapes never falters, and we will push on through the droughts, the changes to environmental laws and the misguided idea that the fight against dieback has been won.

We are in the process of prepping our first sites for our Every Tree counts project, and we will be updating all our supporters with progress reports along the way.

Our lush new season stock is being made available, and now that winter has passed we are back to our 7-day opening hours, so there's plenty of time to peruse the plants on offer. The nursery is open 9-5 weekdays and 9-1 weekends.

Current flowering stock in the nursery includes:



Clematis microphylla.



Scaevola



Verticordia plumosa

Nursery Opening hours:
Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm,
Saturday – Sunday, 9:00am – 1:00pm.

Member-Only Services

As we look at diversifying into the future, we are currently trialling some new services. Presently they will only be available to ATG members and we hope to extend the services on offer as we move forward.

Bushfire Readiness

With the weather warming up, now is the time to consider preparations to protect your home and property. We can help with the creation of Asset Protection Zones, landscape and building bushfire readiness, fire-resistant species selection and consulting.

Landscape Plans

We can design and draw up garden/landscape plans tailored to suit your site and your requirements. We can incorporate your ideas and expectations for how you will use the garden and ensure the plant selection suits our New England climate.

Staff

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce our new staff members, whom some of you may have already met.

Paul Cahill



Our new Environmental Services Coordinator, Paul has a background in National Parks and Wildlife Service and has worked extensively in the Northern Tablelands region. (He's also rather hard to spot in the wild, hence the sketch.)



Jane Pickard

Jane is a member of our casual retail staff. She led the Ecological Horticulture programme at Schumacher College in Devon and currently runs her own farm.

Ruth Tremont

Ruth is a member of our casual retail staff and has worked for National Parks and Wildlife Service and currently works with Southern New England Landcare.



We're delighted to have them all as part of the ATG team, so welcome Paul, Jane and Ruth.

Did we fix Dieback?

David Carr

In the 70s and 80s 'New England Dieback' saw the loss of tens of thousands of hectares of native trees in Northern NSW. The Armidale Tree Group started in 1983 to fight dieback by growing and planting native trees. We developed and introduced new techniques to make this possible and now 34 years later we have planted over a million trees throughout the region. But have we fixed Dieback and achieved what we set out to do? Firstly, what is dieback?

What is dieback and what causes it?

Dieback is the continuing deterioration of the eucalypt canopy which eventually results in the death of trees and a reduction in total tree cover in the landscape. Usually it is insects that eat the foliage of the trees. While this is a natural phenomenon, it becomes devastating for the trees when they don't have a chance to recover and renew their energy reserves before the next attack. Successive waves of different insects chew, bite and suck the trees to death. These periods of intense insect activity usually coincide with infrequent weather conditions such as successive wet years. Dieback occurs against a background of change in the natural environment due to tree clearing, fertilisation, exotic pastures, livestock trampling, cattle and sheep manure, loss of birds, mammals and insect predators and parasites of pests and modification of local microclimates. Sounds complicated? It is. For a better (pictorial) explanation I suggest getting a copy of David Curtis's fabulous comic, 'Dazed by Dieback' available from the nursery.

Put simply, as the ecosystem is pushed out of balance by major land use change, some parts can't cope and drop out. In this case it's the insects that boom and sometimes take out the trees upon which they depend, mainly because of a lack of predators and parasites in sufficient numbers to boom with them.

Dieback had a peak in the 1970's and 80's resulting in the loss of millions of eucalypt trees across farms over the New England Tablelands. The resulting loss of ecosystem services has had detrimental consequences for both the natural environment and primary production. Loss of shade and shelter, loss of water filtration, speeding up of surface water flows, erosion, reduced pollination, species decline and loss, more

frost damage to pastures, reduced connectivity and even changes to regional rainfall patterns are partly the result of dieback.

What did the Tree Group do to combat dieback?

The Tree Group's response was to grow and plant native trees to replace those lost through dieback. We also learnt to propagate and plant many shrub species, with the aim of providing diverse food and shelter (habitat) for the predatory and parasitic animals that keep insects in check. These include insects, birds, mammals, frogs and reptiles. The Tree Group was one group among many responding to Dieback in this way. Others included landholders, landcare groups, Greening Australia, other local nurseries, government agencies, schools and community groups. Since the early 80's millions of trees, shrubs and other plants have been established on farms and in towns to improve the environment. Has it been enough? Does Dieback still occur?



Does Dieback still occur?

Sadly, yes it does. In the late 80s the situation seemed to stabilise, mainly due to weather patterns, including drought, however over the last five years we have been seeing many landscapes badly affected by Dieback, such as the site depicted in the photo above north of Uralla. This site, on a TSR, shows tree death and crown dieback in both isolated paddock trees and dense stands of New England Peppermint. The Tree Group receives regular reports of Dieback across the Tablelands from members and the public. Severe dieback has been reported from Gara, near Imbota Nature Reserve, from west of Uralla, Rockvale, Tenterfield, south of Walcha and other areas.

Some people reported that Dieback was the worst they had seen it since the 1970's. Other people asked us what was happening to the trees? These people had not heard of Dieback, having not been born or not living in the area when the most severe losses occurred. We decided that

we needed more information to see where dieback was occurring, how bad it was and if it was related to any particular land use or management.

The Dieback survey

The 'Community Dieback Monitoring' project called on landholders across the Northern Tablelands to fill in an online survey about how the tree cover on their property was faring. This survey aimed to provide important baseline data about where dieback is occurring and what might be causing it.

The funding to run the 'Community Dieback Monitoring' project came from the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services Small Community Partnerships Grants program. This project is part of the \$25 million of National Landcare Programme investment that Local Land Services is delivering to boost farm gate productivity and improve environmental health across NSW. The survey contained questions for landholders to answer about land use, native tree management, and dieback history on their property. The location of each participant's property was requested so that it can be related to mapped information about soils, topography and climate. This information will be used to help target future funding for extension and incentive programs, as well as providing background for future research using remote sensing to detect dieback.

We used the funding from NTLLS to employ Danielle Andersson as a project officer to develop and run the survey. We established a Steering Group to develop the surveys question. This group included David Curtis, Chris Nadolny, Prof Nick Reid, Michael Drielsma and myself. We based many of the questions on a previous Dieback survey (Wylie et. al., 1993). The survey was developed as an online questionnaire and sent to members and promoted through Landcare and Local Land Services networks in the region. Respondents followed a link to a website and answered the questions there. We posted some surveys to people as they requested them.

The survey was run in late 2015 and early 2016. We received 56 full responses and 20 'express' responses. The express survey was developed in response to feedback from some people that they wanted to participate but didn't have time to fill in the whole (and rather long) survey. The spread of responses was good but the number was not enough to give a clear picture of where Dieback is occurring or where it is worse than in other areas. Sixty-eight respondents identified their location, shown in Table 1.

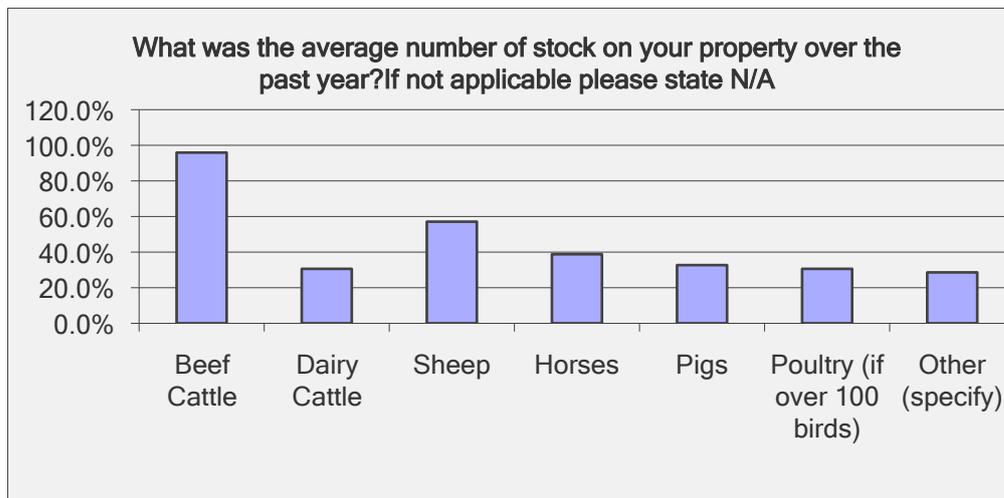
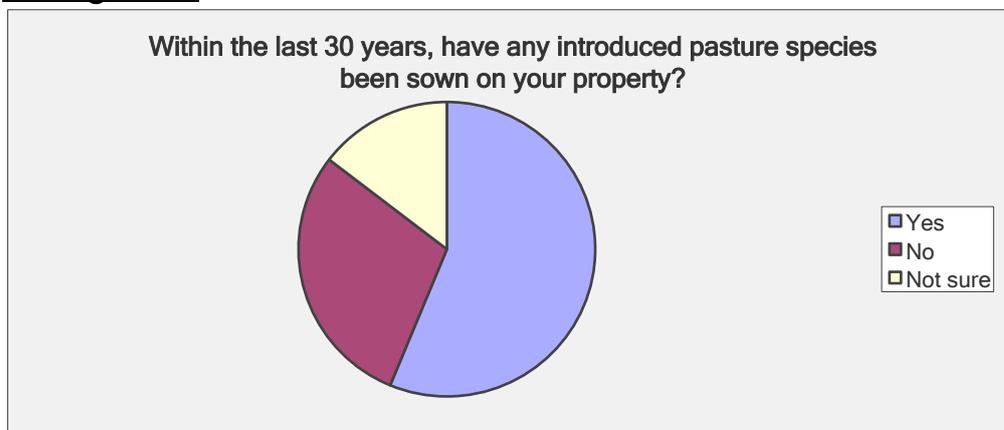
Armidale	10
Balala	1
Bald Blair	1
Ben Lomond	1
Black Mountain	2
Dangarsleigh	6
Deepwater	1
Dumaresq	1
Dundee	1
Enmore	1
Glen Elgin	1
Glen Innes	4
Gostwyck	1
Guyra	1
Herbert Park	4
Hillgrove	1
Invergowrie	1
Kentucky	5
Matheson	1
Metz	1
Mihi	2
Nowendoc	1
Tenterfield	3
Thalgarrah	1
Uralla	7
Walcha	7
Wollomombi	2

Table 1: Location of survey respondents

Results

The graphs in this section show the responses to specific questions. Not all questions are reported here. Not every person answered every question and in some questions people gave multiple answers to a question. For example, some people may have had exotic and native pastures on their property, so selected both options. The responses below give a picture of the extent and severity of dieback in some areas and the management practices that are associated with the occurrence of dieback. This is merely indicative and does not necessarily indicate that one management practice or another 'causes' Dieback.

Management



This figure does not give stocking rates, rather it indicates the type of livestock on different properties.

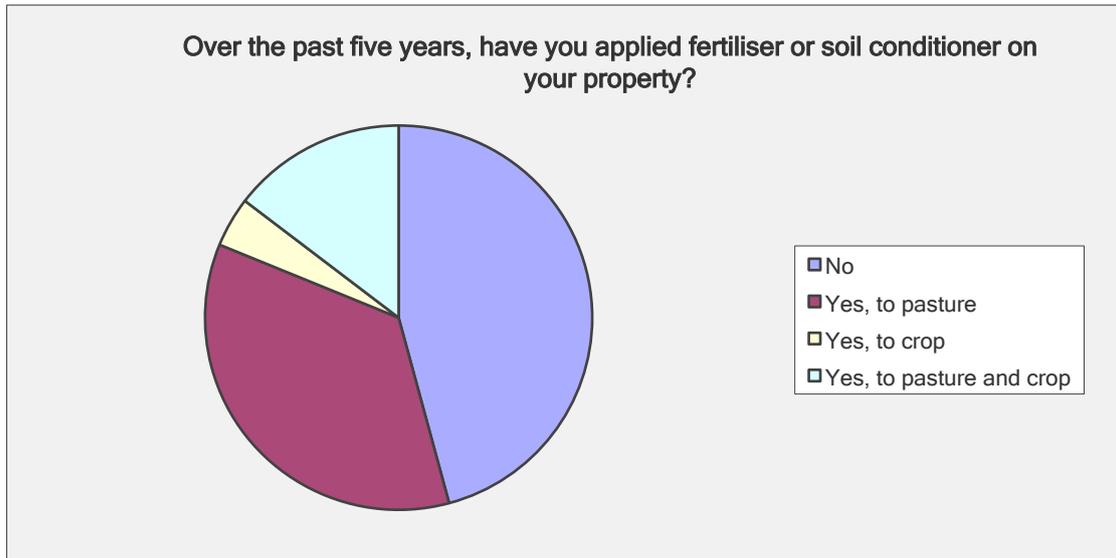
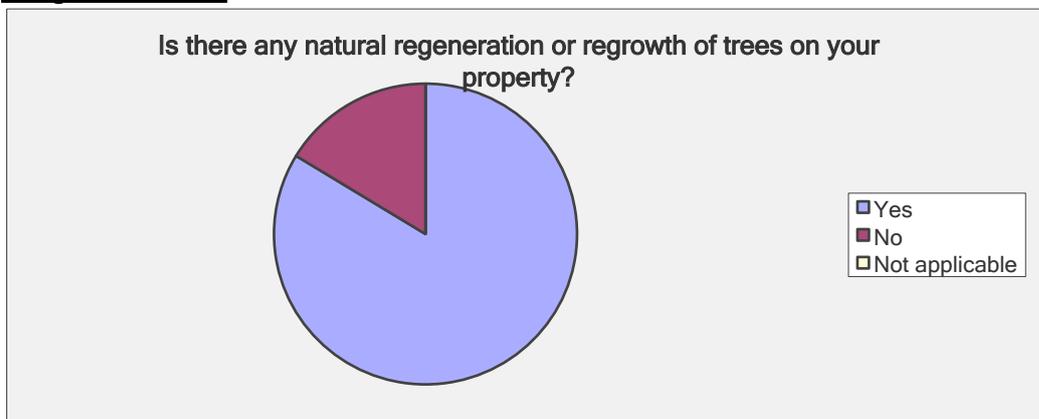


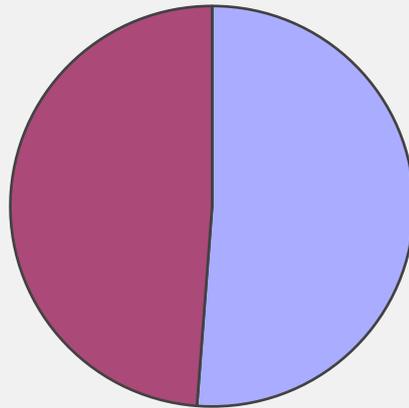
Table 2: Responses to Question: Have any of the following practices been carried out or attempted on your property?(Tick one or more boxes).

Fencing to protect trees from stock damage and encourage regeneration of trees	48.8%
Excluding stock from certain grazing paddocks for a period to encourage regeneration of trees	46.5%
Use of stock to control regrowth of trees	2.3%
Use of fire to control regrowth of trees	7.0%
Use of herbicides to control regrowth of trees	16.3%
Use of mechanical methods (hand or machine) to control regrowth of trees	7.0%
Tree planting	67.4%
None	14.0%

Regeneration

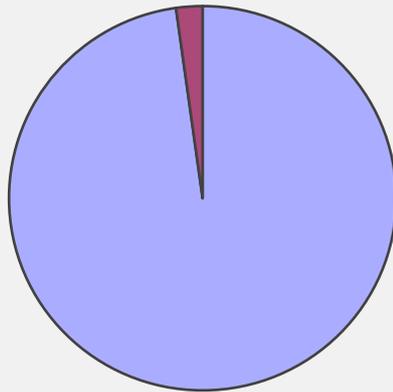


Do stock graze this regrowth?



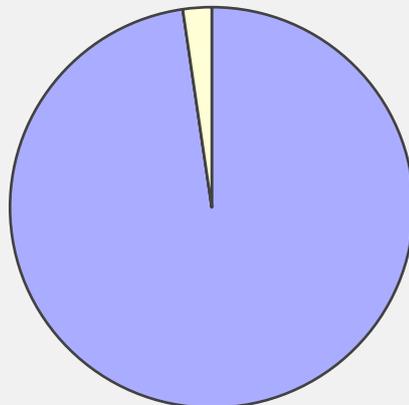
■ Yes
■ No

Are you aware of the occurrence of dieback and decline of native trees in rural areas of Australia?



■ Yes
■ No

Do you regard dieback as a problem?

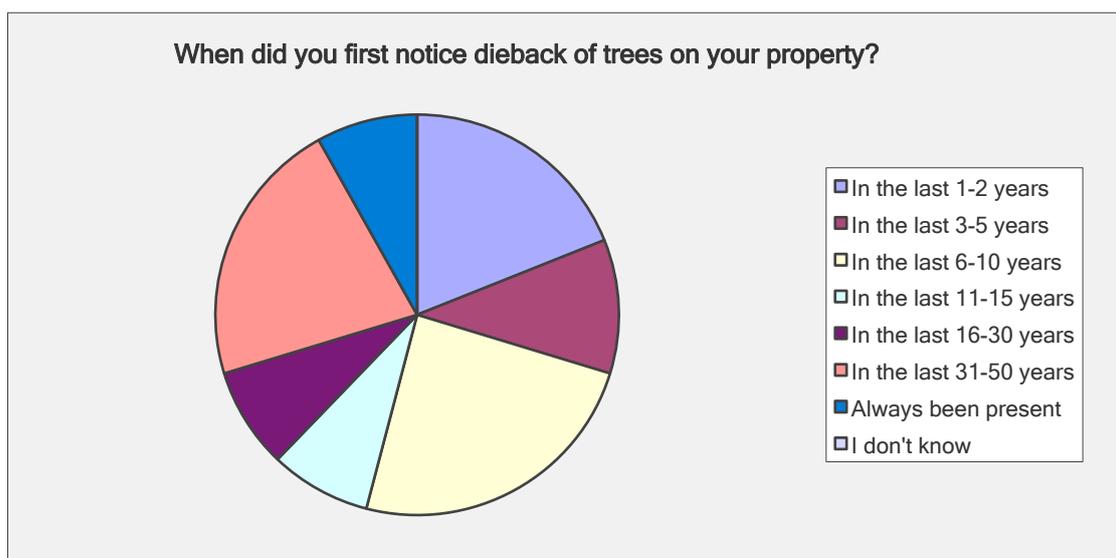


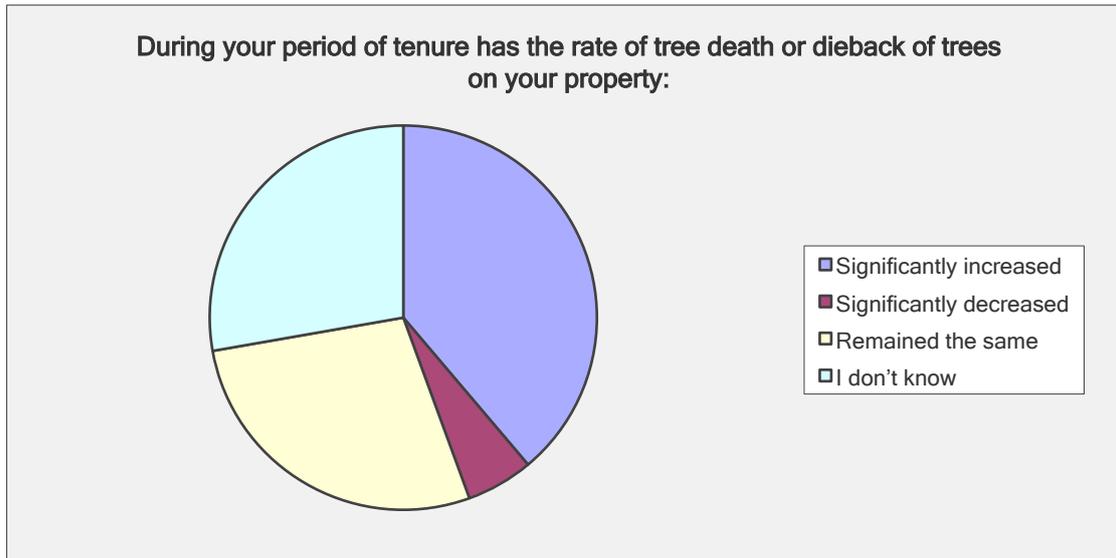
■ Yes
■ No
■ Unsure

There will obviously be some bias in a survey asking about Dieback. If people don't know what Dieback is or don't think it is a problem they are less likely to respond to the survey.



This figure shows that of the people who responded, over 80% have Dieback on their property. When compared to Table 1 it shows that Dieback is widespread on the Tablelands. Table 1 also shows that respondents came from specific areas, possibly indicating that these are the areas where Dieback is most visible, with people in other areas not responding to the survey because they did not have Dieback.





This figure shows that nearly 40% of respondents felt Dieback had increased while only 5.5% felt it had decreased.

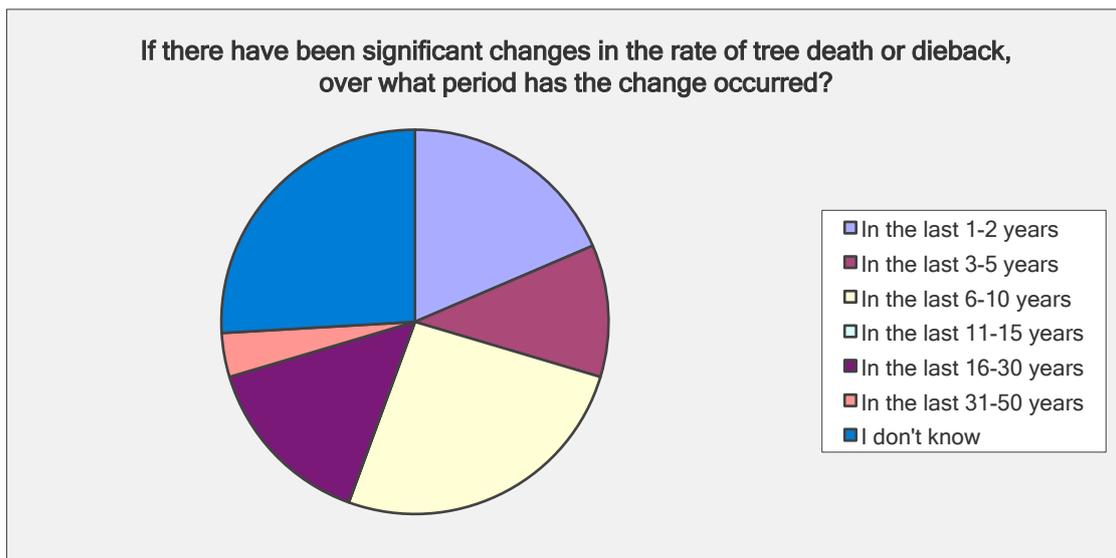


Table 3: Location of Dieback occurrence on farms

Does dieback appear to be associated with any particular site or area on your property (tick one or more boxes)?	
Answer Options	Response Percent
Flats	25.0%
Ridges	39.3%
Gullies or stream edges	28.6%
Swamp, marshland	3.6%
Grazing paddocks	39.3%

Areas of newly sown pasture	7.1%
Cultivated paddocks	7.1%
Stockyards and dips	3.6%
Homestead surrounds	10.7%
I don't know	10.7%

Mistletoe

In response to questions about mistletoe, 77% of respondents said they had noticed mistletoe in trees on their property and 65% said mistletoe appeared to be affecting tree health.

Species and growth stage

Table 4: Species affected by insect attack and frequency of insect attack on trees.

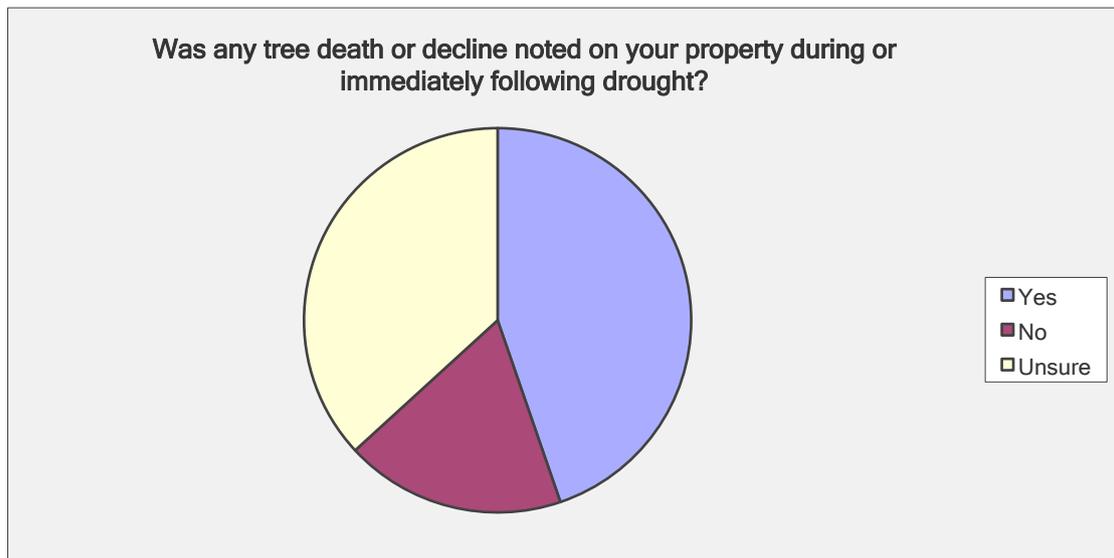
Which native trees are periodically seriously attacked by insects? From the categories provided also indicate how often this occurs.							
	Gum	Box	Stringybark	Peppermint	Ironbark	Other	Unsure
% responses	27	12	18	27	0	15	0
Occurrence	More than once a year	Once a year	Once in 2 years	Once in 3 years	Other & please specify		
% responses	16	35	23	23	3		

Table 4 shows that Gum and Peppermint species are most affected by insect attack. Many respondents also noted that Stringybarks were commonly attacked by insects, more than in earlier phases of Dieback. Respondents indicated that New England Peppermint (*E. nova-anglica*) was always the first species to be affected. People identified the following species as most affected by Dieback: Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*), Blakely's Red Gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*), New England Peppermint (*E. nova-anglica*), New England Stringybark (*Eucalyptus caliginosa*), Black Sallee (*Eucalyptus stellulata*), White Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) as well as generic names: Gums, Stringybarks, Boxes and Peppermints. One respondent noted regular and severe dieback in Blackthorn (*Bursaria spinosa*).

Table 5: Insects responsible for attacking trees.

From the categories below indicate what general insect type is responsible for attack on your trees (tick one or more boxes)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Leaf-eating insects (e.g. caterpillars, Christmas beetles, sawflies, stick insects etc.)	89.3%	25
Leaf-sucking insects (e.g. lerp insects, scale insects, plant bugs etc.)	42.9%	12
Stem or branch boring insects (e.g. wood moths, longicorns)	32.1%	9
I don't know	3.6%	1

Table 5 shows that while leaf-eating insects are most common there are multiple types of insects attacking trees.



As well as answering specific questions, people were given the opportunity to give broader responses to what they thought about Dieback and its causes.

In response to a question about the possible causes of Dieback, these were some ideas:

“Leaf eating insects, especially scarab beetles do the most regular and extreme damage. In bad years the majority of trees are badly damaged. In good years a few trees are badly damaged and most trees are mildly damaged. Trees badly damaged in two consecutive years seem especially prone to loss of vigour and death. However, the white gums seem prone to die suddenly in full vigour, but always during a hard dry spell. When cut into

they shown a high degree of tissue degradation that looks like fungal attack.” Dangarsleigh.

“Probably lack of tree cleaning birds”. Armidale.

“Previously heavy insect attack and over grazing has impacted tree mortality although the last dry spell has exposed many of the trees to very hot and dry spells causing tree deaths. Grazing still impacts on regrowth unless the stock are excluded while trees establish.” Kentucky.

“The dieback I have seen around Walcha has been in stringybark trees north of Walcha on the Uralla Rd. I think overstocking and too much applied fertiliser has not helped. Insects such as Christmas beetles appear to attack trees under pressure. Lack of fencing around tree areas.” Walcha

Many people indicated that they are taking active steps to do something about Dieback, mostly planting trees or changing their management to encourage regeneration.

“We have seen a gradual increase in a range of native trees re-generating - largely from seed - due to the change of management practice i.e. set stocking - slow rotation to a planned grazing approach which allows adequate rest over the whole property.” Kentucky

Conclusion

So, have we fixed Dieback? Can Armidale Tree Group sign off on a “Mission Accomplished”? The results of the survey indicate that we can’t retire yet. Dieback is still prevalent in New England. It still affects the same species, as well as having a greater impact on Stringybarks. We are still losing trees on farms throughout the region as a result of Dieback.



While some people are taking active steps to improve tree cover by planting trees or changing their farm management to encourage regeneration, we are clearly not doing enough to reverse the loss of trees and the ecosystem services they provide.

What is more concerning is that the factors that have been implicated as the causes of dieback; tree clearing, exotic pasture establishment and fertilising pastures (Reid and Landsberg, 2000) are increasing. The new relaxation of clearing laws will increase tree loss, particularly of paddock trees.

While the Tree Group can be very proud of our work over the last 34 years to tackle Dieback, we cannot rest on our laurels. There is even more need for our work in growing and planting trees and providing education about the importance of native trees and plants. We are currently positioning ourselves to be able to continue doing this for the next 34 years with a solid nursery base with great staff, an active and knowledgeable Committee, a growing membership base, an education facility in the Woodland Centre and a new landscape-scale approach through the Every Tree Counts project.

References

Reid N. and Landsberg J. (2000) Tree decline in agricultural landscapes: what we stand to lose. In: Temperate Eucalypt Woodlands in Australia: Biology, Conservation, Management and Restoration (eds R. J. Hobbs and C. J. Yates) pp. 127–166. Surrey Beatty and Sons, Chipping Norton.

Wylie, F.R., Johnston, P.J.M. and Eiseman, R.L. (1993). A survey of native tree dieback in Queensland. Forest Research Institute Research Paper No. 16. pp 1-100.

Great Outcomes as the Koala and Quoll Project Wraps **By Ruth Tremont**

The joint CWC-SNEL *Quollity Koala Corridors and Questions* project, funded by the NSW Environmental Trust for 2015-17 has wrapped up with some excellent outcomes. This project engaged locals from the Armidale district in the conservation of Koalas and Spotted-tailed Quolls. The Koala and Eastern Spotted-tailed Quoll are iconic Australian native animals. From a local perspective, people might not be aware that our Koala and Quoll populations are under pressure from threats due to human activity, domestic animals and a warming climate but thanks to the *Quollity Koala Corridors and Questions* local landholders and the Armidale community have become valuable contributors to the survival of these native animals.

Twelve landholders revegetated new areas to enhance existing habitat corridors or protected and enhanced remnant areas to a combined total of 19 hectares of koala habitat. Over 13,000 seedlings were planted and 9 km of fencing constructed to protect habitat areas. And well done to these landholders, given the drought conditions of the 2014-15 and 2015-16 growing seasons!

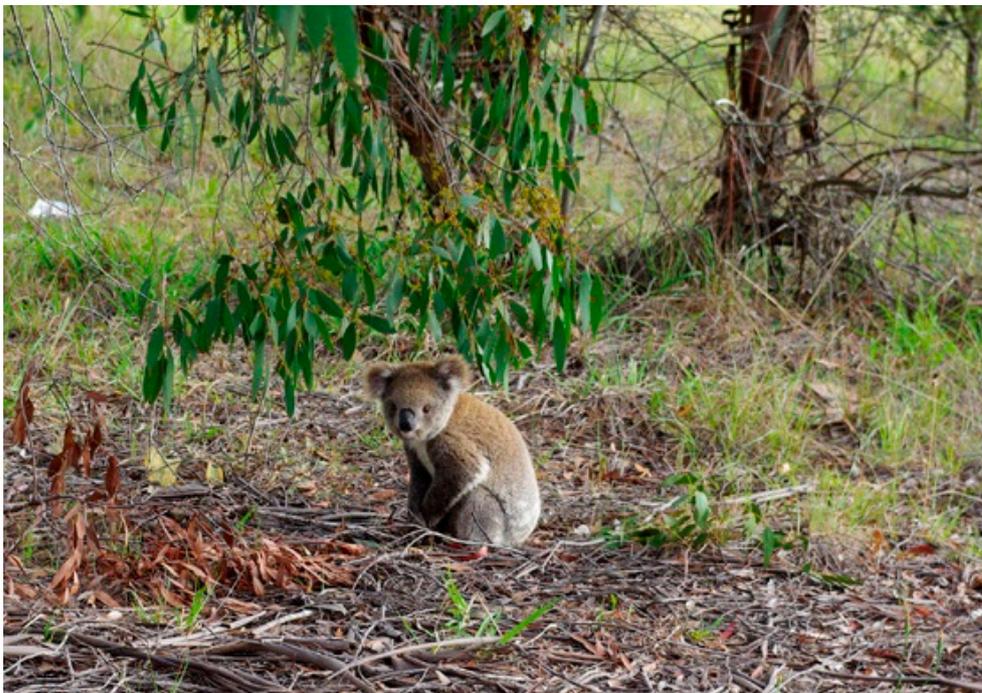
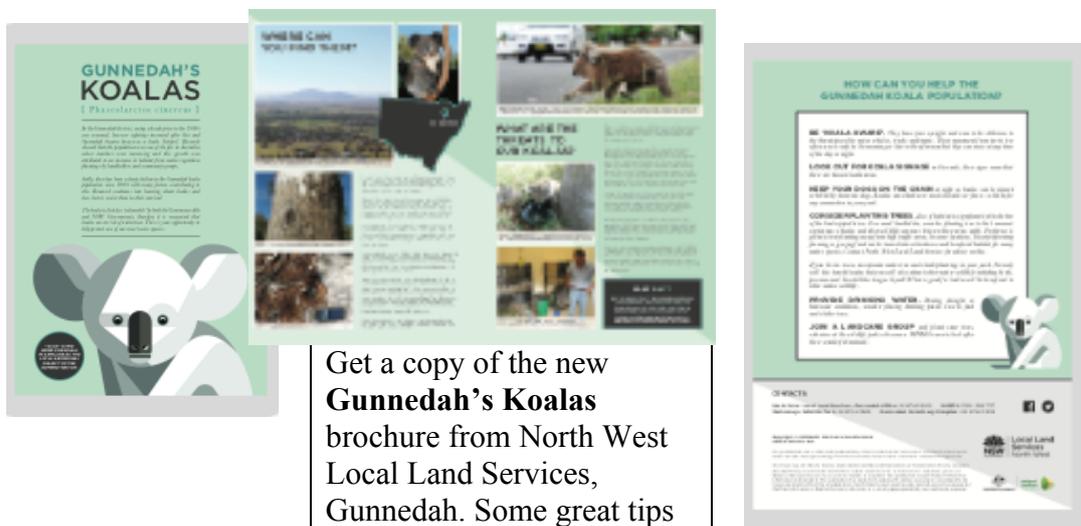


Photo: *A Koala utilizes habitat on a property along Donald Road, within the wildlife corridor east of Armidale.
Photo courtesy of Ruth Tremont.*

Two well-known local ecologists surveyed each of the 12 properties for koalas and quolls, to find that 8 of the properties contained signs of koalas and that there was anecdotal evidence of a quoll on 1 property. So, that was great confirmation that the koala corridor that had been identified for the location of on-ground works was been utilized by the target species.

A series of awareness raising events has also enabled over 100 community members to be involved in “Citizen Science”. Training and information were provided, to help people confidently survey for and report animal signs and sightings, at a much-enjoyed evening talk and spotlight walk based at UNE’s new Zoology Museum. The 2016 Frog Dreaming Youth Conference gave local school students a trek, to the top of Mt Duval, through koala and glider habitat as well as the chance to plant koala food trees as part of an adjacent habitat buffer area on “Newholme”. Displays at local shows and community events, and a live radio interview also provided members of the general community with information on koalas and quolls. In addition, SNEL has produced a brochure (available from our office) which includes ways you can increase the chances of koala survival in our area.

The project has brought opportunities to collaborate with leading organisations in our community, such as the University of New England, Armidale Regional Council, the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and the Armidale Tree Group. Alliances have been strengthened and there are increasing opportunities for continuing work to support local koala populations. If you are interested in being involved in local activities to support koalas feel free to contact SNEL or any of the above organisations.



Get a copy of the new **Gunnedah’s Koalas** brochure from North West Local Land Services, Gunnedah. Some great tips for helping Koalas that are just as relevant in Armidale. We have our own Armidale brochure soon! 20

The Wattles of Bundarra Road

By Warren Sheather

Spring 2017

In Spring the Bundarra Road is a blaze of colour as the wattles burst into bloom. For just over 20 kilometres, just past our property, there is range of species that form an almost unbroken line of colour. This makes our weekly spring shopping trip to town a colourful experience.

Acacia filicifolia is the most common along the first 15 kilometres west of Armidale. This bipinnate-foliaged wattle in some places forms avenues along the road and in early spring lights up the roadside with typical bright yellow flowers. This is one of the many commonly called Black Wattles. This species is also the dominant wattle around Invergowrie. On the turnoff to Invergowrie there is a large group of shrubby wattles. These are *Acacia boormanii*, Snowy River Wattle, and are escapes from a nearby garden.

Just past the Invergowrie turnoff there is another garden escape. This is *A. podalyriifolia*, the Mount Morgan Wattle, with its large, silvery-green phyllodes and golden flowers which appear in late winter. About 15 km west, the road crosses Tea Tree Creek. *A. filicifolia* does not extend past this point. Other wattles take up the blooming extravaganza. Firstly there is a shrubby form of *A. rubida*, the Red-stemmed Wattle that usually carries both juvenile bipinnate foliage and adult long, narrow phyllodes. Flowers are held in globular clusters ranging in colour from pale to bright yellow. The dense growth of this species was triggered by a



bushfire that went through the area over 20 years ago.

From Tea Tree Creek west the wattles have been positively influenced by another disturbance. A few years ago extensive roadworks were undertaken on the Pinnacle and west past our entrance.

Beside the road on the Pinnacle there is a small

population of *A. brownii*. These plants appeared after the roadworks. *A. brownii* is a small plant with prickly phyllodes and large, bright yellow flower heads.

The populations of *A. implexa*, *A. viscidula* And *A. neriifolia* have increased considerably thanks to the disturbance of the roadworks. *Acacia implexa*, the Hickory Wattle, is a tall shrub with pale yellow flowers. The Hickory Wattle does not contribute to the spring display but saves its floral display until late summer and early autumn.



Acacia viscidula has long narrow phyllodes and pale yellow flowers that are presented in October. Although not the showiest wattle this medium shrub has dense upright growth habit and light green foliage.

Photo: *Acacia viscidula*. Warren Sheather

Acacia neriifolia, the Oleander Wattle, is a very showy species in spring. *A. neriifolia* is a tall shrub with grey-green foliage and golden yellow flowers. Both foliage and flowers are attractive features.



The seeds of these wattles were probably in the ground for many years just waiting for the council come along with their machinery to disturb their dormancy.

Photo: *Acacia neriifolia*
Warren Sheather

Education Centre for Biodiversity Conservation

(Armidale Regional Council Stronger Communities Fund Grant \$13,011)

by Kerry Steller

Here is a brief description of what we asked for in our grant application :
The Armidale Tree Group would like to update our educational facilities in the Woodland Centre to enable us to deliver a range of educational programs for schools in a number of age ranges – preschool, primary school, high school, post school (university and TAFE) and adults. We currently have a range of educational resources (posters, timelines, interpretive artworks, library, herbarium and ant display) but require electronic and interactive resources making use of our wireless network for more effective presentations and displays. We require a Smart TV and a computer, blinds to darken the room, posters and interactive resources to provide stimulus material for the education programs we wish to expand.

We also wish to establish four themed gardens for school and adult education including bush food plants, rare species, native grasses and wildflowers and forbs. We need interpretive signage for these gardens which would be located near our seed production area beside the nursery.

The ATG has volunteers who are willing to develop educational programs in line with Australian Curriculum requirements and we wish to advertise these through the design and printing of brochures to distribute to schools.

The dieback timeline is going back up gradually in the Mike O’Keeffe Woodland Centre



Wanted: Materials: Large gumnuts, dried wildflower displays, stuffed animals, wooden shelving, a large colourful carpet rug with wildflowers or leaves. **People** to make soft log cushions, birds, butterflies, dragonflies, frogs etc. **People** with carpentry skills to build shelves, computing skills to design brochures. **Volunteers** with time and ideas to help in the Education Centre. Contact Kerry Steller 0437 774 417

Armidale Tree Group



Open Day 2017

Saturday 28 October 9 - 2pm
80 Mann St, Armidale

Informative Talks

Plant Raffle

Free BBQ

Featuring a wide range of Australian plants for the home garden, locally grown herb & veg seedlings, expert advice and more!

Black Gully Music Festival

Once again Armidale Tree Group is a major partner in the 7th Black Gully Music Festival. This year's festival will be held on 11th November, on Black Gully behind NERAM.

The festival features live, local music, environment displays and stalls, a makers market, great food, art activities and workshops, community garden tours, and this year ...a Youth festival. The youth festival will feature local youth bands and DJs, a slow fashion parade, a clothes swap, circus workshops and other activities on a separate stage on the south side of the creek. Once again we are partnering with many other community organisations to present the festival – NERAM, Sustainable Living Armidale, Southern New England Landcare, UNE Discovery, Armidale Regional Council, local schools and sponsors.

Why does ATG organise a music festival you may ask? The themes of the festival are: music, art, environment, community and this year, youth. The first festival was organised by Landcare to create a fun day where people could hear about local environmental initiatives (at the time, the HiCUB project). The festival also helps to strengthen and build our community. A strong community is more resilient, less reliant on outside resources and more likely to look to its own, sustainable, future. As one of the leading community organisations in Armidale, ATG has a key role in being part of this festival. This year we will be promoting our landscape-scale venture – Every Tree Counts.

So come along on the 11th November and bring your family. There really is something for all ages (even teenagers this year!). Bring a picnic and a rug and enjoy the many facets of our unique community.

For more information, see the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/136457250289713>.

A sneak preview of our new banner design.....



National Register of Big Trees

Dear Armidale Tree Group Members,

There are about 790 Champion trees on the Register – see website details below. I am trying to find the biggest of every species of tree in Australia. In addition to the Australian Champ, there are Regional Champs – NSW & QLD have tree regions due to their size. Points are awarded based on a formula that includes circumference, height and crown spread all as fully describe on the website.

Below is a list of NSWN champion trees sorted on three tabs by species, location and size.

Please nominate or let me know about possible local big trees AND anywhere else.

Thanks for you cooperation.

Regards,

Derek McIntosh, Coordinator,
National Register of Big Trees,
32 Seaview Street, Balgowlah, N.S.W. 2093, Australia.
Tel: 02-9948 0618.

derek@nrbtrees.com.au
www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au

www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com

Contact	Common name	Botanical name	Circum	Height	Crown	Points	Town
Tree 0945	African Tulip Tree	Spathodea campanulata	3.44	16	18	203	Murwillumbah
Tree 0637	Antarctic Beech	Nothofagus moorei	08.30	27	15	428	Kyogle
Tree 0470	Apple Smooth-barked	Angophora leiocarpa	04.30	23	16	258	Narrabri
Tree 0386	Apple Smooth-barked	Angophora leiocarpa	04.05	27	36	270	Warilda
Tree 0606	Ash Claret	Fraxinus angustifolia "Raywood"	03.01	21	25	205	Armidale
Tree 0544	Ash Red Soap	Alphitonia excelsa	03.00	16	20	187	Bellingen
Tree 0382	Beech Copper	Fagus sylvatica "Cuprea"	04.83	23	25	286	Glen Innes
Tree 0399	Blue Quondong	Eleocarpus angustifolius	05.80	31	24	349	Dunoon
Tree 2094	Box Bimlip	Eucalyptus populnea	04.80	20	24	274	Gunnedah
Tree 2079	Box Bimble Poplar	Eucalyptus populnea	04.63	19	18	259	Gunnedah
Tree 2091	Box Black	Eucalyptus largiflorens	04.53	23	24	273	Baan Ba
Tree 0766	Box Brush	Lophostemon confertus	08.83	39	18	490	Coffs Harbour
Tree 0831	Box Fuzzy	Eucalyptus conica	05.00	31	30	323	Deepwater
Tree 0846	Box White	Eucalyptus albens	05.50	24	28	318	Wallabadah
Tree 0892	Brazilian Firetree	Schizolobium parahyba	03.05	18	27	201	Grafton
Tree 0366	Camphor Laurel	Cinnamomum camphora	12.43	26	35	603	Bellingen [Raleigh]
Tree 0381	Cedar Deodar	Cedrus deodara	04.95	25	22	295	Guyra
Tree 0373	Chestnut	Castanea dentata	03.55	14	20	202	Guyra
Tree 0387	Cork	Quercus suber	05.14	16	32	281	Tenterfield
Tree 1096	Crow's Ash Australian Teak	Flindersia australis	03.40	26	25	240	Grafton
Tree 0378	Elm Common	Ulmus campestris	05.20	30	22	321	Guyra
Tree 0605	Elm English	Ulmus procera	04.84	26	28	299	Armidale
Tree 0539	Fig Moreton Bay	Ficus macrophylla	29.00 [18]	50	48	912	Bellingen
Tree 0628	Fig White	Ficus virens	12.60	25	36	610	Grafton
Tree 2017	Fig White "The Temple Fig"	Ficus virens	30.70	35.8	45	1363	Murwillumbah
Tree 0372	Fir Douglas	Pseudotsuga menziesii	03.37	39	18	275	Guyra
Tree 0545	Floss silk	Chorisia speciosa	02.94	19	21	195	Bellingen
Tree 0367	Grass	Xanthorrhoea glauca	01.15	05.5	04.5	67	Dorrigo
Tree 0740	Gum Dunn's White	Eucalyptus dunnii	08.79	50	36	537	Moleton
Tree 0464	Gum Manna Ribbon	Eucalyptus viminalis	04.00	25	22	258	Armidale
Tree 0369	Gum Mountain White	Eucalyptus dalrympleana ssp. heptantha	05.80	22	25	321	Guyra
Tree 0406	Gum River Red	Eucalyptus camadulensis	08.34	36	37	476	Gunnedah [Carroll]
Tree 0383	Holly	Ilex ?	03.73	20	14	224	Glen Innes
Tree 0375	Ironbark Narrow-leaved Red	Eucalyptus crebra	04.23	26	30	276	Gunnedah
Tree 0878	Jacaranda	Jacaranda mimosifolia	06.00	30	36	364	Grafton
Tree 0463	Moreton Bay Ash Carbeen	Corymbia tessellaris	03.64	24	19	238	Moree
Tree 2095	Myall Weeping	Acacia pendula	02.80	12.8	18	167	Narrabri, Edgeroi
Tree 0462	Native Orange Bumble	Capparis mitchellii	01.90	06	07.0	100	Moree
Tree 0540	Norfolk Island Pine	Araucaria heterophylla	04.03	38	16	296	Bellingen
Tree 0543	Norfolk Island Pine	Araucaria heterophylla	04.26	33	14	287	Raleigh
Tree 0604	Oak	Quercus robur	03.83	17	25	227	Uralla
Tree 0607	Oak Pin	Quercus palustris	02.90	26	27	222	Armidale
Tree 1032	Pecan	Carya illinoensis	04.30	23	31	270	Chillingham
Tree 0224	Peppercorn	Schinus molle	05.90	18	23	310	Tamworth
Tree 0368	Peppermint Narrow-leaved	Eucalyptus radiata	05.70	22	20	313	Guyra
Tree 0384	Pine Himalayan Long-leaved	Pinus roxburghii	02.37	23	13	178	Glen Innes
Tree 0371	Pine Monterey	Pinus radiata	05.35	40	16	355	Guyra
Tree 0374	Pine White Cypress "Old Grey"	Callitris glaucophylla	03.05	23	10	204	Gunnedah
Tree 0830	Pistachio Chinese	Pistachia chinensis	02.00	18	16	151	Deepwater
Tree 0377	Poplar Cottonwood	Populus deltoides	07.03	30	32	403	Guyra
Tree 0081	Poplar Lombardy	Populus nigra 'Italica'	05.20	37	10	334	Glen Innes
Tree 0542	She-oak	Casuarina cunninghamiana	03.50	30	22	254	Bellingen
Tree 0407	Silky Oak	Grevillea robusta	03.82	18	18	224	Gunnedah [Carroll]
Tree 0370	Stringybark	Eucalyptus williamsiana	04.48	28	20	285	Guyra
Tree 0600	Stringybark NE, Broad-leaved	Eucalyptus caliginosa	06.05	27	27	349	Deepwater [Glen Innes]
Tree 0541	Tallowwood "Jack Feeney"	Eucalyptus microcorys	10.22	58	28	616	Dorrigo
Tree 0400	Watergum	Syzygium francisii	08.45	34	19	459	Clunes [Lismore]
Tree 0401	Yellow Carabeen	Slonea woollsii	11.90	38	20	609	Dunoon

Membership Application/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Payment method: cash / cheque /credit card /direct credit

Membership is \$5.00 per year

Donation \$ _____

Please find enclosed my/our cheque for \$ _____

Make cheques payable to Armidale Tree Group Inc.

or

Please debit my credit card for \$ _____

Card type: Visa / Mastercard only

Card number: _____

Expiry date: _____

CCV number: _____

Name on card _____

Signature: _____

**To pay by Direct Credit Please remit payment to
BSB: 932000 Account No...620682 (please tag payment as 'subs')**

accounts@armidaletreegroup.org.au

Donations over \$2.00 are tax deductible to The Armidale Tree Group Fund

Date processed: _____

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