


JULY 2015

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North Coast Regional Landcare Facilitator

Kim Wolfenden the new Regional Landcare Facilitator will commence duties on 20 July.

The Regional Landcare Facilitator works with the local landcare networks to support community Landcare and production groups to adopt sustainable farm and land management practices to protect Australia's landscape. The role will also promote opportunities for groups to access funds and provide an effective link between landcare, North Coast Local Land Services and other organisations.

Kim is extremely excited to accept the job and is looking forward to meeting and working with the North Coast Landcare Networks.

Kim has worked closely with landholders and community in her previous jobs and holds qualifications with a Masters of Environment, majoring in Education for Sustainability and a Bachelor of Communications. Kim has a high level of communication skills coupled with over ten years' experience working in various environmental education and engagement roles. Her roles have been mainly in Queensland and include Communications and Engagement Manager for Keep Australia Beautiful, Queensland.

The position Kim will be leaving is Senior Liaison Officer for the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program, where she was the interface between the National Fire Ant Eradication Program, Councils, local industry groups, State and Federal government representatives and the affected community. Working with these key stakeholders to successfully restore intensive horticulture, cropping and grazing activities following fire ant detections on properties in the region.

Kim will be based in Coffs Harbour.





1. Dense infestation in bushland at Kuraby, QLD. 2. Glossy paired leaves. 3. Showy red flower. 4. Scattered infestation in forest understorey at Drewvale, QLD.



GROUND COVER

Coral Creeper (*Barleria repens*)

Introduced

Not Declared

Coral creeper is a creeping or scrambling shrubby plant that is an emerging weed of urban bushland, riparian vegetation, coastal sand dunes, waste areas and disturbed sites. Also known as creeping barleria, red barleria and coral bells, this species is a member of the Acanthaceae family and is native to Africa.

Distribution

This plant has recently been reported in major urban centres in the coastal parts of eastern QLD (e.g. Mackay, Gladstone and Brisbane). The first records were from gardens in Brisbane in 2006, where collectors noted large numbers of young plants germinating near cultivated individuals.

In February of this year, two infestations were reported from the margins of urban bushland reserves in south-eastern Brisbane. A very dense population is located in a disturbed forest backing onto houses near the upper reaches of Slacks Creek in Kuraby, while a second population is present in the understorey of a bushland area in Drewvale. Shortly afterwards, a third infestation was detected in Toohy Forest at Tarragindi.

Description

A creeping or scrambling shrubby plant usually less than 70 cm tall. However when growing in the forest understorey it scrambles over nearby shrubs and can occasionally climb up to 2m in height. The younger stems are green and sparsely hairy, while older stems may become somewhat woody in nature. These stems tend to produce roots where they touch the ground, enabling this plant to spread quite quickly. The shiny, dark green leaves have entire margins and are borne in pairs along the stems.

The showy tubular flowers have five spreading lobes and are mostly produced in late summer and autumn (i.e. from February to April). These flowers are borne in the leaf forks and have two large green leafy bracts at their bases. Forms with pink, mauve and purple flowers are common in South Africa, but the form that is cultivated and naturalised in Queensland has bright red or pinkish-red flowers. The fruit is a small club-shaped capsule that splits open when mature to release four seeds.

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Quick Facts

- > A creeping or scrambling shrubby plant with bright red tubular flowers
- > Its stems produce roots where they come into contact with the soil
- > Capable of forming a dense groundcover in forest understoreys.

Habitat

This plant has been recorded in the understorey of urban bushland and disturbed forests, but it is also a potential weed of riparian vegetation, roadsides, disturbed sites and waste areas.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event or Workshop	Location	For more information and to RSVP
Saturday 11 th July 9am-11am 1pm-3pm	Byron Bay Clay Heath Walk and Talk	Meet at Paterson Street Water Tower Byron Bay	Numbers are strictly limited Further information call Andy 0422 736 351 BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL! andybaker@wildsite.com.au
Saturday 25 th July	National Tree Day FREE A TREE	Fawcett's Creek Kyogle	NLSS angie@nlss.com.au 66323722
Sunday 26 th July	National Tree Day planting	'Platypus Park' Uki between Sweetnam Park and Smiths Creek Bridge	For more information, contact Matt Bloor on (02) 6670 2580 mbloor@tweed.nsw.gov.au or Eddie Roberts on (02) 6679 4079 oldgrowthed@yahoo.com
Friday 7 th (forum) Saturday 8 th August (field trip)	Land for Wildlife Forum	Old Coal Loader North Sydney	http://www.cen.org.au/events/lfwforum2015
1 st – 3 rd September	NSW Landcare and Local Land Services Conference	Orange	http://nswlandcareconference.com.au/
7 th and 8 th November	National Biological Farming Conference and Expo	Southern Cross Uni Lismore Campus	http://www.soilcare.org/national-biological-farming-conference-and-expo-2015.html

FREE A TREE! - NATIONAL TREE DAY

Help us celebrate National Tree Day in Kyogle on Saturday 25th July and help us FREE SOME TREES.

Kyogle Landcare Group in partnership with Northern Landcare Support Services will be holding a FREE A TREE event on Saturday 25th July 9am-11am.

The day will involve removing weedy vines from native trees along the Fawcett's Creek Bushwalk freeing them and allowing them to grow up strong and healthy.

You can call NLSS on 66323722 to RSVP or just meet us at the Nursery at 9am and we will walk to the start of the bushwalk.

Kids are encouraged to attend but will need to be accompanied by an adult.

Please bring along gloves, loppers or secateurs, covered shoes, long pants, hat, water and your sense of fun and adventure.



National Biological Farming Conference and Expo 2015

'Regenerating Our Soils' is the theme of the conference being convened by RLI member, SoilCare Inc. The premier event, in celebration of the International Year of Soils 2015, is scheduled to begin with a welcome reception on the 6th of November followed by 2 days of conference sessions and an Expo of sustainable farming products and services.

The conference is about learning, sharing and problem solving amongst producers, educators and national/international agricultural support professionals with a broad range of direct farming and consultancy experience. Conference speakers are being identified and honoured for their important contributions to the regenerative farming movement. Many of the speakers are farmers who have been innovative, early adopters of biological farming systems. Other speakers are consultants and educators who have supported farmers to successfully regenerate their soil and farms.

See the Soilcare website for more details <http://www.soilcare.org/>

Live Ideas at SCU

Have you got a Live Idea? Southern Cross University (SCU) is calling for ideas for collaborative projects from organisations. The University is particularly interested in project ideas in the fields of environmental science and management, marine science, engineering, social work, community development, media and the creative arts. The nature of projects can be diverse; from small one-off events requiring only a few hours through to more substantial research projects, and don't necessarily need face-to-face contact.



Propose your idea for collaboration on the SCU Live Ideas website
<http://www.liveideas.org.au/>

UPCOMING GRANTS AND FUNDING

Environmental Restoration and Rehabilitation Grants

The next round of Restoration and Rehabilitation grants program is expected to open in August 2015.
<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/restoration.htm>

Resources

Frog of Australia – a complete electronic field guide of Australian Frog

A comprehensive eGuide to the frogs of Australia. The app uses current Australian frog taxonomy and will be updated as new species are described. Major features include:

- profiles for all 238 Australian species.
 - over 1200 high resolution images from some of Australia's best wildlife photographers.
 - over 700 frog call sound clips.
 - detailed descriptions and distribution maps.
 - filter search results to only those species found at your current location
 - universal app for iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini and iPod touch.
 - fully self-contained - no network connection is needed.
 - quickly identify a frog by browsing through thumbnails and descriptions representing the 34 major groups.
- There is also a free lite version available, featuring full profiles for 16 species.



<https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/frogs-australia-complete-electronic/id680061595?mt=8>

David McInnes-King 1945 – 2015

Last month David McInnes-King was farewelled on a mountain in the Mackellar Ranges after a long illness. David was an active member of the Landcare movement and was the longest serving chair of Richmond Landcare. We thank David for his huge contribution to Landcare and the environment.

Prepared by Northern Landcare Support Services for Landcare Groups & landholders **All contributions to the newsletter are welcome.**

The articles in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of Northern Landcare Support Services or North Coast Local Land Services. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact us on **Northern Landcare Support Services** (02) 6632 3722
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