

ROGI News

ROGI meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday night of the month, with doors opening at 6.15pm. Members can visit the plant table, seed bank, library and stalls or just have a chat before the meeting. Please be seated by 7pm ready for the proceedings.

Bayside Community Church
Cnr McDonald Rd & Macarthur St
ALEXANDRA HILLS

Don't forget:

- Pay your membership dues (**only paid-up members may attend**)
- **Wear your mask, tap in QR code**
- Observe social distancing
- There will be no supper
- Return washed seedling pots
- Swap and share
- ROGI Rewards
- Bring a basket/box/bag for your purchases
- Any questions for Plant Clinic

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Diachasmimorpha kraussi

If you see these creatures on your fruit, don't panic! They are the good guys - a chemical-free way to deal with fruit fly. Read all about it from page 4.

Diana's Doodlings

Days are getting longer, heat is intensifying, plants are growing (so are the weeds) and I, the gardener, am being stung by mosquitoes and midges!

I'm almost jealous of you who don't seem to get any bites in the garden. Midge bites have caused some unpleasant reactions to my skin with the swell and itchiness, but that hasn't prevented me from gardening.

This shall be my third spring in the warmer SEQ (we moved here from Canberra!) and I've learnt so much gardening knowledge in the last two years about planting seasonal crops and ways of controlling pests in the subtropics. It may be worth mentioning that I've also learnt and am getting better at avoiding the nasty midge bites!

New knowledge and ideas are gained through interactions with fellow gardeners, learning from trial and error, reading articles and from observing and knowing the environment (temperature, sunlight, rain, soil, etc) of my own garden. You may know that I love visiting gardens, especially backyard gardens to chat with gardeners on what does and what doesn't work in their garden.

I learn so much just by asking questions and looking at what others have done successfully. So, I really encourage you to go visit other gardens and learn from them, be bold and ask questions and spend time getting to know your own garden (the soil, sun direction, airflow, etc). And ... do sign up for the Garden Visits organised by ROGI.

Unlike in cool climates where spring has only just begun, summer seems to have arrived here with the rising temperature over the last weeks. I've noticed a growth spike in some summer crops in the garden including corn, cucumbers, eggplants, zucchini and peppers. I've found that it's difficult to grow vegetables in the height of summer in SEQ so I like to get a wide range of vegetables underway while the weather is still relatively mild. You can refer to the guide on page 25 before sowing your summer seeds. It's also a good time to fertilise your garden and to lay mulch to minimise moisture loss in the soil.

New plant growth stimulated by the warmer weather will be looking for



nutrients, and soil microorganisms will be stepping up their activity, helping the nutrients to become available. The vitality of the soil has a great impact on the health and vigour of our plants, and getting the best out of our garden. Achieving vitality requires understanding the chemistry and composition of the soil and creating the ideal environment for the plants to flourish. It may seem difficult to understand the jargon that is often used in books, but really it's just about knowing and feeling the soil that is underneath our feet. The more we learn about our soil, the greater the chance we have to grow healthier plants. Linda Barrett will talk about the soil food web at our meeting next week. See p3, and also the article in the local paper.

Along with the heat, pests are ramping up so it's time to think about your pest control strategies. Locusts and fruit flies were the major pests in my garden last summer, causing plant damages and fruit loss. To combat fruit flies, I've been using exclusion bags and fruit fly bait to prevent stings to minimise the loss of fruits. Read about a natural way of controlling fruit fly page 4. Looks like I'll be busy for a while trying to find out if there are parasitoids in my garden ... so wish me luck!

Till we meet up on Thursday, enjoy your gardening. Remember to stay hydrated and put on a hat and some sunscreen while you garden.

Happy gardening,
Diana Yeo
ROGI Vice-President

Coming Events

NOVEMBER	Sat 6	Solar cooker workshop (sold out)
	Thurs 11	ROGI Meeting
	Wed 17	Seed Savers Group (see p. 23)
	Sun 21	Garden Visit (see p. 23)
DECEMBER	Thurs 9	ROGI Christmas Meeting

Membership Information

- Direct Deposit** to BSB 633 000, Account Number 136 137 296
Bendigo Community Bank Victoria Point
Bendigo Community Bank Wynnum-Manly
N.B. Reference: Please include deposit ID: *YOUR NAME MEMB*
- Cheques** made payable to:
Redland Organic Growers Inc.
Pay at meeting or by post to:
Redland Organic Growers Incorporated
PO Box 1257, Cleveland. Qld. 4163.

Member Category	Members RENEWING for 2021	NEW member/s joining in...			
		Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct 21-Dec 22
Single	\$30	\$30	\$22.50	\$15	\$37.50
Family*	\$50	\$50	\$37.50	\$25	\$62.50
Pensioner Single**	\$20	\$20	\$15	\$10	\$25
Pensioner Couple**	\$30	\$30	\$22.50	\$15	\$37.50

Family* - two (2) adults residing at the same address and their children under eighteen (18) years of age.

** Please provide evidence of **pensioner** status to claim discount

November Meeting

Back to Basics of Growing Food

Tonight's presentation will focus on soil, the foundation of all gardens. It's not just dirt!

This back to basics talk will examine soil structure, the soil food web and its importance in growing plants, pH and how to improve our soil so that we can produce nourishing food and have a thriving garden.

Our presenter is Linda Barrett, a long-time member of ROGI and of Bethania St Community Garden in Lota.

Linda will share what she's growing now in her home garden, and is planning for the coming season, and also discuss jobs for us to do to prepare for our challenging summer.



The usual attractions will be there— Plant Clinic, the well-stocked library, the seed bank and a selection of seedlings and plants - plus for sale are local honey, organic gardening inputs and more.

You may bring something gardening-related for the 'swap/share' table.

This meeting is not open for visitors. Entry free for ROGI members.

To join, go to the **MEMBERSHIP** tab at www.rogi.com.au

IMPORTANT! To ensure that we comply with COVID-19 regulations and our COVID-safe plan, **everyone MUST sign in at the door before entering, tap their QR code and wear a mask.**

October meeting: Colin Harris

Colin is the first full time researcher to work on two specific parasitoid wasps which are the nemesis of Queensland fruit fly. He spoke about and demonstrated practical easy measures for home gardeners using natural biological control methods based on current research.

Before we discuss Colin's research, let's be clear—this is the fruit fly we're looking at:



- A native occurring throughout eastern Australia.
- Adult is wasp-like, red-brown with yellow marks, about 8mm long.
- They hold their wings outstretched in a horizontal position when walking.
- They flick them in a characteristic manner.
- The female pierces (stings) the maturing fruit and lays a clutch of white, banana-shaped eggs just below the surface.
- Hatching takes place after 2 to 3 days and the resulting larvae are white carrot-shaped maggots (about 7mm long when mature) that tunnel in the flesh. They carry bacteria that aid in fruit breakdown. The mature larvae can 'jump' by curling into a 'U'-shape and then rapidly straightening.
- Larvae mature in 7-10 days in summer and emerge from the fruit to pupate in the soil. The pupal stage lasts about 10 days.

- Life cycle takes about 2.5 weeks during summer.
- Adult flies congregate on foliage and fruit to feed on bacterial colonies and later to mate.
- These bacterial colonies are more plentiful under humid conditions.
- Queensland fruit fly infests both indigenous and introduced fruits. Some varieties affected: apple, avocado, capsicum, carambola, citrus, custard apple, grape, guava, mango, papaya, passionfruit, persimmon, pomegranate, loquat, tomato.
- To **monitor fruit fly activity**, hang male lure traps under the shady canopy, where flies tend to rest. Check the number of flies trapped each week. The recommended trap contains a synthetic attractant combined with a fumigant insecticide.
- One per hectare should be hung according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Inspect traps at weekly intervals from the end of flowering and until the completion of harvesting. Take action as soon as 2 flies per day are caught.

Control Options

Cultural

- Fruit flies become active after periods of rain or high humidity. Do not allow fallen fruit to remain.

Biological

• This is what Colin is researching

Chemical

- A protein bait for the control of female fruit flies is approved for use on various crops—can be applied in spots or bands on foliage.
- Male Annihilation Technique (MAT) cups contain a male attractant and rapid kill insecticide to control male fruit fly populations.

Information edited from:

<https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/business-priorities/agriculture/plants/fruit-vegetable/insect-pests/queensland-fruit-fly>

Back to Colin's talk:

Of the many different types of fruit fly worldwide, Queensland fruit fly is the second most destructive.

Research into fruit fly behaviour and bio control waned after the development and wide use of chemicals since the 1950s. This led to the common usage of various types of pots/traps which lure fruit flies of one sex or the other into them where they are trapped/drowned/poisoned. These pots have a limited range, require active management of the contents and have been of dubious benefit.

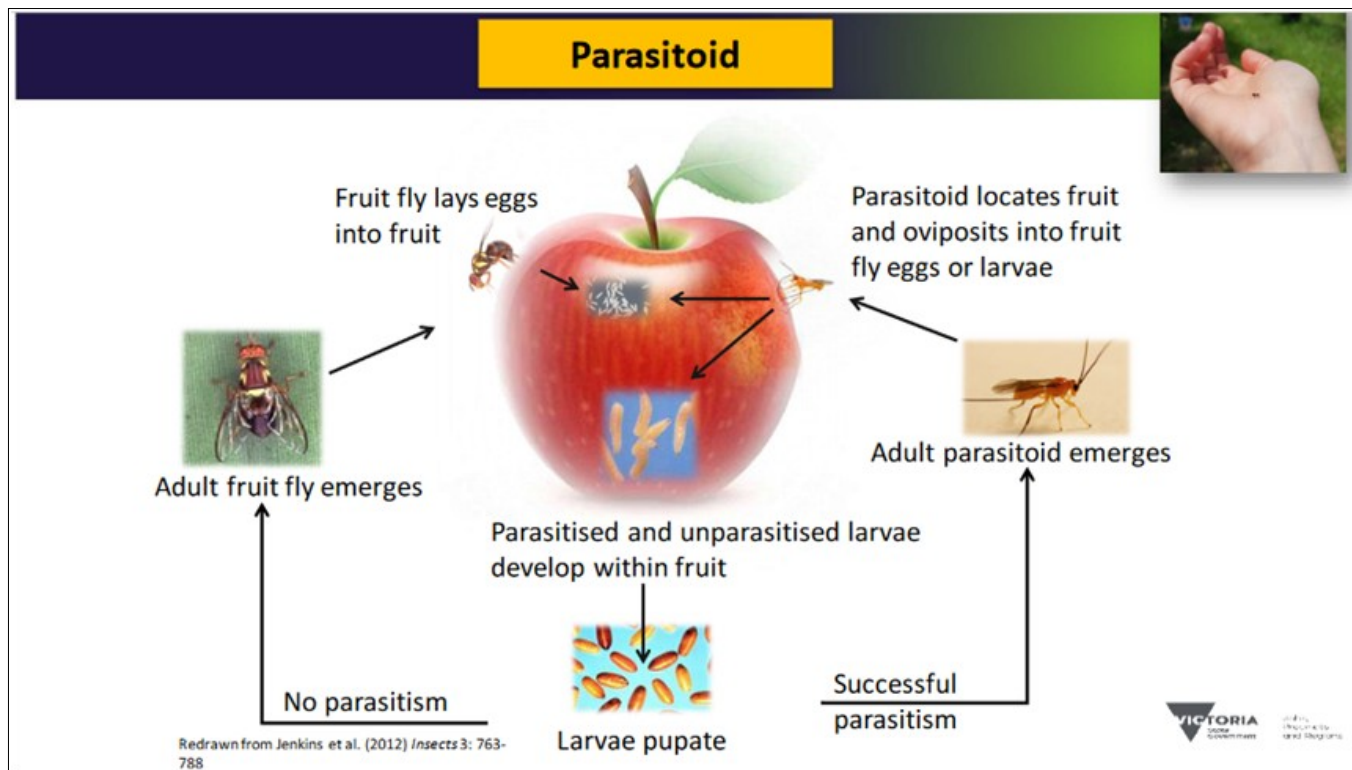
To minimise on-site breeding of fruit fly, current home garden management should include bagging and disposal of fallen fruit which may be stung (or letting the chooks out to seek and destroy).

Solarisation (eg by placing fruit into a black plastic bag in the sun to kill the larvae) is often suggested, but it will kill the parasitoid wasp as well, so he does not recommend it.

At the DPI campus in Cleveland, Colin has been researching a year-round method of reducing the overall population of Queensland fruit fly using two different parasitoid wasps.

This involves active breeding of these wasps which lay their eggs in the fruit fly larvae thereby making them hosts for their own eggs and larvae.

See over for an excellent diagram illustrating this life cycle of the QFF.



Using a system such as this will provide a means for home gardeners to play a role in increasing parasitoid populations in their local area.

The other factor is the need for habitats to provide refuges and feeding sites (nectar sources) that support parasitoid wasp populations in fruit-growing environments.

This is another reason to grow flowers as well when you're growing food. Colin mentioned alyssum, but he said that research with flowers and wasps is very preliminary and thus he cannot suggest/recommend any particular flowering plant as a food source for these wasps at this stage. Sounds like a good reason to grow a wide range until we know more!

The two wasps that parasitise Queensland Fruit Fly

Diachasmimorpha kraussi
Australian native parasitoid of Qld and northern NSW.
Orange colour.



Fopius arisanus
native of Malaysia
imported into Australia in the 1950s. Black.



The idea behind Colin's research was to find a way to break the cycle above and thus greatly reduce the reproduction of QFF by utilising:

1. the natural habit of the wasps to parasitise the QFF eggs or larvae and
2. the fact that the wasps are much smaller than the fruit flies.

His team have come up with containers called augmentoria** that infested fruit can be placed into, allowing larvae to emerge from the fruit and pupate. These larvae may or may not be parasitised. Only the adult parasitoids (and not the fruit flies) can escape from the container because of their smaller size.

So ... how to go about the process of making an augmentoria?

The researchers have been able to build a simple composting trap/breeding device (the augmentoria) which uses 2mm shade cloth (or similar) mesh that the parasitoids are able to get through but not the fruit flies.

** They are called 'augmentoria' because they augment (i.e. Increase) the numbers of wasps that are already in existence onsite. If there are no existing wasps, then the site needs to be inoculated with them. If you're not sure if you have wasps in your area, find some fruiting wild tobacco. See 7.

Here is Colin's reasoning for mentioning the **use of chemicals** to an organic growers group:

'I included this as a general information piece so the information can be spread by members to their friends and the general public so they can see that there is an alternative to spraying that works as effectively, without destroying all the garden biota (e.g. the use of targeted fruit fly baits in a controlled fashion).'

I consider it important as this reduction in chemical use is a step in the right direction for non-organic growers without them stepping out of their comfort zone entirely.'

At the ROGI meeting, Colin displayed his augmentoria and showed how it works.

Here's how you can make one at home:

1. Use a small dalek-style compost bin with no aeration holes and
2. some 2 mm shade cloth (see *photo right*), cut into a square (measuring a bit more than the diameter of the top of the compost bin). Join 2 sides to make a tube.
3. Set the bin about 100 mm into the ground so the QFF larvae don't make their way to the surface outside the bin, and go on to wreak havoc!
4. Cut a circle out of the lid.
5. Stretch one end of the shade cloth tube over the open top of the bin, so it hangs over the outside about 15cm.
6. Place the lid on the bin to secure the shade cloth and thread the tube through the hole in the lid.
7. At any time, you can place stung fruit into the bottom of the bin, by passing



it through the shade cloth tube.

8. Secure the open end of the tube by tying it with string so that fruit flies cannot escape. The wasps can escape (which we want) because they are smaller than the mesh size.

There is no need for human management of the device apart from dumping all fruit fly-affected or fallen fruit into it.

This device works to trap the fruit flies while at the same time building up the population of parasitoids who can then escape into the garden (they're attracted to light) to kill more future fruit flies.

After the fruit inside the device is dealt with by the parasitoids, it can then be added to the main compost bins— Colin suggests emptying the augmentoria in winter when there are few, if any, QFF.

Here's a photo of Colin and the device so you can get a better idea of the finished product.



You can make a smaller augmentoria using a Sistema box like this one and scaling down the equipment.

It won't have a hollow bottom, of course, but this doesn't matter.

Colin showed his version of this at the meeting. It would be more suitable if you have no spare space or not much fruit growing.



Wild tobacco *Solanum mauritianum* is a favourite of the wasps. It will attract them into your growing area, so that it will be inoculated with them.

Colin found some fruiting wild tobacco growing near the lower car park area at Salvos, and also on the corner of Dawson Rd - further down MacArthur St from the church. Handy to know if you want to inoculate your garden with the wasps.

Here's how:

- collect yellow wild tobacco fruit
- place in an **unlidded** plastic container with no holes in the base containing 25mm of soil
- place container so that it does not get rained on/in (the larvae will drown).
- After 3 weeks the entire contents of the container should be bagged and placed in the rubbish bin; by this time any parasitoids will have emerged.
- You might also notice fruit flies emerging from the container; don't panic as these particular fruit fly *Bactrocera cacuminata* only infest wild tobacco (monophagous).
- **Do not** put wild tobacco into your augmentoria as it is a serious weed and near impossible to eradicate once you have it.

We've received follow-up emails from Colin:

"One of my colleagues, Chloe van der Burg requires fruit flies from the wild as part of the current research project.

The best way for us to collect flies is to collect fruit from the wild, parks and gardens or private gardens.

If any of your members would like to donate fruit that may be infested with fruit fly it would assist our research greatly.

Chloe will be able to organise collecting of fruit from the grower's residence or place of employment (contact Chloe (c.vanderburg@qut.edu.au).

Alternatively if someone wants to visit the glasshouse (with the fruit) where I conduct my work we can organise a quick tour as a thankyou—contact me c36.harris@qut.edu.au

Only 3-4 people at a time for the glasshouse please as space is limited and COVID restrictions apply.

Also, please convey to the group that I am available, work time dependent, to

Miscellaneous information from Colin.:

Don't use the blue sticky traps – they lure all beneficial insects, not just pests.

Queensland fruit fly may have a range of up to 150 metres, so encourage the neighbourhood to be QFF aware!

Chooks free-ranging under fruit trees in your orchard will eat larvae in dropped stung fruit.

answer follow up questions. Please allocate someone to collect the questions and send them to me all at once."

This is exciting research and the results show that the process works. I'm sure you, as a ROGI member, are as keen as I am about it, and are as grateful as I am that his team is persisting with it.

Those of you who were present when Colin spoke about this will recall the apparent difficulty we had getting our heads around this concept. I hope this attempt at conveying it to you is adequate.

However, if you're still struggling to understand, or you have questions for Colin, please send them to info@rogi.com.au and we'll send them all together, as Colin has requested.

Reporting by Diana Yeo, Sue Goodrick and Jill Nixon (with editing assistance from Col).

Compiled by Jill Nixon.

Fun fact from Colin:

Monophagous – only eats one type of food
e.g. panda and bamboo,
koala and eucalyptus

Polyphagous – will eat pretty much anything!
e.g. parasitoid wasps, most Aus. fruit flies

Colin gave ROGI a book that lists 5½ pages of fruits that Queensland fruit flies eat. Fascinating! I'm sure the book will be in high demand from the library!

Garden visit: Ruth Bolomey

Ruth purchased her home in 2016 and started building her garden in 2017, after doing some major works to fix drainage issues and build a retaining wall that is now a feature of the garden.

Her next challenge was building up the soil. After being very disappointed in the soil she had bought from Bunnings, Ruth collected horse, cow and chicken manure, layering these with lucerne, mushroom compost and sugar cane mulch. Within a week the soil was full of worms, and her thriving, abundant garden is the result.

While Ruth did much of the work setting up the garden herself, including moving 12 cubic metres of soil from the front to the back of her house, she really appreciated



Chumie and Ruth



ROGI members worked on the ramp area at Ruth's 2018 Garden Makeover. Above: aerating the compacted soil prior to planting fruit trees and companion plants.



2018: Russell digging holes for fruit trees at the top of the ramp.

the support ROGI members provided at times when she needed it, including a garden blitz in 2018. Recently she had help to put netting over the arches covering her four wicking beds. She mentioned Ann, Suzette, Margaret, and Linda in particular.

Ruth's garden is a beautiful and productive blend of flowers, vegetables, herbs and fruit trees, including mulberry, jaboticaba, self-seeded papaws, red cherry guava, Hawaiian guava, Brazilian cherry and rose apple (which she recommends as a vigorous grower with delicious fruit), while roses, bulbs and perennials add colour throughout the garden and attract bees.



Some ROGI members helped Ruth to drape netting over the arches above wicking beds to protect plants from insect damage, and provide shelter from the harsh sun for tender plants. These beds are flourishing with salad greens, herbs, and vegetables.

Ruth Bolomey

Every year Ruth does a bit more, planning to add more plants, learning which plants thrive and where, fighting an ongoing battle with pests, weather and mildew, and continuing to build up the soil with Searles Premium compost, which she finds works well until she can make her own compost.

Ruth's garden provides much of her food. She also grows medicinal plants such as elderberry *Sambucus canadensis* (used in commercial treatments for colds and flu, such as *Sambucol* and *Sambucus*). Ruth makes her own.

Ruth's Elderberry Tonic

This is an oxymel.

Equal parts: Elderberry juice

Raw organic apple cider vinegar

Raw honey (bought from Joy from ROGI)

Extract juice from the elderberries - put them in a tiny bit of water and cook gently until the berries break up. Then mash and squeeze through a cloth.

Mix all ingredients together.

Store in a glass container at room temperature.

Turn and move every second day until the honey has completely dissolved and no longer settle at the bottom.

Use for colds and flu. Drink straight or mix with water.

Note: As well as this tonic, elderberries and elderflowers can be used in several ways, such as: elderflower fritters, wine, cordial; elderberry wine, cordial, tincture, gummies, jam and sauces. If you don't harvest the flowers, they become the berries—harvest them before the birds do!



Above: Starting the garden tour out the back.



Above: The yard slopes down from the backyard to the front boundary, so Ruth has made terraces and a ramp to make it more usable.

Ruth Bolomey

Ruth's garden is a testament to her hard work and determination. She has created a place of beauty and peace, with abundant food and medicinal plants to nurture her health and share with her family. We really appreciated Ruth showing us around, giving us new ideas, and lots of helpful tips.



Above: a cabbage and its companion, basil



Above: acerola (*Malpighia glabra*) being planted with four companions at top of the ramp in 2018.



Above left: the ramp up past the fruit trees and up to the netted arches provides easy access for wheelbarrows. The original plantings in this area in 2018 under Linda Brennan's guidance included companion plants for each fruit tree. Since then, Ruth has added many more plants so that the area is more densely planted—a living mulch. This is beneficial for the soil and the organisms that live in it.



Above: the covered arches provide a landmark. Note the worm farm near the covered area—near the kitchen.

Below: as well as the ramp to the upper level, Ruth has created a series of steps.



A big thank you to Ruth for her hospitality.
Photos by Ann Roffey and Dianne Taylor.
Archive photos by Jill Nixon.

Reported by Dianne Taylor (mostly) and Jill Nixon

Garden Visit: Tony & Linda Garbett

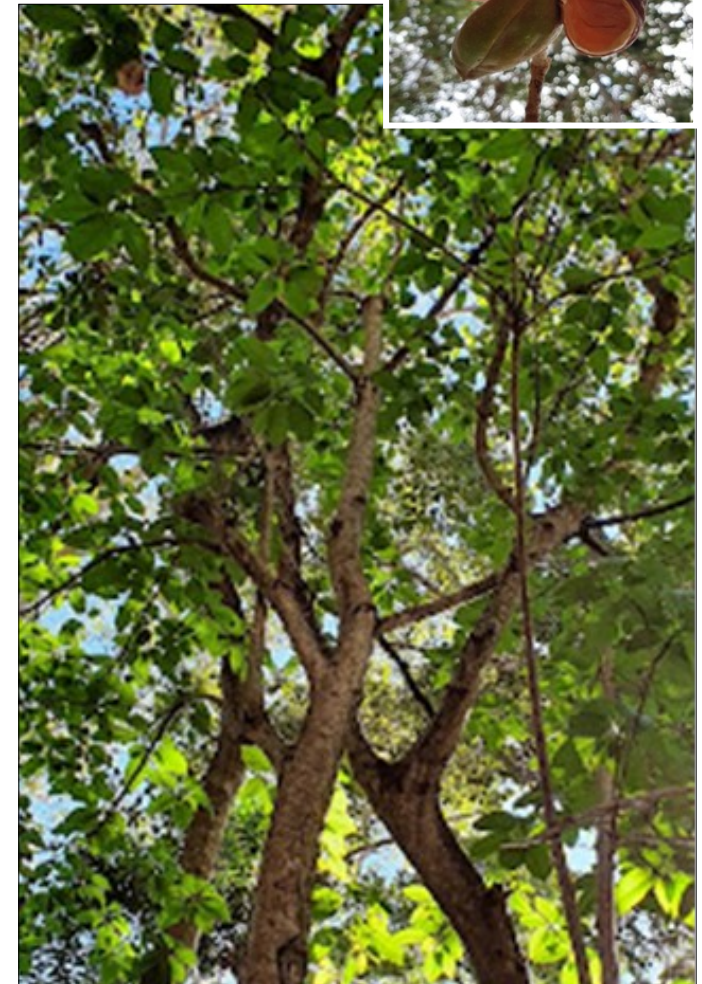
Tony and Linda bought their 8 000m² block in Capalaba in 1980. The land is part of the Lesley Harrison Dam catchment area. Because the land had been largely cleared of significant trees, they set about planting eucalypt corridors, rainforest species, and native plants, and they now have a good selection of mature trees.



Below: *Araucaria bidwillii* **Bunya Pine**
A large evergreen coniferous tree with deadly spines. Look at those thorns!!!



Below: *Sterculia quadrifida* **Peanut Tree**
A bushtucker plant that produces beautiful bright orange seed pods with edible black seeds that resemble peanuts in taste.



Above and right:
Tony showing ROGI members his *Syzygium cormiflorum* **Bumpy Satinash**



This is a tall tree with a dense crown. It produces cream flowers and edible fruit that grow on the trunk.



Garden Visit: Tony & Linda Garbett

Tony and Linda also keep track of their plants by recording them on a spreadsheet and placing metal plant tags next to the plants. Their small selection of tropical fruit tree varieties pretty much look after themselves so their productivity is fairly patchy. They have a variety of citrus trees which produce abundantly and provide a good supply for about four months of the year.

Davidsonia jerseyana **Davidson's Plum**

A medium sized rainforest tree and also bush tucker. It bears plum sized deep blue-to-purple fruit that have a very tangy sour taste, but they make into superb jams and sauces. The tree was in flower at the time and the flowers grow in clusters straight from the trunk.



Right: *Myrciaria cauliflora* **Jaboticaba**

It also produces flowers and fruit directly on the trunk as can be seen in the photo. The fruit is similar in size to a large grape with sweet taste and very tough skin.



Above: ROGI members enjoying a leisurely walk to the rainforest area.

Tony & Linda Garbett

Living surrounded by bushland does have a couple of downsides. One is that tree roots gravitate beneath the compost bin or heap if it's in contact with the ground.

Tony uses different systems—a worm farm, a tumbler and some sealed compost bins that are placed on repurposed sheets of industrial 3mm polypropylene (plastic) to prevent tree root invasion.

"I try to fill one container with fresh material so it gets hot to start with. This reduces quickly and then we add from the kitchen and garden

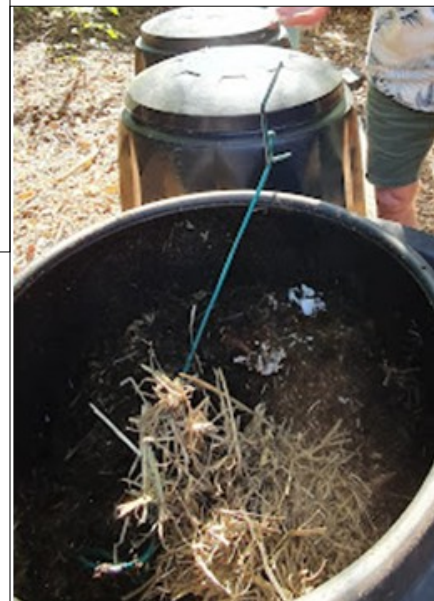
regularly for a few months adding dry materials like sugar cane mulch and shredded paper as necessary. At this point it is left to cold compost and turned regularly with a spiral to cover any new material that has been added. Then it is left to mature with some compost worms to finish the job and we start the next bin."



Left: Finished compost from the oldest bin, with no sign of the original ingredients. Good enough to eat!



Northern side of the house which overlooks the rainforest area



Above: Tony uses a spiral compost screw to turn the contents to achieve aeration in the sealed compost bins.



Above right: Tony grows favoured chicken 'salad' under mesh (e.g. 50mm rigid panels raised up) in the chookyard, so the chooks can browse and pick without digging or ripping up the entire plant by the roots. This means he and Linda can go away for a period of time and the girls still get their fresh greens. "I usually use Poultry Forage mix from Eden seeds. However at the moment I'm trying Mr Fothergills chicken foraging mix from Bunnings."

Tony & Linda Garbett

Another downside of living surrounded by bush-land is competing with the wildlife for fruits and vegetables ... but Tony has it covered! Literally! The ideal covers need to be easily removed for harvest etc, or high enough to go inside it to harvest.

Right: This climbing frame has a low border of mesh outside the beans.

Below: Long narrow beds with two different mesh frames (wire and plastic) — so lightweight that Tony can remove one single-handedly!



Above and right: "The wicking beds were originally filled with commercial organic soil mix but the top 300mm was heavily augmented with composted products such as Rocky Point Active Grow, cow manure and home-made compost and then covered with mulch." Note that the animal-proof cover is easily removable.



Tony & Linda Garbett

Right: It's important to provide water for the birds, insects and other animals, at differing heights, and near shelter and protection.

Here is how Tony made this unique Hebel birdbath.

"The bird bath was carved from Hebel block and sits in an underground 1100mm round pond (275 litres) from Bunnings.

The bird bath has a central copper tube that is connected to a submerged low voltage pump in the pond to pump water as a small fountain on the bird bath.

It is set at a low flow so that it does not overflow the bath rim.

The bird bath has a return pipe so water is returned to the pond reservoir. The pond reservoir only needs topping up every few months.

The pump is controlled by a timer to come on twice a day so the bird bath is always full even when we are away on holidays.

The pond reservoir is covered by a reo mesh frame with shade cloth to reduce toad, mosquito and leaf infiltration. This cover is weighted down with logs and rocks that gives a natural look."



Right:
So idyllic!
Vegetable
patch—note all
the animal
protection
cages!

Photos and
information
provided by
Diana Yeo and
Kathy Petrik.
Extra details
from Tony in
quotation
marks.



Recently on Facebook:

Items of interest for gardeners not on Facebook



[Greg Westerberg](#)

Best tool ever (for me) Aussie made, strong, durable. Make my life so much easier.

I purchased it on ebay, Sutton Tools, Australian owned and made, used for drilling holes for

planting and for loosening up soil or mixing soil with manure/fertiliser

[Kate Lind](#) I agree. I use mine to stir up the compost bin. And to create planting holes for fruit trees. I got mine from [Aussie Gardener Store](#). It's a ripper! Literally!

This week is National Recycling Week. It was established by Planet Ark in 1996, and is held every year during the second week of November (**8th to 14th this year**). So this year is the 25th anniversary!

Being organic gardeners, we automatically recycle many things: compost is made of food scraps and trimmings and recycled food (manure!), coffee grounds, paper, dead and spent plants, and more.

Maybe you recycle other bits and pieces in your garden—let us know some of your tips to share in the newsletter.

Recycle those plastic bags

Even though we compost, we still need to buy some potting mix and sugar cane mulch.

What to do with all those empty bags?

Well, use them again if you can find a need.

Then put them in the REDcycle soft plastic collection point near the checkout at Coles and Woolies all around Australia ... but ...

- They need to be clean and dry.
- The pieces need to be no bigger than A3 size (that's double A4).
- They need to be soft 'scrunchable' plastic.

So give them a good shake around to get out all the potting mix/whatever. Then ...

- Cut them into pieces first (through the double thickness of the bag)
- Dunk the pieces in the tub of water
- Swirl them around
- Hang the pieces on the line to dry.

When you have a collection of soft plastic, remember to take it to the supermarket—they're usually near the checkouts.

<https://www.redcycle.net.au/what-to-redcycle>

The recycled plastic is made into many different items – admire the seat that is often sited near the checkouts at the supermarket.

<https://www.replas.com.au/products>



Planning for our Christmas Meeting — 9th December

Planning is already underway.

- We have secured an entertaining guest presenter who'll add verve to the evening!
- We will have food and drink!!! Yay! This isn't a substitute for dinner, more like a party.
 - ROGI will provide the drinks (sorry, no alcohol—Salvo's rules!)
 - You will provide the food—a small plate of either savoury or sweet finger food to share. Please make the pieces small, so we can have a taste of more than one or two.
- ROGI committee members will serve people using tongs.
- During the evening there'll be gardening trivia questions.
 - We want **you** to provide the questions.
 - The questions can be about anything from ROGI News or mentioned at a ROGI meeting since last September. You can submit a photo with a question..
 - Please send your questions to info@rogi.com.au by 4 December.

There'll be more info in December ROGI News



Every **December**, ROGI members help out the Salvos by donating non-perishable items for the Salvo's Christmas Hamper Appeal. Here is their wish list:

Dairy*	1 litre long life milk 1 litre long life custard
Drinks	1 litre fruit juice or soft drink
Cereal	400g weet-bix, cornflakes, or ricebubbles
Pasta	500g dry pasta
Rice	500g rice, risotto or couscous
Canned fruit*	825g slices or pieces
Canned veges	400g peas, corn, beetroot, tomatoes, or carrots
Canned savoury	420g baked beans or spaghetti
Tea/Coffee*	100g tea bags, instant coffee, sachets or choc powder
Biscuits	500g family assorted biscuits or similar cookies
Snacks	Large bag crisps, corn chips, or pretzels
Spreads*	200g vegemite, peanut butter, honey, nutella, jam
Condiments*	500g pasta sauce or 500ml tomato/bbq sauce
Confectionery*	Large bag of lollies, candy canes, chocolate, or liquorice
Christmas Item*	fruit mince pies, Christmas pudding, fruit cake, bonbons, or decorative serviettes

Please don't be restricted by brand and please feel at ease buying any 'on special' brands you find.
Sizes are guide only and may vary between brands.
Please make sure all items are in date and that packaging is not damaged.

* High demand items.

You may wish to start accumulating these now. Please bring them along to ROGI's December meeting and place them in the designated area in the foyer. The Salvos are always very grateful for ROGI's contribution.

E-WASTE COLLECTION

As usual, we'll collect e-waste for SubStation 33 at the **December** meeting. Bins will be in the parking bay—so you can place your e-waste in them as you arrive. Electronic waste (E-Waste) is any product that has/had a cord or a battery and is no longer useful. Clear out your shed now! Tell your friends, family and neighbours.



TOOL SHARPENING

We had very positive feedback about the tool-sharpening at the AGM, so we've invited Shannon from Pout Sharpening back for the **Christmas** meeting.

This will be FREE for members.

- One tool per ROGI member.
- If there is time, a second can be done at your own expense.
- Prices at www.poutsharpening.com.au
- Please write your name clearly on the tool with indelible ink or name tag it
- Clean hand tools, not spades



Garden Clubs of Australia

ROGI is a member of GCA.

They would like our members to feel free to join their Facebook page

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/781160769133413>

Click on the link and after the page comes up on your screen, press the blue highlighted **"Join"**, and then follow the prompts. Easy as planting a seedling in your garden and will take less time than watering the little green friend into its new home.

- Our Facebook page contains much useful information and reports from other clubs.
- It's a great place to share gardening information, especially in these difficult lockdown times with COVID19.
- It's a great means of keeping in touch with like-minded people.
- Pictures, videos, gardening information, club meetings, reports on speakers, and any other gardening related topics.
- You can even use your smart phone to make a video while you walk around your garden pointing out interesting plants, then share it with our gardening communities.
- Many states are currently in lockdown—think of your input improving our mental states at this difficult time.

Please remember that all information in this closed group is approved by Heather Pryor, Lynne Faux and myself (Paul McQueen), before being posted.

Washing Beetles



Do you have these beetles at your place? These are all over some Queen Anne's Lace flowers. Apparently they are harmless.

'Thousands of Washing Beetles *Phyllotocus rufipennis* (Scarabaeidae) emerge in summer to feed on eucalypt blossoms but often mistakenly swarm on other white objects, such as drying washing, tennis players or even brides.'

<https://www.qm.qld.gov.au/Explore/Find+out+about/Animals+of+Queensland/Insects/Beetles>

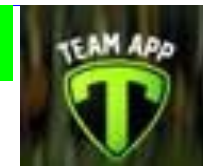
THINK ABOUT THIS.

There's one thing that can help to solve all of the following problems at once:

- The high cost of organic produce
- The topsoil crisis
- Dependency on long supply chains
- Stale, lifeless, and tasteless vegetables
- Lack of exercise

And that one thing is ... **growing food!**

TEAM APP



With TEAM APP, you can:

- keep up to date with club events in real time
- not have to wait till the meeting to book your place for Garden Visits, Workshops and Field Trips.
- make bookings as soon as they are posted on TEAM APP.

If you haven't already registered for TEAM APP, here's how to get TEAM APP on your phone or computer.

On your smart phone or tablet.

- Go to the App store (apple smart phones) or Playstore (android smart phones)
- Look for the TEAM APP logo. (above)
- If you need assistance to set up your TEAM APP account on a phone or tablet, Lisa can help you at the next meeting.

On your computer.

- Go to <https://www.teamapp.com>
- SIGN UP using your email address and a password
- Click on MY TEAMS and select your team as ROGI.



Plant of the Month -

As you can see, there is no article about a specific plant this month.

This is because we need some members to submit these article, and none arrived in our inbox for this month's newsletter.

The email address for you to send articles is:
info@rogi.com.au

If you can't think of a plant to write about, you could write about a weed (yes, they're plants too!)

Or you could write about your favourite pest!

Or beneficial creature.

Or tool that you couldn't live without.

Or something that you think could be useful

and interesting to other members.

Some of the plants that have been featured in newsletters ready for summer planting and/or harvesting over the years are:

Nasturtiums by Kate Wall	Nov 2019
Chiilies by Linda Barrett	Dec 2019
Eggplant by Sharr Ellson	Dec 2018
Rosella by Sharr Ellson	Nov 2017
Lemon Myrtle by Linda Barrett	Feb 2016
Watermelon by Sharr Ellson	Dec 2015
Loofah by Angela Stafford	Feb 2015
Okra by Ann Roffey	Aug 2021

Here are some guidelines for you so you can contribute an article to your ROGI newsletter.

- Choose a plant that you either know a lot about, have experience growing, or want to learn more about
- It should be nearly the right time of year to sow it or plant it
- State why you've chosen this plant to write about
- Describe
 - the plant
 - Its soil and position preferences
 - Any problems that could occur and how to deal with them
 - How to prepare and use the plant—maybe include a recipe
- Include photos (1.00 MB or higher)
- Anything quirky or otherwise interesting about this plant
- Don't worry too much about spelling, grammar and such things - that's what editors are for!
- Dot points (like you're reading here) are fine.

Plant Clinic

Managed & Reported by Rohanne

Plant Clinic in October had two questions:

Kristy asked what was causing the leaves on her Madagascar bean to become brown and blotchy.

We decided that it looks like the bean plant is suffering from **rust**. Rust is airborne and easily **transmitted in windy weather**. It can also be transmitted from other **infected plants**, so **good garden hygiene is important**.

PREVENTION

- Proper spacing of bean plants allows for air flow; also prevent infected plants from coming in contact with nearby vines.
- Be sure to water the plant directly at the root zone and with drip-type irrigation to prevent water splash-back as the rust can live in the soil and be splashed up onto the leaves.
- To treat rust fungus use a spray made of baking soda and water with some eco oil to help it stick to the leaves.
- A spray of Neem oil can also be effective in controlling rust.
- A weekly dusting of sulphur can also prevent and treat rust fungus.



Francke wanted to know what was causing the leaves on her **chilli** plant to become **stunted and misshapen**. It was difficult to be certain from the cutting as it could just be as a result of the cooler weather, it could be due to sudden changes in watering, or it could be the result of broad mites.

If there are no other symptoms I suggest you check the soil pH to ensure the plant is getting adequate nutrition, ensure consistent watering, and mulch around the plant to help keep the root ball warm.



Plant Clinic

If you have an odd-looking pest, think your plant may be a weed or have a deficiency or a disease, Plant Clinic may help you. Bring along the insect or plant (as many parts - fruit, leaf, root etc - as you can, and in a sealed plastic bag if it's diseased or very seedy) and fill in the form.

Place the plant parts together with the form on Plant Clinic table before the meeting starts. Someone will have a look and may be able to answer your questions. Any solutions will be given to you on the night and published on this page.

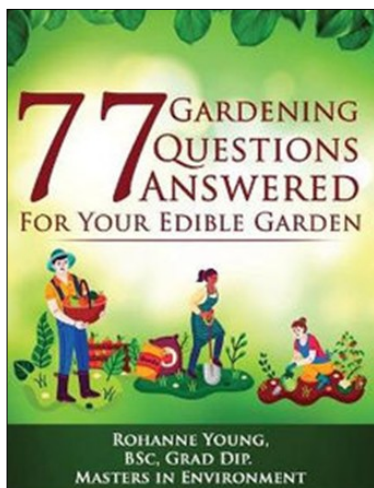
Please be aware that, although we do our best, there may not be anyone present who can solve your problem or identify your plant, especially if not related to organic gardening. In this event, we'll do some research and publish the results in the next ROGI News.

If you can't get **identification of a plant** from your local nursery, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/plants-animals/plants/herbarium/identify-specimens>. Fill out the Botanical specimens cover sheet, and send with your plant cutting (between two sheets of newspaper) to: Botanical Information & Advisory Service, Queensland Herbarium, DSITI, Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Mt Coottha Road, TOOWONG QLD 4066. They will identify your plant for free and send you a reply by your choice of post/email/fax/phone.

Book Reviews

ROGI members know author Rohanne as our Plant Clinic person—she's used to answering lots of questions.

These questions are grouped logically into 15 chapters, such as Planning and Preparing, Soils and Success, What can you Grow in your Environment, Weeds and Other Plants you don't Want, Good Bugs and Bad Bugs, and Tips to Ensure your Plants Thrive.



Having gardened in a different climate zone, Rohanne has learned from experience how to deal with our sub-tropical situation. Experience is a good teacher, but learning from others is quicker.

Rohanne was working on this book when COVID hit. This called for a bit of an overhaul, as people who had never set eyes on a trowel before were suddenly vitally interested in growing enough food to become self-sufficient, and would need help!

This book would be a valuable addition to any new gardener's collection of resources, especially if you want to: give your family safe food, have fresh herbs and salad greens available at all times, grow your own lemons, avoid dashing to the shops frequently and instead go 'shopping' in the garden to decide what to have for dinner that night.

If you discover that it would be good to have your own copy (where you can write in it, and attach sticky notes to the side of the pages for future reference), you can get a copy direct from Rohanne rather than the Internet.

This book is new to the ROGI library.

Reviewed by Jill Nixon.

'Understanding Nature's Little Helpers'

Pat Collins has been a herbalist for over 20 years, and she looks at weeds from a holistic and herbalist's perspective.

She includes more than 100 weeds and explains the appearance, distribution and various uses of each—edible, other (such as dyeing, rope, perfume, thatching, thorns, etc), medicinal (her forte) and its effect on farming and the environment. She also gives alternative names—so many weeds have the same common name! And she's an Australian, so she speaks our language.

Weeds can give an indication of the quality and the mineral content of your soil, and she includes this information.

She doesn't skip over what I consider the most annoying and intractable weed—nut grass.

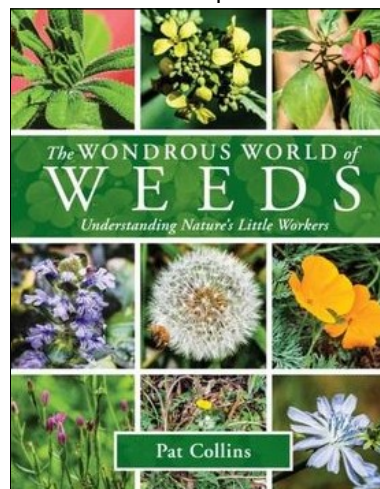
Other weeds include those with edible flowers and/or leaves, and/or fruits, and/or seeds, and/or roots or tubers: e.g. amaranth, blackberry nightshade, chickweed, chicory, cobbler's pegs, dandelion, plantain, prickly lettuce, sheep sorrel, shepherd's purse, sow thistle and wandering jew (both the blue and the white flowering types). There are more!

This would be good to borrow in December so you have two months to digest it.

This is an existing library book.

Reviewed by Jill Nixon.

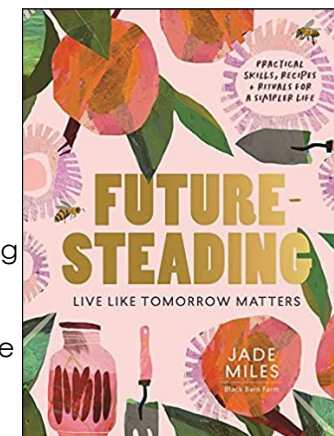
Other books about weeds in the ROGI library are: 'The Weed Forager's Handbook' Grubb & Rowland, and 'Working with Weeds' Kate Wall



'Live like Tomorrow Matters'

Jade, Charlie and their three children live on Black Barn Farm in N.E. Victoria.

Jade has compiled this book as a practical and inspirational guide to living in a way that values tomorrow: a slower, simpler, steadier existence that is healthier for you, your home, and the environment.



Whether you live in a city apartment, in the suburbs or on twenty acres, the principles of future-steading offer easy-to-understand information and hands-on ideas.

Learn to grow delicious food and medicinal plants; share rituals with loved ones through the seasons; feast on healthy home-cooked food for the family; nourish body and soul with outdoor expeditions and moments of rest; and create wonders with your hands.

This welcoming handbook begins by showing how futuresteading works in an accessible and practical explainer, before venturing through six seasonal chapters – Awakening, Alive, High Heat, Harvest, The Turning, and Deep Chill – filled with inspiration for the garden, including making fences and wicking beds, along with 30+ rewarding recipes for slow, nourishing and easy meals.

Grow, store, eat, preserve and share food that deepens the connections you have with your household, your soil, and those around you.

This book is hot off the press and new to the ROGI library! So new ... that I haven't finished reading it yet (it has fabulous photos!) so I've cheated and used the blurb from the back cover here.

Please borrow it and let us know what YOU think.

Jill Nixon

Free Horse Manure at Gumdale

Facebook Messenger exchange with Robert.

Hi Jill.. I have a small pile of horse manure that some person my appreciate.. I do not want to just post it on the ROGI facebook page might get over-run with replies.. Possibly you could advise a few 'ordinary' members to get in touch with me.

Okay. I could tell just a few people. How much of it do you have? Eg buckets or a trailer?

A trailer load... but i would like it distributed to more than one 'taker'..

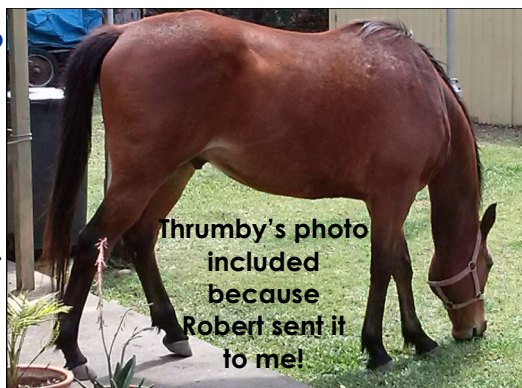
Okay. So they'd need to go to your place to get it?

Yes...must be collected here... a couple of piles in paddock... or with a bit more exercise they could collect the individual pats... would need a good type of rake...

Okay. I'll include it in the newsletter.

This is my much beloved Thrumby... He has been replaced by two, sometimes three, massive Thoroughbreds... they are not mine.. just keep the grass under control.

If you need some manure, and you'd like some exercise, get in touch with Robert. His details are in the email from Carolyn.



Michael Pollan, author of 'The Omnivore's Dilemma' (in the ROGI library - a thought-provoking read.)

"Cooking from scratch is the single most important thing we could do as a family to improve our health and general well-being."



Ian and Judy Wintle invite you to their 'Giving Garden'

**20 and 21 November 2021 (8:30AM - 4:00PM)
5 Carlton Court, Birkdale**

Our visitor friendly garden is a one-acre property which has become one of South East Queensland's best known and loved sub-tropical gardens. Why not relax and spend a few hours in this wonderful and interesting garden, often described as Birkdale's Botanical Garden. Welcome to the world of rare, bizarre and beautiful botanicals. This is the garden of avid plant collectors and there are thousands of unusual and interesting plants to be viewed while walking the long meandering garden pathways to shade houses full of plants. Sustainable and smart garden practices abound in this garden and inspires and motivates all who visit. If you have been before, please come again as **there's always something new** to see. The plant sale will be exceptional this year and Judy has been working hard propagating beautiful plants. Her plants are always in high demand.

We are hobby gardeners and can only accept cash so **no EFTPOS** sorry.

A toilet will be on-site and a coffee van will provide drinks and cakes.

Black Sapote fruit will be on sale.

All gate takings go to supporting disabled water skiing.

Please be COVID safe.



Garden Events

Tropical Foliage Festival 2021

Presented by
The International Cordyline Society

**Belmont Shooting Complex,
1485 Old Cleveland Road, Belmont**

Saturday 27 November 2021, 8am – 3pm

Sunday 28 November 2021, 9am – 2pm

Admission: Adults: \$4.00 Children: Free

Free Parking and EFTPOS Available

There will be an incredible variety of Tropical Foliage Plants including new releases, rare plants and old favourites for sale.

Offering the best quality Cordylines, Bromeliads, Crotons, Gingers, Costas, Heliconias, Orchids, Palms, Aroids and much more.

There will be an incredible variety of Tropical Foliage Plants including new releases, rare plants and old favourites for sale.

Offering the best quality Cordylines, Bromeliads, Crotons, Gingers, Costas, Heliconias, Orchids, Palms, Aroids and much more.

Experienced growers and garden experts will be on hand to answer questions.

The event includes:

Plant Display

Plant Auction

Monster Raffle

Guest Speakers and Demonstrations

The event will be fully catered and has a plant minding area.

For more information contact the
International Cordyline Society Secretary:
intcordsocsec@gmail.com

ROGI Events

Garden Visit

Sunday 21 Nov from 10am

Terry and Maritza Sullavan at Alexandra Hills

"The thing I love about my garden is that it provides my wife and me, and a host of little creatures, with fresh things to eat! Fresh in my mind are the mulberries we got this year, they're hard to beat!

We've stuck to the landscaping that was here when we bought over 10 years ago.

First we drew up a plan and planted out the main trees in the front - fig, ginkgo biloba, citrus, and two avocados.

We threw a few subtropical exotics in for good measure - soursop (love this tree, so productive!), jackfruit, ice-cream bean, Malabar chestnut, and a lychee, which struggled until I found the soil was missing a certain element.

The backyard gets shade from about mid-day and has a huge gum tree just out the back, the chooks, mulberry and bamboo do well thanks to the homebrew kitchen water pump, but there've been a lot of learnings.

The north wall has a home-built organic hydroponic system which has been another education; it does great, blight-free tomatoes and it's an interesting field of study getting nutrients into the water organically. The path of the sun throughout the seasons is interesting here.

So if you find this interesting, please do come along and I hope you'll have some ideas to take home to apply at your place!

Book via TEAM APP

Seed Savers

Wednesday 17 November 9—10.30am at Capalaba

Our action-packed focus for the morning is:

- how to grow from seed
- How to test for seed viability
- how to make up your own seed raising mix

This topic is in response to Janet handing over the Seed Bank and plant-growing roles to other members.

So we hope that, once you know how, lots of you will lend a hand to test and grow seeds to seedling stage so we can then sell them at ROGI meetings.

Book via TEAM APP

This is YOUR club newsletter.

Please contribute to it.

- A handy technique or tip
- A story about your garden
- A gardening problem solved
- A photo of an interesting plant
- A review of a library book
- A request for items or information
- An article about an unusual plant
- A recipe for home-grown produce
- Specific garden or nutrition information
- A notice—something to give away or sell
- Anything to do with organic growing

Please send your items to the editor and help keep the ROGI Newsletter topical, interesting, local and relevant.

Email: info@rogi.com.au

The December newsletter deadline is 25 November 2021

*Hey! You!
Yes, you!
I'm talking to
you!*

ROGI Seed Bank 4 November 2021

Root Vegetables	Fruiting Plants	Greens and Herbs	Flowers
Beetroot 'Bulls Blood' Beetroot 'Chioggia' Beetroot 'Detroit' Beetroot 'Golden Detroit' Beetroot 'Red Devil' Carrot 'Red Kuroda' Carrot 'Baby Amsterdam' Carrot 'Red-Core Chantenay' Celeriac 'Caesar' Onion 'Long Tropea Red' Onion 'Red Creole' Radish 'Cherry Belle' Radish Daikon Radish 'Easter Egg' Turnip 'Purple Top White Globe'	Bean Bush 'Blue Lake' Bean Bush 'Cherokee Wax' Bean Bush 'Dragon's Tongue' Bean Bush 'Italian Romano' Bean Climbing 'Blue Lake' Bean Climbing 'Purple King' Cucumber 'Lemon' Cucumber 'Spacemaster' Eggplant 'Black Beauty' Eggplant 'Early Long Purple' Eggplant 'Ping Tung Long' Loofah Gennaro's Own Okra 'Mammoth Spineless' Pea 'Greenfeast' Pea Pigeon, Gennaro's own Pea SugarSnap 'Sugar Ann' Rockmelon 'Honeydew Green Flesh' Sweet Corn 'Bicolour' Zucchini 'Black Beauty' Zucchini 'Costa Romanesque'	Basil 'Dark Opal' Basil 'Lemon' Basil 'Thai' Basil 'Cinnamon' Basil 'Prospera' Cabbage 'Golden Acre' – Ball Head Cabbage 'Tokyo Bekana' – Chinese Cabbage Cabbage Bok Choy Chervil Collards 'Georgia Southern' Kailaan Kale 'Bear Necessities' Kale 'Red Russian' Kohlrabi 'Purple Vienna' Kohlrabi 'White Vienna' Lettuce 'Summer Harvest' Lettuce Mix Organic Mizuna Mustard 'Osaka Purple' Mustard 'Ruby Streaks' Mustard 'Southern Giant Curled' Parsley 'Triple Curl' Purslane 'Golden' Rocket Salad Mix - lettuce, chicory, endive, rocket, beetroot, kale, mizuna, mustard, silverbeet & spinach Silverbeet 'Fordhook Giant' Silverbeet 'Perpetual' Silverbeet 'Barese' Silverbeet 'Rainbow Chard' – red, yellow and green Spinach 'Winter Giant' Tatsoi Yukina 'Savoy'	Borage Alyssum 'Mountain Gold' Chamomile German Gillardia 'Lorenziana Double Mixed' Good Bug Mix Love-In-A-Mist 'Persian Jewels Mix' Nasturtium 'Jewel Mix' Poppy 'Shirley Single Flowered Mix' Purple Coneflower 'Echinacea purpurea' Sunflower 'Evening Sun' Sunflower 'Sunbird' Sweet Alice syn Alyssum Sweet Alice syn Alyssum 'Carpet of Snow' Zinnia 'Lilliput Mix' Zinnia 'Scarlet Flame'
			Sprouts Microgreens
			None.
			About ROGI Seeds ROGI sources seeds from Green Harvest in Maleny and from ROGI members who have carefully saved their own seeds. They are organic and guaranteed non-GM. We don't buy seeds from other climate zones. ROGI seed prices are low because: 1. The seeds are packaged in quantities usable by a home gardener before they are unviable. 2. There is no profit margin. 3. There are no labour costs.

Storing your seeds.

Store seed in a sealed container in fridge or cool place - not a garden shed or garage that can reach over 40° in summer. They will die.

In paper bags - they are open to the air and can take up moisture and lose viability.

So, pop the envelopes into glass jars or sealed plastic containers.

Rohanne's Biodynamic Planting Guide.

The best time to sow, propagate or prune in:

November

December

Looking after your soil including adding nutrients, composting, applying horn manure	21st to 30th	17th to 27th
Sowing seeds (refer to relevant plant group below), grafting, plant propagation and foliar feeds, applying horn silica	4th to 14th	1st-3rd, 5th-11th, 28th-31st
Plant and care for fruiting annuals - tomatoes, eggplant, peas, beans	1st-2nd, 8th-10th, 17th-18th, 27th-29th	5th-8th, 14th-16th, 24th-26th
Plant and care for root crops including carrots, beetroot and potatoes	2nd-5th, 10th-12th, 20th-22nd, 29th-30th	7th-9th, 16th-19th, 26th-29th
Plant and care for leafy annuals	6th-8th, 14th-17th, 24th-27th	3rd-5th, 11th-14th, 22nd-24th
Plant and care for flowering annuals	4th-6th, 12th-14th, 22nd-24th	1st-3rd, 8th-10th, 19th-22nd, 28th-30th
Peppers	Apply weed pepper on waxing moon, do not create or apply insect peppers. Apply animal peppers 48 hours before full moon.	
Apply tree paste		Waning moon 20th-31st

Please **return seedling pots (that have been washed)** to the plant table so that they can be reused, especially the small tubes, singles, 4-cell and 10-cell packs like these:



Seed Sowing Guide

November

Asparagus
Beans: Snake, Lab Lab, Pigeon Pea, Madagascar
Beetroot
Capsicum/Chilli
Carrot
Choko
Cucumber
Eggplant
Jerusalem Artichoke
Lettuce
Okra
Pumpkin
Radish
Rockmelon
Rosella
Silver beet
Squash
Sweet corn
Sweet potato
Tomato
Watermelon
Zucchini

December

Asparagus
Beans—Snake, Madagascar, Lablab, Soy, Pigeon pea
Beetroot
Capsicum/Chilli
Carrot
Choko
Cucumber
Eggplant
Jicama
Lettuce
Melon—Honey, Rock, Water
Okra
Pumpkin
Radish
Rosella
Silver beet; other leafy greens
Squash
Sunflower
Sweet corn
Sweet potato
Tomato
Zucchini

Please Note: Cary will be providing some seedlings and other plants for sale. The seedlings are generally a result of viability testing of seeds from the Seed Bank and Seedsavers.

We'd love you to help with this—a good way to become even better at seed-raising!

This guide is for sowing seeds, not seedlings. There may be several days/weeks between the optimal time to sow a seed and to transplant a seedling. Please keep in mind this is only a guide - micro climates and weather conditions may mean that certain seeds may be sown before/after the recommended times. **The ROGI Seed Bank is available at all ROGI meetings and Garden Visits. \$1 pack.**

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PO Box 1257, Cleveland 4163
[www.facebook.com/groups/
redland.organic.growers](http://www.facebook.com/groups/redland.organic.growers)

The views expressed in ROGI News and at ROGI meetings are those of the editors and submitters, and guest speakers, not necessarily those of Redland Organic Growers Inc

Other gardening groups using organic methods:

Brisbane Organic Growers Inc (BOGI)—

1st Thursday every month (except Jan),
Albion Peace Hall, 102 McDonald Rd, Windsor,
6.30 for 7.30pm. 3357 3171 <http://bogi.org.au>

Qld Herb Society—1st Tuesday every month,

Albion Peace Hall. 7.30pm. 54268299
<http://www.qldherbsociety.org.au/qhs>

Oaklands Street Community Garden—Wednesday & Friday 9 - noon, Sunday 2- 5pm. Oaklands Street, Alexandra Hills. 0408 259 445

Meeting Information

Please consider contributing to any of these at various times:

ROGI REWARDS:

Good quality plants and other garden-related items brought along by members. Everyone who attends the meeting is eligible for a ROGI Reward. **Please label plant with its name and some details before placing it on the table.**

MEMBERS' SALES:

Items you've produced that are surplus to your requirements that **you wish to sell** to other members – seedlings, eggs, honey, lemons, jam, sustainable craft items – things that have cost you time, money, and effort to produce. Please make sure items are labelled, named and priced. It is preferable that you staff the stall yourself or time-share with a friend.

FREE SWAP/SHARE/GIVE-AWAY:

For items you don't want payment for— empty pots, cuttings, unwanted volunteer plants (named), surplus produce, shredded paper, strawberry runners and so on. You may want to work out an arrangement with other members to do some swapping outside of the meetings.

PLANT CLINIC:

Bring along your plant problems—insect/plant/weed (as many parts as you can - fruit, leaf, root) in a sealed plastic bag. Fill in the form on the Plant Clinic table (located just inside the door to the main hall) before the meeting starts. Someone will have a look and may be able to answer your questions. Any solutions will be given to you on the night and published in the newsletter. *Please be aware that, although we do our best, there may not be anyone present who can solve your problem or identify your plant, especially if it is not related to organic gardening.*