Articles from the cultivated plants workshop "The cultivated plant names problem: towards a multi-agency solution", 9 September 2009

A plant breeder's perspective
Keith Hammett presents plant names issues from a breeder's viewpoint.

Botanic gardens and horticultural perspectives
David Sole presents plant names issues from a botanic gardens and horticultural viewpoint.

Research perspectives
Peter Heenan and Murray Dawson present plant names issues from a research viewpoint.

The Plants Biosecurity Index (PBI)
Michele Dickson provides an outline of the PBI from a regulators perspective.

Perspectives of the regulatory environment from ERMA
Geoff Ridley provides his perspectives from the Environmental Risk Management Authority.

The New Zealand Organisms Register (NZOR)
Jerry Cooper and Aaron Willton explain this important taxonomic names project.

The New Zealand Notable Trees Trust online database
Brad Cadwallader announces the new notable trees website, database and integrated management system.

From the Editors
This issue focuses on cultivated plants and plant names. Lack of knowledge of which cultivated plants are present in New Zealand hampers biosecurity management as well as horticultural practices and management of living collections. Native and exotic plant collections also have significant cultural and scientific values but there is a lack of co-ordination between the many organisations and groups that use plant names.

These topics were investigated at a workshop on cultivated plants held in Wellington, 9th September 2009. This workshop was funded by TFBIS (Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information System programme) and brought together a wide range of experts who manage cultivated plants and plant names. Articles arising from that workshop are presented here. The first three of these articles present issues surrounding plant names from plant breeder's, botanic gardens, horticultural, and research perspectives; another two are from regulators viewpoints. Moving from issues and constraints, the next three articles present resources that use plant names – the New Zealand Organisms Register project, the RNZIH NZ Notable Trees Trust online database, and BG-BASE for managing plant collections. The accurate recording of cultivar names and origins is important to botanists, plant breeders, the nursery trade, collection managers and garden enthusiasts. Murray Dawson presents Part One of an in-depth account of Leptospermum scoparium (manuka) cultivar names and origins.

We record the passing of Hugh Latimer who was a former Park Director of Cornwall Park Trust Board. Hugh joined the RNZIH in 1962 and was made an Associate of Honour in 1980.

We then feature three books, reviewed by Ross Ferguson, Andrew Maloy and Murray Dawson, and complete this issue by congratulating the winners of the Young Horticulturist of the Year Competition.

Murray Dawson and Andrew Maloy

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The most magnificent family of trees that ever lived: Araucaria
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Fabulous food from Every Small Garden
Edited by Mary Horsfall, reviewed by Andrew Maloy

Natural History of Banks Peninsula
By Hugh Wilson, reviewed by Murray Dawson

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