

# Newsletter



1992  
No. 3  
September

## Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture (Inc.)

### News Release - Loder Cup

**T**he Minister of Conservation, The Hon. Denis Marshall, recently announced that Waikato farmers Gordon and Celia Stephenson of Waotu were to be awarded the Loder Cup for 1992.

The Loder Cup, considered to be New Zealand's Premier conservation award, is awarded annually for the contribution made towards the protection and cultivation of our native plants.

"Gordon and Celia Stephenson have made an outstanding contribution to New Zealand in conservation, farming, and in their local community"

Mr. Marshall said, "The Stephenson's list of achievements in conservation is impressive, but perhaps most significant has been the perspective they have contributed."

"Arriving in New Zealand from England in 1958 Gordon and Celia brought a vision of farmers husbanding the land and resources they worked. They saw the values of the natural environments of the country they had arrived in, in a clearer way than many "locals" and they set out to farm with respect for the environment."

"From this perspective, and their experience protecting and restoring bush remnants on their South Waikato dairy farm, have come a roll call of conservation initiatives and accomplishments."

"While serving as Dairy Section Chairman of Federated Farmers, Gordon developed the concept that became the Queen Elizabeth II National Trust. He served as deputy chairperson of the Trust until 1988 and the first covenant was issued by the Trust to protect two areas of bush on Gordon and Celia's farm."

"In his executive roles with many bodies (including the Trust, Federated Farmers, the Environmental Council, the Lincoln College Council, the Waikato Conservation Board and the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society), Gordon has served to bring a

conservation understanding to the farming community and a pragmatic farming perspective to conservation organisations. As a conservationist/farmer myself, and as Minister of Conservation and Associate Minister of Agriculture, I can personally vouch for the importance of this bridging role if we are to develop a

working understanding of sustainable land use."

"In working on these bodies, Gordon has taken a special interest in the protection of wetlands, culminating in his authorship of the guide "Wetlands-New Zealand's shy places."

"Celia and Gordon Stephenson have made a special contribution to conservation on public bodies and with private actions. They are very worthy recipients of the Loder Cup."

Gerald Loder (later Lord Wakehurst) of Wakehurst Place in Surrey, England, donated the Loder Cup to New Zealand in 1926. The inscription on the cup reads: "Offered to lovers of nature in New Zealand to encourage the protection and cultivation of the incomparable flora of the Dominion". The Cup is awarded annually to the person,

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David Shillito

David Shillito, National Executive member (Portfolio Publications) is currently on sabbatical leave from his position as a tutor at Lincoln University's Department of Horticulture. He is currently undertaking horticultural study at Oregon State University, U.S.A. David's interest is in hazelnut production, nursery and environmental areas in Oregon and the surrounding States.

Oregon State is a major producing area of hazelnuts with an annual production of 18,000 tonnes per year.

David has submitted U.S.A. articles of interest to members which appear in this newsletter.



### A Shapely New Number

Another Gala/Splendour hybrid apple (GS330) has been selected by the New Zealand Apple and Pear Marketing Board for commercialisation.

The fruit has a dark red skin colour, conical shape and is a medium size. A crisp and juicy apple, it has a sweet aromatic flavour with a good acid balance. The trees are vigorous and productive, ensuring high quality fruit on young trees. They have a short harvest period commencing in late February.

For further information contact:  
Mr. Allan White, Hort Products CRI,  
Private Bag, Havelock North.

## News Release

### Loder Cup continued

group of people, or organisation which has excelled all other nominees in furthering the aims and objects of the donor of the Cup.

Gordon Stephenson has taken many active roles in public affairs. Some of the positions he has held include :

National Chairman of the Dairy Section, Federated Farmers;  
 Member of Dominion Exec NZFF;  
 Deputy Chairperson of the QEII National Trust;  
 Fed Farmers rep on the QE II National Trust since its inception;  
 Member of the Lincoln College Council until 1989;  
 Member of the Environmental Council 1977-1988;  
 Convenor of the Environmental Council's Land Use and Wetlands Task Groups;  
 Honorary Fellow of the Inst. of Landscape Architects;  
 Chairman of the Waikato Conservation Board 1990-;  
 Chairman of S. Waikato Branch of Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society 1989-;  
 Member of the Forest and Bird National Executive 1990-;  
 Founder of Advisory Cmtee on the Regional Environment;  
 Convenor of Environmental Council project that led to the publication in 1991 of New Zealand Wetlands, A management Guide by Robert Buxton.

## Andrew Davidson Beddie

1948 Recipient of the Loder Cup

Excerpts from a letter recently received at the R.N.Z.I.H. head office regarding 1948 Loder Cup Winner, Mr. Andrew Davidson Beddie.

Dear Sir,

I was surprised and delighted to receive the History of the Loder Cup 1926-1990. It is a splendid booklet and full of interest, not only to those with a special interest in horticulture, but to all New Zealanders.

Until my father-in-law, Andrew Beddie, received the Loder Cup, I'm ashamed to say that I'd never heard of it, neither did I realise what my father-in-law had accomplished in the field of horticulture.

He was a quiet unassuming sort who spent all his weekends connected with his great love of the out-of-doors and his children included his interests and were most knowledgeable about matters botanical.

I have two of his little publications and will make sure that they are kept safely together with the booklet you sent. I shall see that all his grandchildren know of these publications.

Andrea Beddie

Mr. Beddie sent thousands of rare and semi-rare native species to the Otari Open Air Plant Museum, Wellington, and to botanists and other parks and gardens. In addition to thoroughly botanising the whole of Mount Matthews, Mr. Beddie studied North Cape vegetation and found exceptionally fine specimens of *Pseudopanax* hybrids given to Percy's Scenic Reserve, Petone, and *Gaultheria* hybrids given to Otari

He also studied natural root-grafts, produced some very fine wool dyes from indigenous species, and arranged exhibitions of native plants.



Andrew Davidson Beddie

The Loder Cup Committee hopes to build up an archive relating to the Cup and to the people who have held it over the years. Anyone who has relevant photographs, newspaper clippings, or information they may wish to deposit with this archive is invited to contact: The Secretary, Loder Cup Committee C/- The Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University, Canterbury.

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AUCKLAND Inst & Museum	1937	FISHER, Muriel Ethelwyn	1970	POTTS, Norman	1944
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EAGLE, Audrey	1985	MOLE, Raymond H.	1981	WHANGAREI Forest & Bird	1980
ELDER, Norman L	1954	MOLLOY, Brian P. J.	1990	WILSON, Hugh Dale	1987

**Letters to the Editor**



Dear Sir,

My name is Stefan Karst and I'm 22 years old. I'm a gardener and at the moment I work on the island 'Mainau' on the lake 'Bodensee'. My contract there ends in October of this year and then I would like to work in an English speaking country. I want to get some new impressions and ideas and I also want to train my English language.

I also send you a short personal record. Of course I will send you a more detailed personal record and all other information you need if you tell me.

I would be very happy if you are interested to employ me and I'm looking forward to hearing from you.

Stefan Karst, Ernst-Ludwigstr. 15W  
6555 Badenheim (West) Germany  
Tel: 06701/7170



Dear Sir,

I was quite interested in your two recently published items about the Mexican hand flower, *Chiranthodendron pentadactylon*.

At least 20 years ago I was invited to see a tree in flower on Auckland's North Shore and almost immediately afterwards spotted one on the main highway in East Auckland at Pakuranga. Both were 8-10 metres tall and were prospering on heavy soil.

We subsequently raised some plants but not a lot of gardeners wanted to buy such a large quick growing tree and because it was not spectacular as a flowering tree it was not easy to sell. However our main reason for discontinuing to grow it was our inability to obtain a consistent supply of seeds.

I have written to a Gisborne seed collector today to try to arrange a regular supply from your correspondents John and Heather Dean. We never tried cuttings so have no idea of its propagation vegetatively. I would be interested to hear from any of your readers who may have grown cuttings. I have not stumbled across the tree anywhere else and would be interested to know if any readers have seen it in other countries.

We have another unusual tree growing very well at our nursery, *Peltophorum ferrugineum* but although it has performed well and is now almost 20 it has never flowered. Do any of your readers grow and flower it?

Yours sincerely,



# R.N.Z.I.H. Branch News

## Wellington Branch

### Field Trip

There is a field trip planned for Sunday 4 October. The trip is to native forest remnants on the Kapiti Coast.

We will meet at the carpark on the opposite side of the road to Lindale Farm, north of Paraparaumu. There is a nikau reserve there. 11.00 am is the time to meet. Bring a picnic lunch with you.

Other remnants we'll visit are Hemi Matenga Reserve and Nga Manu and, if time and weather permit, some sites on the Akatarawa Road on the way across to Upper Hutt.

We will have Rob Lucas, one of our Branch members, to wander around with us to describe the various forest formations in these remnants, and discuss plants of particular interest. Rob has a pretty thorough knowledge of this area and has located many interesting specimens while working on a photographic collection.

If the day turns out to be wet, we'll postpone the trip to the following weekend. If it looks doubtful on the day, then phone either Robert Lowe on 556-0997, or Donn Estcourt on 569-9341.

### Chairman Departs

Rob Smith, Chairman of the Wellington Branch, announced at the last meeting of our Branch committee that he has been appointed Curator of the Mount Tomah Botanic Gardens in Australia. Our best wishes go to Rob and his family as they settle in to the new job and locality.

George Rainey  
Wholesale Nurseryman,  
15 Mountain Road, Henderson.



Dear Kewite,

As you know, 1993 is the Centenary of the Guild.

I am proposing to make a trip to New Zealand in February of 1993 and wonder whether it would be possible for Kewites to gather somewhere in celebration of our special year.

Thanks, Rob, for the time you devoted to the Wellington Branch.

### Secretary Departs

The Wellington Branch has lost the services of our Secretary, Jeremy Jackson. Jeremy is moving to Te Kauwhata. We wish Jeremy and his family all the best as they look forward to settling into a new area. And thanks, Jeremy, for time spent carrying out the secretarial duties of the Branch.



## Otago Branch

### Extracts from A.G.M. Minutes

It was agreed that a note of appreciation be given to the following for Sterling Service over past years to the well-being of the RNZIH

Jean Brown  
Robyn Bagley  
Cliff Donaldson

The Institute takes this opportunity of acknowledging the excellent work of these three people.

### Election of Officers :

The following were all elected unopposed :

Chairman: Frank Buddingh  
Secretary: Trevor Wright  
Treasurer: Jolyon Manning  
Committee: Katherine Rhee  
Neville Struthers  
Mick Reece  
Walter Gibson  
Alice Lloyd-Fitt  
Gail Loughrey  
Ewen Cadzow.

I am compiling a video film of various aspects of the preparations, and would bring this with me for viewing at a gathering.

I will be based in Takapuna, Auckland. As an aid to communication could you please send me your telephone or fax number?

Your sincerely,  
GRAHAM BURGESS Dip Hort Kew  
Contact: Graham Burgess,  
Artsapes, Silk Mill House, 24  
Winchester Street, Whitchurch,  
Hampshire, RG28 7AL England.



## Notable and Historic Trees



Since this year's No. 1 Newsletter and mention of Bartram's oaks and the Hillersden Douglas firs there have been thirteen notable trees registered for the Marlborough Campus of the Nelson Polytechnic.

Richard Hart has registered a very large pohutukawa *Metrosideros excelsa* which appears to be larger in girth - but not in height - than the huge Mayor Island pohutukawa. GREAT TREES OF NEW ZEALAND by Burstall and Sale (p.98) mentions it as one of the "tapu trees. Large and historic pohutukawas in the Bay of Plenty area include one of massive girth (12300mm at G.L.) in the Borough Reserve, Pitau Road, Mt. Maunganui. It was of importance to the Maoris. In the early days of European settlement of the district, several skeletons of pre-European origin were found at the base of the tree, in a kneeling position."

As mentioned on p.10 of Newsletter No. 1, Ron Flook has been very busy in the Nelson district preparing data on over thirty notable trees for registration. These trees included :

- 1) English oaks which, in acorn form, were brought to N.Z. in 1853 from Kew Garden by Isaac, the brother of Wakefield's first settler, Edward Baigent.
- 2) Many species - mainly exotic - in the Domain and around St. John's Church, Wakefield.
- 3) Many exotics (including our first register entry of Durmast/sessile oaks) planted by Mr. Arthur Atkinson, circa 1890-, in the grounds of Old Fairfield, Nelson City. Co-incidentally, these were registered in the same month as Alby Elwood-Smith's registration of R.N.Z.I.H.'s oldest and biggest girth Durmast/sessile oak, *Quercus petraea* planted c.1830. This was about the same period as R.N.Z.I.H.'s largest and oldest *Juglans regia* planted by Jack Guard, European discoverer of the entrance to Tory Channel of Marlborough's Queen Charlotte Sound.

Also registered recently was a rare-in-New Zealand 20metre high Osage orange tree *Maclura pomifera* growing at Hahei on the east coast of Coromandel Peninsula. The tree, planted by Robert Wigmore on his second trip from North America to Hahei circa 1875 took its common name from the Osage (Red) Indians

who used the wood for their bows.

T.R.O. Alby Elwood-Smith of Picton was responsible for evaluating the *Eucalyptus globulus* growing alongside State Highway 1 just north of the Hapuku River. This tree is the sole survivor of two rows of trees planted c.1850 beside the original track to the Hapuku River crossing. These probably were the first trees to be planted along the eastern (South Island) coastline.

Our new Tree Registration Officer in Hamilton, D.B. Mackay, helped with the registration of *Rhododendron* x 'Sir Robert Peel' planted circa 1885 at Tamahere. This many-stemmed tree, described by S.W. Burstall as a "remarkable old cultivar" will be the centre of a special ceremony to mark the 47th Conference of the N.Z. *Rhododendron* Association at Hamilton on 28 October. Bruce Mackay also provided valuable assistance for the registration of a 60 year old Tulip tree *Liriodendron tulipifera* growing near the Karakariki Road, west of Hamilton.

Registration 272, a large pohutukawa growing since about 1860 at Oyster Bay, Port Underwood, Marlborough bears a note by Alby Elwood-Smith which is of interest in that it illustrates what appears to have been a growing interest by the early settlers in planting indigenous trees beyond their natural range. "This tree is of historic significance. It was planted by John Guard, eldest son of Jack Guard who discovered Tory Channel in 1827. John Guard's son, Albert, now well over 90 years of age, remembers the tree being large when he was a young boy. The homestead as it is today, is built over and around the original cottage, home of John Guard...."

A.J. Fielding did a good tree-registration job on behalf of the Management Committee of Bush Park, Kai Iwi, by adding the registration of five notable trees to that of the huge rata pictured on the cover of GREAT TREES OF NEW ZEALAND.

N.W. Watson



### Local Authority Concerns

I recently was asked to a meeting with two Tree Registration Officers. Their concern was that although

they had been registering trees for the Notable Tree Scheme, these trees had not been placed on the local authority tree list. This lack of listing went back to 1984. Both owners of trees and the controlling authority have to sign the Notable Tree registration form before our committee will consider the application for registration. Together we met the local authority representative who acknowledged the omission.

It has been usual for local authorities to welcome our work on locating and identifying local trees that are nationally important. Normally a public notice of the registration application is published calling for objections before the registration can be listed locally.

This prompts me to ask how many of our RNZIH Notable Trees do not have this, their only protection, by being recorded on the old District Scheme or now the RMA District Plan.

May we ask any R.N.Z.I.H. member who is concerned for the protection of trees to check their local authority tree list and report any omissions either to their local authority, RNZIH Branch or to the Notable Trees Committee.

We would greatly appreciate your help following this omission. This is possibly the case with other local authorities. RNZIH Notable Tree lists are available for each district or region.

Ron Flook - Convenor  
539 Rocks Road, Tahunanui,  
Nelson Phone/Fax 03 5486539



## Please Note

### D.D. Baker Award

In the last newsletter (April 1992) members will have noticed the announcement of the first D.D. Baker Awards. The award has been established on an annual basis to assist with funding for a broad variety of research or study projects which will contribute to the advancement and benefit of horticulture in New Zealand. In 1992 \$2,400 was awarded. The award is available for suitable projects to applicants who must be either:

- a) Individual financial members of the R.N.Z.I.H.
- b) A group of individual financial members of the R.N.Z.I.H.
- c) A Branch of the R.N.Z.I.H.

The National Executive of the Institute places great importance on the advancement and benefit of horticulture in New Zealand. Applicants must therefore state clearly what the advancement and benefit will be and how they are qualified to discover and promote this.

Each application is judged on its own merits in relation to all other applications made at the time.

#### **CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS 28 FEBRUARY 1993**

It is now time to think about applications.

Full terms and conditions are available on application to:  
The Executive Officer, R.N.Z.I.H.  
P.O. Box 12, Lincoln University  
Canterbury.



### Margaret Watling Scholarship

Details of this Scholarship were included in Newsletter No.4, December 1991.

The purpose of the Margaret Watling Scholarship is to assist amenity or ornamental horticulture students (aged between 19 and 30) to either undertake further study, or to obtain practical experience in amenity horticulture, nursery management or any other closely allied field in the U.K., U.S.A., or Canada.

The value of the award is up to \$5,000 and applications close on 31 March. Application forms and

the full regulations for the Scholarship are available from the Registrar, Lincoln University, Canterbury.



### Horticultural Exhibition



**February 25 to 28, 1993**

As part of the 1993 Floral Festival activities the Canterbury Horticultural Society, in conjunction with the New Zealand Floricultural Federation, will be staging a giant horticultural exhibition, 'FLORAGANZA' in South Hagley Park in February next year. The giant 25m x 60m hoeker marquee has been booked and this will be supplemented by other marquees as required for the four-day exhibition. Initial planning and budgeting has been approved and six committees have been set up to undertake the detail and co-ordination of exhibits, publicity, flower growing, programme and security. Attendance to Floraganza is estimated to exceed 30,000 visitors and publicity already has been launched nationwide and beyond.

Canterbury Horticultural Society Inc.  
P.O. Box 369, Christchurch.  
Phone (03)666-937



### XI International Association of Botanic Gardens Conference

**September 7 - 12, 1993**

**Wuxi, China**

The main theme for the conference will be *Botanic Gardens and National Development*. Plant conservation and the collection of new economic plants will also feature.

Nearest airports to Wuxi are Shanghai or Nanjing. Working language - English.

Enquiries to Conference Secretariat:  
Ms. Sheng Ning, Secretary  
XI International Association of Bot. Gdns. Conference,  
C/o Nanjing Bot. Gdn., Mem. Sun Yat-sen, P.O. Box 1453, Nanjing 210014, Jiangsu Province, China.  
Tel: 431033, 432126  
Fax: 86-25-432074

## The N.Z. Turf Culture Institute and its Involvement in Sports Turf Training

The NZTCI is an independent, industry-funded sports servicing organisation with offices in Auckland, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Christchurch and Dunedin.

Staff service most of New Zealand's major sports turf users, including: all 400 golf clubs; all 700 bowling clubs; all first class cricket venues; over 80% district council-owned venues, school grounds, croquet and tennis courts plus a number of privately owned facilities.

Service to members is by way of on-site visits, field days, seminars and publications.

Our involvement in education includes:

- On-site training of greenkeepers/groundsmen on a one to one basis, in conjunction with our annual visits to clubs.
- Provision of local and national field days and seminars, including: regional bowls seminars, the national sports turf convention and cricket groundsmen symposiums.
- Provision of training seminars for groups such as district council staff.
- Input to short courses run by polytechnics and the Hillary Commission.
- Input to apprenticeship block course training.
- Co-ordination of and examining body for the NZ DIPLOMA IN TURF CULTURE (**Note:** 43 enrolments for the Diploma this year).
- Production of technical information and training manuals e.g. the NZ Turf Management Journal; bowling greenkeepers training manual.
- Input to Massey University's degree programme.
- Overall assistance to greenkeepers/groundsmen groups in developing training systems.

For further information on the services provided by the NZ Turf Culture Institute contact:

The N.Z. Turf Culture Institute, Box 347, Palmerston North. Phone/Fax 06 3568090.

# New Zealand Plant Collection Register

Update #2 by Dr. K.R.W. Hammett

New Zealand is very rich in both native and introduced flora (Webb, Sykes & Garnock-Jones. 1988. Flora of New Zealand. vol. IV.). It is important to know not only which plants are in the country but where they are located and how vulnerable specific taxa might be to loss. This is especially so for introduced plants and for specific cultivars since the source of such germplasm, both wild and cultivated, is being rapidly eroded in some areas and is being made unavailable from others. N.Z. has already proven itself to be a "Noah's Ark" for some plants and cultivars.

The Plant Collection Group of the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture is attempting to build up a register of plant collections, of all sizes, held in New Zealand.

Such a register is essential and will have many uses. It will be of value to nurserymen and gardeners seeking plants new to their range. It will offer the opportunity to avoid the reintroduction of germplasm already in the country, thus reducing the risks of importing further pests and diseases and the intricacies and delays of quarantine. Plant breeders will see such a list as a guide to available germplasm for breeding programmes. However, its most important purpose will be as a guide to the vulnerability of each species or cultivar. Clearly if plants are grown widely they are much less likely to be lost than if only a few specimens exist in one or a few collections.

The register will never be complete as plant holdings change constantly. However, it is hoped that now it has been started it will prove to be a focal point and enthusiasts will see gaps and will help to keep it as up to date as possible.

Small collections are as valuable as large ones. In fact taxa may be safer distributed in a mosaic of many small collections rather than concentrated in a few large ones. Don't consider your collection too small to list. You may be the sole holder of a particular plant. Unless it is listed no one knows. Following a limited distribution of the initial register, (see Newsletter No. 1/2 1992) individuals have pointed to unlisted collections and these have been added to the register, in some cases without, "as yet", direct contact with the holder.

At this stage the register is best seen as an informal working list rather than an authoritative one. It is currently only an index to collections rather than individual plants. At this stage some collection owners have indicated that they would be happy to have details of their holdings widely publicised, while others have opted for more limited disclosure.

Some groups such as the Herb Federation have already done much valuable work and have started to publish lists of plants held in various collections. Those collections detailed in the Herb Federation of New Zealand publication "Individual Plant Collections" (1991) are indicated by the sign [2] in this update.

Similarly, Marion MacKay has produced the valuable publication "A survey and evaluation of the distribution of selected exotic tree genera in private collections in New Zealand" (1990) in association with the New Zealand members of the International Dendrology Society. The seventeen genera dealt with in this study are indicated by the sign [1]. At this time, no attempt has been made to detail in the register separately the 33 collections covered by Marion's survey.

The important work carried out on individual trees over many years by S.W. Burstall must not be overlooked and should be seen as an adjunct to the register.

I am continuing to get very enthusiastic support for this venture and information is coming in almost daily, consequently anything we put out at this stage will soon be somewhat out of date. I will aim to produce an update at 3 or 6 month intervals. There has been tremendous support for the register to date from people who hold or know of collections, but the end result will only be as good as the support obtained. If anyone is aware of collections that are not included, please contact Dr. Keith Hammett, 488c Don Buck Rd. Massey, Auckland 8.

The following list of collections comprises those included in the N.Z. Plant Collection Register Update #2 and therefore were **not** listed in the R.N.Z.I.H. Newsletter No. 1/2 April 1992. It is hoped to publish a booklet on the register in 1993.

Generic Collections			Theme Collections
Abies	Fragaria	Pinus	Bonsai
Acca	Fraxinus	Podocarpus totara	Bromeliad Collection
Actinidia	Galanthus	Populus	Climbing Plants
Aesculus	Gunnera	Pyrus (2)	Early Exotics
Agathis australis	Hardenbergia	Rosa (2)	Forage Plants
Alnus	Hosta	Rubus	Heritage Roses
Begonia (2)	Humulus	Salix	Iris Internat. cvs Historic Sig (2)
Bergenia	Ilex	Solanum muricatum	NZ Natives Divaricating
Chamaecyparis obtusa	Jasminium	Thunbergia	Ornamental Conifers
Convallaria	Juniperus	Tilia	Soil Conservation Collection
Cordyline	Kennedy	Trillium	South American Plants
Cyathea (Fisher)	Lonicera	Vitis	Themed Gardens
Dacrydium cupressinum	Olea	Wisteria	Water Plants
Dendranthema	Pandorea	Zantedeschia	Woodland Plants
Dianthus (2)	Parthenocissus		
Dicksonia	Passiflora		
Diospyros	Persea		
Fagus	Picea		

## Top Turf for Top Sports Waikato Polytechnic Shows the Way

HAMILTON (May) When commentator Geoff Boycott took television cameras down to examine cricket pitches at the grass roots during the World Cup he helped fuel New Zealanders' demands for sports grounds of a high standard.

"Television coverage of top line sport and its following is making sports people more competitive and even everyday people are looking for a higher standard in their sports grounds," says Waikato Polytechnic tutor Wyne Johns, a sports turf specialist.

Boycott's pitch prodding was familiar territory for Ms. Johns who has studied the best at the grass roots - cricket's hallowed turf, Lords, and that of tennis, on Wimbledon's centre court.

She has a masters degree in amenity horticulture and formerly lectured on turf and amenity horticulture in Britain. Ms. Johns immigrated to New Zealand and The Waikato Polytechnic 15 months ago.

"The amenity industry has got to look at better care and maintenance of sports grounds and to do that they need training. There is a huge need. There are 450 golf courses in New Zealand alone plus all the

local authorities who operate sports facilities for the public."

Few grounds staff have had any formal training, learning mostly from books and sales reps, she says.

"A lot of golf clubs, particularly, have staff who have never had any training. Most people have learnt on-the-job."

Since arriving at Waikato Polytech, Ms. Johns has made contact with numbers of people in the turf industry to discuss what they require. As a result the first course has been a week-long basic course which will be repeated during the year. Others to follow will be a five-day intermediate course, two workshops at an advanced level and some one-day workshops.

She says the people who attended the first course, drawn from Taupo to Auckland, were very enthusiastic. "They said if I wanted to run another week right then they would stay on."

In December the year's programme will be reviewed in preparation for 1993. Waikato Polytech's Department of Agriculture and Horticulture is planning a three-year diploma course which will be offered as a national qualification.

Ms. Johns has many examples of the ways that fine sports turf has a vital role in such games as cricket, golf, tennis, bowls and croquet.

"Preparing a cricket wicket is a very technical business. It can take 12 months to get it right," she says.

"There is a drainage pad underneath, with layers of varying size media, then a clay cover and grass sown on top of that. Three days before play the grass is stripped off. The whole purpose of the grass is for its roots to hold the clay so you get the right sort of bounce to provide an interesting game.

"In the outfield the groundsman's role is to keep the weeds out. You can get a good grip on grass when you run but hit a flat weed running for the catch of the game and you could slide and miss it. A piece of plantain could lose the game.

For further information contact: Wyne Johns, Tutor, Agriculture and Horticulture Department, The Waikato Polytechnic, Hamilton Phone (07) 834 8848



### Lottery Grant Sought

The Forestry Research Institute has made application to the Lottery Science Research Fund to survey and reassess trees listed in Burstall's North Island Notable Trees Survey carried out 30 years ago.

The RNZIH has been registering trees of national interest on a Notable Tree register. We have as a voluntary organisation registered over 2000 trees throughout NZ and with a grant from the Lottery Grant Board have computerised our records. We have drafted a NZ Handbook of Notable Trees. Our aim is to publicise the value of these trees to New Zealanders, tourists, local authorities, and as a casebook for legal purposes. Our work has also led us to develop a Tree Evaluation Method which is used widely by local authorities.

We believe that the FRI would provide a much needed review of Mr. S.W. Burstall's work 1969-1972. This funding would be most beneficial for the conservation of the Notable Trees of New Zealand

### Prize for Certificate in Horticultural Theory Performance

This year saw the sponsorship by Watkins Home & Garden Products Ltd., of a prize for the best performance by a student in the RNZIH Certificate in Horticultural Theory examinations.

Ms. Josie Mannington of Kumeu was awarded the Watkins Home and Garden Products Prize for her achievement in completing the RNZIH Certificate in Horticultural Theory with the best overall record. The Certificate in Horticultural Theory consists of eight subjects plus one optional subject as follows

1. Horticultural Botany
2. Plant Pests & Disorders
3. Soil Properties & Processes
4. Horticultural Practices
5. Plant Classification
6. Weed Control & Hort Chemicals

7. Soil Management
8. Horticultural Plant Science
9. Amenity Horticulture Principles or Fruit Production Principles or Vegetable Production Principles or Nursery Production Principles or Floriculture Prod. Principle

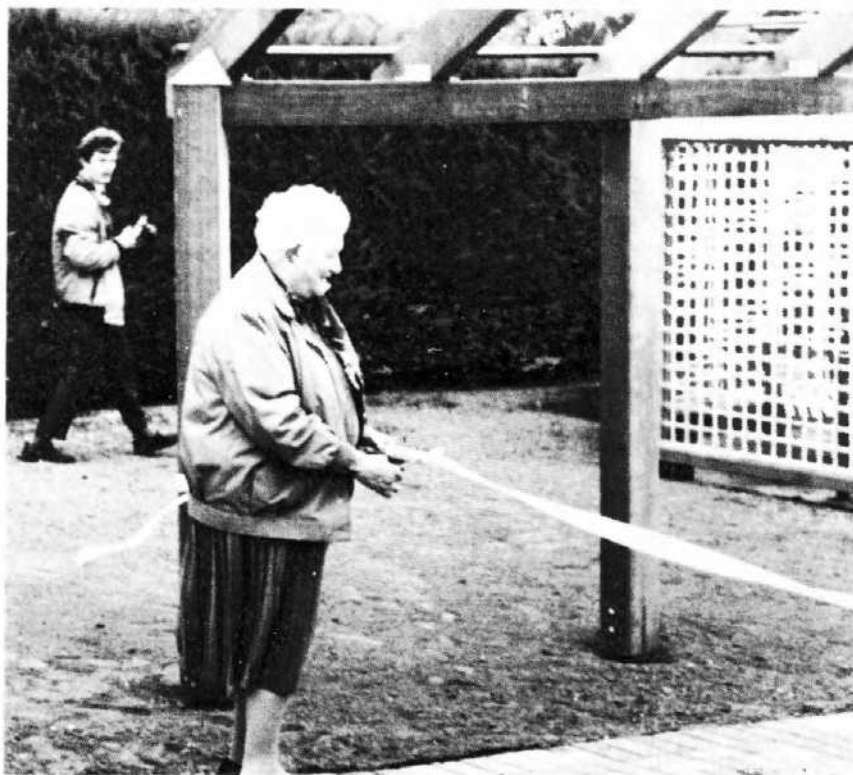
Josie completed all nine subjects in one year with excellent results in each subject. An award ceremony was recently arranged at Watkins Home & Garden Products Ltd, Wiri, to present Josie with her prize of Watkins products. Mr. Rodger Price representing RNZIH presented Josie with her prize in association with Mr. Neil Aston of Watkins.

## Dedication to the Memory of Hugh Redgrove

Mr. George Rainey welcomed the gathering to the ceremony and introduced Mrs. Mary Redgrove and Mr. Doug Armstrong, Chairperson of the Regional Parks Committee.

Mr. Rainey spoke of Hugh Redgrove as having been a man admired and respected as a plantsman who had a wonderful knowledge of plants. Hugh was involved with many societies sharing his wealth of knowledge about plants. There was a treasure of memories to recall and recollect. He had been a keen photographer and had edited "A Handbook of Bulbs and Perennials" which was published after his death. A few years ago he was honoured with a Q.S.M. The Arbour at the entrance to the Perennial Garden was dedicated to Hugh Redgrove and some of his favourite plants would in time produce a fine show.

Mr. Peter Redgrove responded to the dedication and said that it was his pleasure and duty to reply on behalf of the family to thank everyone concerned for the Arbour in remembrance of his father, who was fortunate to have a passion and be devoted to gardening. His father had built up a knowledge over the years which he exchanged and passed on to beautify and create.



*Mrs. Mary Redgrove officially opens the Hugh Redgrove Memorial Entry Arbour to the Perennial Gardens*

Mr. Doug Armstrong mentioned that it had been an honour to meet Mary and Hugh Redgrove some years ago and had been shown the garden at Oratia. In fact on the garden show on TV the day before there had been a reference to Hugh Redgrove and this had seemed very fitting with the dedication on the same weekend. Mr. Armstrong once again thanked all concerned for their efforts in this fine tribute to Hugh Redgrove. Mrs. Mary Redgrove was invited to cut the ribbon and the gathering then moved into the Perennial Garden before strolling up to the Logan Campbell Building for welcome refreshments on this chilly afternoon.

From Friends of the Botanic Gardens Newsletter.

*The R.N.Z.I.H. National Executive agreed to a contribution towards the cost of this Memorial Arbour in recognition of Hugh Redgrove's work.*

## Collection of Plant Material

from the Department of  
Conservation Estate

The R.N.Z.I.H. was recently asked to make a submission on the collection of plant material from land administered by the Department of Conservation. A policy paper has been produced by DOC and recommends the RNZIH be one of the bodies giving approval to applicants.

### Background

1. Collection of plant material from land administered by the Department, whether for scientific, horticultural or management purposes, is currently authorised only on a case-by-case basis.

2. At a Threatened Plant Symposium held in July 1991, the attending amateur and professional botanists, DOC staff and plant propagators recommended that a blanket permit system for bona fide botanists, horticulturists and managers be instituted, with provision for reporting back of information on species and localities involved.

3. Much of the work of botanists and horticulturists and managers involves the collection of plant species, whether it be voucher specimens for records and identification purposes, or cuttings and seeds for propagation. Because of the perceived difficulties and delays in gaining permits much of this work is currently carried out without authorisation.

4. Promotion of a simplified permit system for bona fide botanists, horticulturists and managers will have benefits in discouraging the illegal collection of whole plants from the wild, and provides the possibility of encouraging the planting of local stock.

5. Much of the longer-term work involving revegetation rehabilitation of habitat and



### Collection of Plant Material continued

ecosystems, and planting of native species for landscape purposes often depends on the co-operation and expertise of private nursery growers for the production of large volumes of material.

#### New Procedure

Applicants can apply for a blanket permit for twelve months and need to supply the following information:

- location of the proposed work
- experience in plant collection in the wild
- purpose of collection
- specific use or end use of material

Successful applicants have to submit a report at the end of the period, documenting what they collected and where.

Not included under a blanket authority will be a list of threatened species, plus plants growing in protected areas for which an entry permit is required.

The RNZIH supports the freeing up of the permit system and believes it will help ensure bona fide collectors are able to collect material whilst discouraging illegal collection. It needs to be recognised, however, that botanic gardens and plant propagators have an important role to play in the conservation of threatened species and that they should be included in any recovery plans and allowed to collect material from threatened species provided certain conditions are satisfied.

## Green Skinned Kiwifruit



One of the objectives in the DSIR Fruit & Trees kiwifruit breeding programme is to produce a range of novel fruit types.

Recently an interesting selection has been made from a seedling population grown at DSIR Fruit & Trees Riwaka Research Station. (Now Hort. Products C.R.I.)

Owing to its unique features, it is currently being evaluated for commercial acceptability by the New Zealand Kiwifruit Marketing Board. This selection has a distinctive green skin, is hairless and has an average fruit weight of 80g.

It has a good flavour, good shape, lack of flat fruit and a high yield potential. Also it reaches harvest maturity three weeks earlier than the commercial cultivar 'Hayward', thereby complementing the present commercial harvest season. However, it does have a delicate skin which is easily marked or damaged at harvest.

The plant was derived in two steps from a cross made in 1982/1983 between *Actinidia arguta*, a species with smooth green hairless fruit and the kiwifruit, *Actinidia deliciosa*. One of the plants produced was selected in 1985/86 for back crossing to *Actinidia deliciosa*.

A small population was raised from this backcross and one plant, even as a two year old seedling, showed commercial potential. One hundred vines were therefore grafted over to this green skinned hybrid in the spring of 1989 and grown as a close planted block. Three years from grafting, these plants are yielding in excess of 6,000 export trays/ha of fruit, predominantly in the size range of 36 to 46 count (74 to 106g).

The 1992 harvest season has just been completed. It was the first season in which sufficient fruit was available for post harvest trials to look at the correct harvest time, appropriate storage temperatures and storage life. Management of the vines is also being studied. These current trials and evaluations will help decide the fate of the 'green skinned kiwifruit'.

For further information please contact : Dr. Ron Beatson, Hort. Products C.R.I., Riwaka Research Station, RD3, Motueka, Tel:0-3-528 7813 or Dr. Alan Seal Hort. Products C.R.I., Te Puke Research Orchard, RD2, Te Puke, Tel:0-7-573 8013

From DSIR Fruit & Trees publication 'Talking' Issue No. 6

## Gardens for the Last Frontier: The Alaska Botanical Garden

From American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. July 1992

This month the Alaska Botanical Garden will officially break ground, fulfilling a 10-year dream of developing a botanical garden for Alaska.

A 110-acre site within the Far North Bicentennial Park, was selected, a 5,000-acre, undeveloped community area on the edge of town.

In 1988 a Conceptual Master Plan presented to the Parks and

Recreation Department was approved, and an official land use agreement was signed.

The long-term Master Plan for the site was broken into three development zones; a 25-acre formal garden zone, a 40-acre circumpolar collection and a 35-acre native plant preserve.

The formal garden zone will feature parking, a visitor centre, an outdoor classroom, a nursery, experimental station and over 10 acres of formal gardens.

The circumpolar collection will feature plants from other areas of the world with climates similar to that of Anchorage. To help visitors understand their unique ecosystems, the plants will be displayed in their natural habitats.

The Alaska Native Collection will display plants from the major

habitats including Tiaga interior forest, coastal zone, subalpine, alpine, black spruce bogs, treeless bogs and marshes.

Labelled our "50-year plan," these ambitious plans will take considerable effort, time and money to achieve. A more attainable plan has been developed for the first five years of construction. Development will include 1,500 feet of interpretive trails and signage, a perennial garden, visitor kiosk, entry garden, nursery area, rose garden, edible garden, winter garden and display garden. A budget of \$200,000 has been established with over \$100,000 already funded.

The above article submitted by National Executive member, David Shillito, who is currently working in Corvallis, Oregon.

## Books from Timber Press, Inc.

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Portland, OR 97225-9962

### Forestry

Seeds of Woody Plants  
Timberland Investments  
A Portfolio Perspective  
The Pines of Mexico and Central America  
Wildlife-Habitat Relationships in Forested Ecosystems  
Global Forest Resources  
Maintaining the Long-Term Productivity of Pacific Northwest Forest Ecosystems  
Community Stability in Forest-Based Economies  
Foothills for Food and Forest  
Adventitious Root Formation in Cuttings  
Manual of Cultivated Broad-Leaved Trees and Shrubs, Volumes I, II, III  
Handbook of Weed and Insect Control Chemicals for Forest Resource Managers  
The Healing Forest  
The Economics of Forestry: Modern Theory & Practice  
Process Modeling of Forest Growth Responses to Environmental Stress  
Trees of Georgia and Adjacent States  
Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs Hardy in North America  
Manual of Cultivated Conifers  
Timber: Its Structure, Properties and Utilization  
Grazing in Temperate Ecosystems, Large Herbivores and the Ecology of the New Forest  
Reference Manual of Woody Plant Propagation. From Seed to Tissue Culture  
Practical Woody Plant Propagation for Nursery Growers, Volume I  
Grazing Management, An Ecological Perspective  
Conifers, Second Edition

### Botany & Plant Sciences

Green Plants, Their Origin and Diversity  
The Unity of Evolutional Biology  
Islands, Plants, and Polynesians  
The Sacred Mushroom Seeker  
Weeds of Woody Plants in North America  
Isozymes in Plant Biology  
Phytoarchaeology  
Leonardo da Vinci on Plants and Gardens  
Glossary of Plant Tissue Culture  
Adventitious Root Formation in Cuttings  
The Evolution and Palaeobiology of Land Plants  
Manual of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs Hardy in North America  
Serpentine and its Vegetation

Plantae Wilsonianae  
Computer Graphics in Biology  
Botany for Gardeners  
Gray's Manual of Botany 8th Edition  
Modelling in Behavioural Ecology  
Bulbs  
Trees of Georgia and Adjacent States  
Microfungi on Miscellaneous Substrates  
How to Identify Flowering Plant Families  
A Functional Biology of Crop Plants  
Soil-Plant Relationships  
Orchid Biology  
The Pines of Mexico and Central America  
Manual of Cultivated Broad-Leaved Trees and Shrubs Volumes I, II, III

## HortResearch is Here

After a sustained effort by the horticultural industry and by horticultural scientists we now have an Institute of the sort envisaged by the Minister of Research, Science and Technology, Mr. Simon Upton, some 18 months ago. HortResearch is here.

The Institute will combine the scientific expertise of MAF Technology, DSIR Plant Protection and DSIR Fruit & Trees. The purpose of the new organisation is to work with New Zealand's fastest growing industry - *horticulture* - and to assist it to develop and enhance its competitive advantages.

Existing contracts with MAF and DSIR will be honoured and it is intended that a better and more cost-effective service will be offered to our clients.

The Institute will be funded in the main from public good science funds. Scientific research and technology development will be at the leading edge of scientific achievement, but at the same time will be developed to meet the commercial needs of the industry. The international standing of the parent organisations will be maintained and developed to ensure that New Zealand can benefit from an inflow of information from the international science community. Technology transfer will be a major theme of the Institute with strong linkages being developed with extension services throughout the country.

Dr. James A. McWha BSc  
BAgr(Hons), PhD  
Chief Executive Officer

## Stop Press !

I am in Australia on a working holiday visa and will be travelling to New Zealand in October of this year. As a graduate Biologist with relevant experience in varying biological fields, I am keen to continue my career in this field when I return to the United Kingdom.

I am interested in working in a botanical garden during my stay in New Zealand to further my knowledge and experience. I am willing to do any type of work and will be available from October 1992.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,  
Maxine Clark.

### Personal Details

Name: Maxine Clark  
Address: 52 Endeavour Drive,  
Seaford Rise,  
Adelaide SA 5169

Tel: (08) 327 0639

Date of Birth: 19 January 1969

### Qualifications

1991 B.Sc.Hons. Degree in Marine Biology, University of Liverpool, U.K.

### Experience:

May 1988-Jan 1989:  
Chestnut Centre (Conservation and Educational Centre) Maintenance of nature trails, care of animals (otters and birds of prey), assistance of educational and outdoor pursuit activities.

Oct 1989-April 1990:  
Clearwater Ltd. Kirk Michael, Isle of Man  
General husbandry of trout and salmon. Sorting and spawning of trout during one season.

April 1990-Oct 1990:  
Isle of Man Government Fish Hatchery  
River surveys: assessing water quality using biological sampling (invertebrates) and chemical, physical qualities, writing reports.

Jun 1991-Sept 1991:  
Port Erin Marine Laboratory, Port Erin, Isle of Man  
Research assistant - environmental freshwater and marine survey work and organising marine studies at local school.

# A Marketing Plan to Sell Trees/Plants

## A unique marketing strategy: sell trees to fund raising groups.

A knock at the door gets you up off the sofa, and you grumble as you reach for the door knob. At the door is a Boy or Girl Scout, or a neighbour who is selling candy, cookies, or raffle tickets to raise funds for his or her organisation. The last thing you want is a candy bar, but then the last thing you want is to disappoint someone who is trying to raise money for a worthy cause. But how would you feel if that person offered you a plant instead of a candy bar?

One Salem, Oregon, nursery is banking on the idea that selling plants is more environmentally friendly than selling candy bars or cookies, that consumers would be willing to shell out a few dollars to help a good cause - and buy a shade tree.

Bill Lewis of Lew's/Lakeshore Nursery Inc. has formed a subsidiary of his nursery to do just that. Lewis' plan is simple: grow some extra seedlings and market the one-year-old bareroot trees to groups to sell as fund raising merchandise. The three to four-foot high trees come packaged with their roots wrapped in a plastic bag, and the trees are tagged with labels explaining what species they are and how to plant them.

Lewis began the programme about six months ago. He estimates the nursery has sold about 2,000 trees to date. Response, he says, is not of a great magnitude but good nonetheless.

The nursery grows and sells wholesale about two to three million deciduous tree seedlings yearly, spread among 26 varieties. The nursery is a second generation farm that began 25 years ago as Lew's Nursery.

Lewis says he came up with the idea of marketing his seedling trees to groups when he noticed the fund raising efforts of his church league and small schools.

"I started talking with people in various fund raising groups and parents," he says. Many were concerned about selling junk food in the first place. Being a nursery stock grower, Lewis saw a connection: "Why couldn't a tree be sold to a fund raiser," he says, "and we asked, why couldn't we do it ourselves?"

Once Lewis hit upon this idea he developed a marketing plan to implement the programme. The plan works like this: The nursery does not sell the trees directly to consumers but to groups that want to use the trees as a fund raising mechanism. The minimum order is 100 trees. Typically a group will compile pledges for the trees from the public and then place an order with Lewis.

The appeal of selling a plant, a tree in this case, is that it can be marketed as an environmental and aesthetic benefit, unlike cookies, popcorn or candy. Indeed, the nursery's promotional literature implores that it is "a new idea in fund raising that is earth friendly."

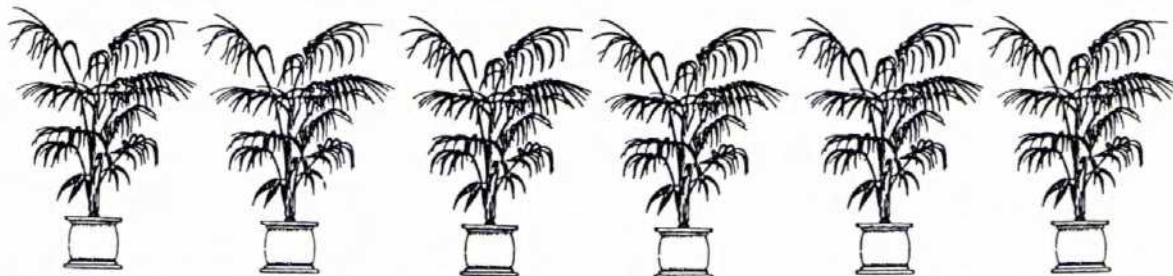
"The parents seem to like the idea because the kids are getting away from junk foods," Lewis says. Each season the nursery plans to sell a different tree species to keep interest high. For example, this spring the nursery is selling European Birch, and in the fall it plans to sell Japanese Maples.

The nursery established a computer database that contains about 6,000 names of schools, religious groups and non-profit organisations - all potential customers. These groups have been targeted through letters and phone calls. Also the nursery put together an information and order portfolio that can be handed to potential customers. The nursery does not plan to stop there. Organisations such as music, ballet and theatre groups may be potential markets to approach. Next, the nursery plans to target the local Parent Teacher associations by participating in a trade show aimed at these groups.

Lewis believes he has created a new market for selling shade trees apart from the traditional wholesale business. He claims to have found a niche market that to his knowledge no other wholesale or retail nurseries are involved in. In all he expects sales to be modest, perhaps someday reaching about \$50,000 in direct sales groups throughout the U.S.

*From "The Digger" March 1992*

*Published by The Oregon Association of Nurserymen Inc.*



## Poplar Tree Wins Reprive

by Suzanne Chetwin

A black poplar tree in Military Road, Lower Hutt ordered to be pruned back by one-third, is now

considered of national significance. The tree had been wrongly listed for preservation as an elm, but the listing was removed because elm trees were considered common.

Owner Pamela Newsome was taken to Lower Hutt District Court four years ago by a neighbour who wanted the tree felled or pruned. She said the court ordered her to reduce it by one-third. She appealed, but the hearing has been adjourned twice, partly because the neighbour who took the action has shifted.

Last year the Notable Trees Committee wrote to the council asking for the tree to be included in the District Scheme, which lists trees worthy of preservation.

Mrs. Newsome said few large trees existed in the Hutt and the poplar was special to her family and neighbours.

The Notable Trees Committee has assessed the tree and says any significant pruning would mean the loss of a nationally important tree and a significant asset to the local landscape. It has recommended neighbouring beech and cabbage trees also be retained.

A report to last night's Hutt City Council meeting, following an earlier planning hearing said the black poplar was previously listed incorrectly.

The council voted to advertise its

intention to list the tree as being important to the urban environment and of national significance. Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture tree registrar Wilf Watson told The Post the tree was probably about 100 years old. He put a plaque on it six months ago registering it as a notable tree. Mrs. Newsome, meanwhile, has said she is delighted with the decision. It is considered to be the third largest (and **only** *P.nigra*) of the four poplars in the R.N.Z.I.H. Notable Trees register. (W. Watson)



## Japanese Vegetables take on NZ Flavour

New Zealand is beginning to export Kiwi-grown Japanese vegetables back to Japan.

Crop and Food Research has been researching the viability of growing two particular Japanese vegetable delicacies, wasabi and myoga, at Ruakura for the past seven years. The export-oriented programme, led by Mr. Jim Douglas, now knows that high quality crops can be grown here but their profitability is less certain as insufficient crop has been grown on a commercial scale.

However, Mr Douglas is confident NZ grown wasabi and myoga will be added to our growing list of exports. "This is a major opportunity for NZ growers to diversify into high-value crops.

"We have shown that it is possible to grow these crops in New Zealand but we now have to find ways of optimising production."

Mr. Douglas said the produce already grown had been test marketed in Japan and was considered up to standard. Those who frequent Japanese restaurants in NZ will salivate at the mention of wasabi, used primarily as a condiment with raw fish. The plant, which grows up to 50cms tall bears broad shiny green leaves, on a short stem, which is gathered fresh and processed into the distinctive green paste. Mr. Douglas: "It's the Japanese equivalent of Colmans mustard and is very sought after, especially in its fresh state".

But there is no quick turnaround with wasabi crops taking up to 18 months to mature. For the fresh market, wasabi is best grown in cold running water on a gravel bed. The South Island has been earmarked as an ideal location.

A perennial member of the mustard family, the harvested stems of wasabi can keep up to a month allowing plenty of time for re-export to Japan where the stems may be grated for fresh use.

Wasabi grown in soil is more likely to be used in paste product, thus also presenting a Kiwi manufacturing opportunity. Developing wasabi here, though, has not been without its problems. New Zealand's often harsh ultra-violet rays leave wasabi suffering from sunburn so overhead shading is needed.

Mr. Douglas has also been studying the viability of myoga ginger and is again encouraged by research so far.

*From Crop & Food Research Digest, Issue One: Winter 1992*

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