

FNQ Wildlife Rescue Assoc. Inc.

(Established 1994)



**Caring for the region's native wildlife.
Wildlife carers are all volunteers.
Tax deductible donations appreciated.
New members welcome.**

Tel: 07 4053 4467 (24 hrs)

Email: fnqwr@bigpond.com



Tree Roo Rescue and Conservation Centre Ltd

We are a non-profit organisation that rescues and rehabilitates, orphaned, injured or displaced tree kangaroos.

Unfortunately an increasing number of Lumbholtz tree kangaroos are being killed by dogs and hit by cars each year.

Please donate to us and the money will go directly towards treating and caring for these beautiful animals.

Many of our rescued injured tree kangaroos



Donate now and help us care for tree roos today

www.treeroorecue.org.au

Visit us on 



Kuranda Village Accountancy
Certified Practising Accountant

Next to The Professionals in the Kuranda Settlement Building
Locally owned and operated by Fay Allen BCom CPA

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Phone 4093 8222 Fax 4093 8794

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kuranda envirocare inc.

Caring for Kuranda's Environment

"by standing on the shoulders of those who've gone before"

Nursery: 284 Myola Rd, Mon & Thu 9am-1pm, Sat 10-noon, ph: 4093 8989 / 4093 8393

Yellow Crazy Ants will affect your hearing

By Cathy Retter

Walk out into your nearest piece of rainforest and listen to the numerous sounds. Sometimes it's deafening. Then try to imagine it almost silent (perhaps wake up at 2.00am and listen). This silent bush is the sound of the Christmas Island bush now, where YCAs have been since the 1930s. Their bush has been utterly altered by the impact of Yellow Crazy Ants, and they almost lost their keystone species, the Christmas Island crab.

Imagine our forests if we were to lose our keystone species, the cassowary, and think of the horror of losing all the species in the Endemism Book (below), due to swarms of Yellow Crazy Ants. This is the reality that awaits us if we fail to eradicate the YCAs in our Wet Tropics.

Biodiversity Queensland tried but did not achieve eradication and abandoned the project. A team of volunteers has arisen to show that people care. Thankfully Wet Tropics Management Authority also cares and has dedicated funds to YCA eradication both here and in Edmonton. Green Army teams are helping out too.

In December, a survey of the river banks downstream of the Russett Park infestation, led by Dr Ray Pierce checking for YCAs, thankfully found none. YCAs in Cairns have travelled well down creek lines in the Edmonton area.

Last Saturday and Sunday, twenty volunteers braved the heat and attended the YCA baiting weekend, led by Russett Park YCA taskforce volunteer coordinator Mikhaila Jacoby and Chris from Wet Tropics Management Authority. Baits were dispersed for the YCAs, which are currently seeking protein and just love the fish meal coated baits containing a formula to sterilise the queen when she is fed enough of it. Monitoring will follow fortnightly throughout the year. Hopefully we will see a dramatic decline in numbers.

We need more volunteers of all talents if we are to win this fight. Join the YCA volunteer taskforce, receive newsletter updates and activity invitations, by going to Kuranda Envirocare Home page and clicking on the image of the Yellow Crazy Ant.

Native fauna living only in the Wet Tropics

Book Sale: \$30 each

Eternal Endemism – The Wet Tropics Endemic Terrestrial Vertebrates of Australia by Craig Ward with Tim Hawkes

This beautiful book with full colour plates lists all the species of birds, frogs, geckos and skinks which live only in our Wet Tropics region. With the threat of Yellow Crazy Ants at present, this is what we stand to lose if these invasive ants take over. This makes a great birthday gift for any of your wildlife loving friends. Come and view a copy at the nursery.

Plant of the Month

Melastoma malabathricum

(Native Lasiandra) – Available now

Native Lasiandra is a fast growing rounded shrub that grows to two metres high, with beautiful lilac flowers to five cm across, flowering from Spring to Autumn. It has attractive rough textured leaves, and purple stems, making it an ideal feature plant that can be pruned if required. Even when not in flower, the compact shape, attractive leaves and purple stems make this plant a worthy garden feature plant.

Native Lasiandra attracts the Miskin Jewell Butterfly. The purple pulp of the fruit (traditional bush tucker) stains the mouth, hence the other common name for *Melastoma malabathricum*: Blue Tongue.



The beautiful *Commersonia bartramia* (Bush Xmas tree or Brown kurrajong) is worth a mention at present with its beautiful white layers of flowers in full bloom in January. To see this, take a look opposite the Kuranda Rainforest Resort on the Kennedy Highway near the traffic lights.

Date Claimers

- Thursday 4 February: General Meeting 7.00pm @ KRC, Fallon Road.
- Saturday 13 February: Community Tree Planting @ Owens Creek
- EVERY Saturday: Tree Planting 7.30am
- Frog Monitoring dates in the 3rd week of every month. Find us on facebook page Kuranda Frog Friendly Neighbourhood.

BOX TRAILER HIRE: Contact HANS 4093 8393

Give a gift that keeps growing, through our local Grow Project.

www.envirocare.org.au www.facebook.com/KurandaEnvirocare/info

