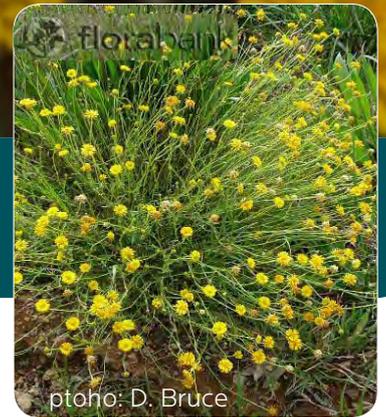


Calotis lappulacea



Calotis lappulacea is a much-branched leafy and somewhat hairy perennial forb, to 50 cm high, with a woody base and a thick tap-root [4]. Its common name is Yellow Burr-Daisy or Mallee Burr-Daisy [4].

Population map:
www.ala.org.au/explore/species-maps/

Natural Populations

Calotis lappulacea occurs in all mainland states [5]. It is widespread on a range of soil types and grows in sclerophyll woodlands, pastures [5] and grasslands [11] in full sun to light shade [8].

(a) photo: M. Fagg



Flowering and Seeds

C. lappulacea carries masses of bright yellow, globular flowers for many months of the year [4, 5, 7]. After flowering the plants develop round burr-like seed heads that turn brown when ripe [6, 7]. The seed heads should be broken up into individual seeds before sowing [1].

C. lappulacea seeds are animal-dispersed by adhesion [8]. Some graziers find that the burrs are a problem when caught up in wool [7].

To source seeds or plants:
www.grassywoodlands.org.au

Cultivation and Uses

Most species of *Calotis* genus are easily grown from seed, however some may have poor results. Seed is usually quick to germinate [2] but some dormancy of fresh seed has been reported [8].

C. lappulacea is easily grown from cuttings or by layering [2]. It resprouts after fire [8].

As forage the plant is not as acceptable to stock as many of the cool-season annual grasses

and forbs, nevertheless it is quite palatable and is usually regarded as useful feed. The "seeds" are not as troublesome as those of some of the other burr-daisies, although they do contribute to vegetable fault in sheep fleeces [4].

C. lappulacea is an attractive species with horticultural potential as a long-lived (5 - 25 years) groundcover and rockery plant [3, 8, 11].



References

(a) Picture under license from the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

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[3] Eddy, D., Mallinson, D., Rehwinkel, R. and Sharp, S. (1998). *Grassland Flora, a field guide for the Southern Tablelands (NSW&ACT)*. Canberra, ACT.

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internet links

[5] PlantNET National Herbarium of New South Wales: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=s&p&name=Calotis-lappulacea>

[6] Australian National Botanic Gardens & Australian National Herbarium, Harden Species List: <http://www.anbg.gov.au/greening-grainbelt/harden-species-list.xls>

[7] A View from Yallaroo, plants description: http://www.yallaroo.com.au/Calotis_lappulacea.htm

[8] Botanic Gardens Trust: http://www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/science/Evolutionary_Ecology_Research/Ecology_of_Cumberland_Plain_Woodland/woodland_plants/calotis_lappulacea

[9] Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australian Herbarium: <http://florabase.calm.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/8447>

[11] Greening Australia Qld., Plant Search – Species Descriptions: http://www.qld.greeningaustralia.org.au/gaqotsasp/07_plant_search/species.asp?viewMode=printable&varPlantType=0&varLabelAspect=0&varLabelSoil=0&varHabitat=0&varSpecialFeatures=0&varStockStatus=all&page=6