

Frugivory Updates

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I've been hesitating about putting all the previous Frugivory Updates onto the Internet in case either someone's notes intended for just a few to read are plagiarized by someone from the wider audience, or a journal in which one of us wishes to publish objects that our results (even if summarized form) have been published on the Net. Hence I'll just put an outline of contents onto the Net and allow anyone particularly interested the option of writing to the author

FRUGIVORY AND SEED DISPERSAL SYMPOSIUM JULY 96

At the recent conference of the Ecology Society of Australia (held at Townsville, north Queensland), Rosemary Lott and I convened a half-day symposium on frugivory and seed dispersal in Australasia, concluding with a half-hour of general discussion (which was nowhere near long enough) on where such research might best be directed and what interdisciplinary approaches might be useful.

Talks presented in the frugivory and seed dispersal symposium

Christone Bach and Gordon Duff (Northern Territory University, Darwin, NT) (Reproductive phenology of Northern Territory monsoon rainforests: fruit resources and the maintenance of biodiversity at a landscape level)

Owen Price (Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory) Frugivorous bird movements and the conservation of monsoon rainforests

Alson Shappcott (Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory). Dispersal between monsoon rainforest fragments: the genetic evidence from two plant species

Barbara Stewart (CRC TREM, CSIRO Tropical Forest Research Centre, Atherton, Qld). Seed germination in Australian rainforest species - a comparative review of seed germination characteristics and their possible relationships to seed dispersal

Jeremy Brahl and Kathleen Barton (Dept of Botany, University of New England, Armidale, NSW). A review of dispersal, amphicarp and weeds

in the sedge family (Cyperaceae)

Louise Rodgerson (Dept of Biological Sciences, University of Wollongong, NSW). The distribution of plant species adapted for dispersal by ants

Alan Anderson (Division of Wildlife and Ecology, CSIRO Tropical Ecosystems Research Centre, Winelle, Northern Territory). Myrmecochory in Australia's seasonal tropics: effects of disturbance on distance dispersal

Helen Puckey, Alan Lill and Denis O'Dowd (Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Monash Uni, Clayton, Vic) Fruit colour choices of captive silvereyes (*Zosterops lateralis*)

Jenny Lew Cussan (Dept of Environment, Far North Regions, Cairns, Qld) Influence of Torresian Imperial Pigeons on the floristic assemblages of Great Barrier Reef islands

Andrew Dennis (Zoology Dept, James Cook Uni, Atherton Qld). The musky rat kangaroo: an important dispersal agent on Australia's tropical rainforest.

Tony Irvine and Graham Harrington (Wildlife and Ecology, CSIRO, Atherton Qld). Vertebrate interactions with large-seeded fruit and influence on juvenile-plant patterns

Janice Lord (Botany Dept, Uni of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand). Comparison of size and shape of fleshy fruits between plants in trans-Tasman genera

Ronda Green (Environmental Sciences, Griffith Uni, Nathan, Qld) and Rosemary Lott (CRC for Tropical Rainforest Ecology and Management, Townsville, Qld). Potential Australasian contributions to frugivory and seed dispersal theory

Other talks at the conference not presented in the symposium but relevant to the topic:

Peter McQuillan (Dept of Geography and Environmental Studies, Uni of Tasmania, Hobart, Tas). Selection and dispersal of native fruits by black currawongs *Strepera fuliginosa* (Aves: Cracticidae) in montane Tasmania

Alistair Robertson (Dept Ecology, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand), Dave Kelly (Dept Plant and Microbial Systems, Uni of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand) and Jenny Ladley (Dept Ecology, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand). Mistletoes: the importance of reproductive failure as an agent of decline.

Relevant poster papers were:

Matthew Appleby (Dept Geography and Environmental Studies, Uni of Tasmania, Hobart, Tas).. The natural re-establishment of native plants on abandoned pasture: seed dispersal, soil seed bank and soil properties

Don Butler (Botany Dept, Uni of Queensland, St Lucia, Qld). Fruiting behaviour, seed dispersal and the distribution of rainforest tree species

Catherine Nano (Dept Botany, Uni of New England, Armidale, NSW). Pollination and seed dispersal in *Hibbertia* (Dilleniaceae)

Alison Shapcott, Iwen Price, Carol Palmer and Christine Bach (Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory). The Northern Territory Mobile Rainforest project