



SGAP Cairns Newsletter

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Excursion Report - April 2018 *Emerald Creek Falls*

Rob Jago

Introduction

The attached plant list was compiled from notes taken on a visit to Emerald Creek Falls with the Cairns Branch of the Society for Growing Australian Plants on the 21 April 2007 and 20 May 2018. Names of families and species are as recognized by the Queensland Herbarium in the 2017 Census of Queensland Plants. The list covers all plants observed in the gallery rainforest along the creek adjacent to the car park and the adjacent open forest along the track to the top of the falls.

The gallery forest along the creek contains as dominant species *Melaleuca viminalis*, *Callitris intratropica*, *Melaleuca leucadendra*, *Tristaniopsis exiliiflora*, *Banksia aquilona* and *Bursaria tenuifolia* with the open forest adjacent to the track to the falls mainly dominated by *Eucalyptus leptophleba* and *Eucalyptus granitica*.

Two plant families in particular have been overlooked namely the Fabaceae and the Poaceae. Further visits and collection of specimens for identification would be necessary for these difficult to identify in the field families.

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Cairns Branch.

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Geology



Emerald Creek Falls, 21 April 2007 (R.L. Jago)

The substrate and outcrops adjacent to the falls are composed of Tinaroo Granite (280-270 million years of age) with the face of the falls composed of a fine grained aplite dyke, which was probably injected around the later stages of the solidification of the Tinaroo Granite.

Ref: Willmott, W.(2009) Rocks and landscapes of the National Parks of North Queensland.

Plants observed at Emerald Creek Falls

Plant names in **bold** were supplied by Tablelands Branch.

FERNS & ALLIES

ADIANTACEAE

Cheilanthes brownii
Resurrection Fern
Cheilanthes nitida

DAVALLIACEAE

Davallia denticulata

GLEICHENIACEAE

Dicranopteris linearis var.
linearis
Sticherus flabellatus var.
flabellatus Umbrella Fern

LYCOPODIACEAE

Lycopodiella cernua
Queensland Coral Fern

POLYPODIACEAE

Drynaria rigidula Basket Fern

PSILOTAACEAE

Psilotum nudum Skeleton

Fork Fern

SCHIZAEACEAE

Lygodium microphyllum
Climbing Maidenhair

SELAGINELLACEAE

Selaginella ciliaris Spike Moss

GYMNOSPERMS

CUPRESSACEAE

Callitris intratropica Cypress
Pine

FLOWERING PLANTS- DICOTYLEDONS

ACANTHACEAE

- Pseuderanthemum variabile*
Pastel Flower
Rostellularia adscendens var.
hispidia Rostellularia

ANACARDIACEAE

- Blepharocarya involucrigera*
Rose Butternut
Euroschinus falcatus var.
angustifolius Blush Cudgerie
Pleiogynium timorense
Burdekin Plum

APIACEAE

- Centella asiatica* Pennywort
Platysace valida

APOCYNACEAE

- Alstonia muelleriana* Hard
Milkwood
Alyxia spicata Chain Fruit
* *Asclepias curassavica* Red-
headed Cottonbush



Asclepias curassavica

- Hoya australis* subsp. *australis*
Wax Flower
Hoya australis subsp. *tenuipes*
Rainforest Wax Flower
Parsonsia latifolia Milky
Silkpod
Parsonsia longipetiolata
Green-leaved Silkpod
Parsonsia velutina Velvet
Silkpod

AQUIFOLIACEAE

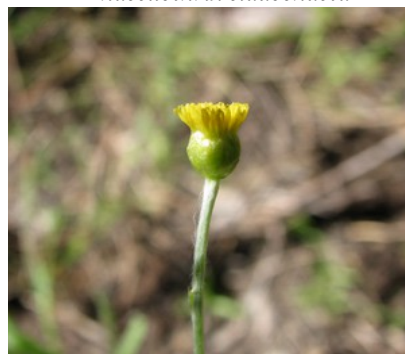
- Ilex arnhemensis* subsp.
ferdinandi Northern Holly

ARALIACEAE

- Hydrocotyle grammatocarpa*
Polyscias australiana Ivory
Basswood
Schefflera actinophylla
Umbrella Tree

ASTERACEAE

- Acmeilla grandiflora* var.
brachyglossa
Apowollastonia spilantheidoides
* *Crassocephalum crepidioides*
Thickhead
Cyanthillium cinereum Purple
Fleabane
Peripleura diffusa
Phacellothrix cladochaeta



Phacellothrix cladochaeta

- * *Praxelis clematidea* Praxelis
Pterocaulon ciliosum
Pterocaulon serrulatum var.
serrulatum
* *Tridax procumbens* Tridax
Daisy

BIGNONIACEAE

- Dolichandrone heterophylla*
Pandorea pandorana Wonga
Vine

BURSERACEAE

- Canarium australianum* var.
australianum Scrub Turpentine

BYBLIDACEAE

- Byblis liniflora***

BYTTNERIACEAE

- Seringia lanceolata*

CAMPANULACEAE

- Lobelia leucotos*
Wahlenbergia caryophylloides
Bluebell

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

- * *Drymaria cordata* subsp.
cordata Tropical Chickweed
Polycarpha spirostylis

CASUARINACEAE

- Allocasuarina torulosa* Rose
She Oak
Casuarina cunninghamiana
River She Oak

CELASTRACEAE

- Denhamia disperma*
Orangebark
Elaeodendron melanocarpum
Black Olive Plum

CUNONIACEAE

- Pullea stutzeri* Hard Alder

DILLENIACEAE

- Hibbertia longifolia* Arsenic
Plant

EUPHORBIACEAE

- Alchornea thozetiana*
Bertya polystigma
Mallotus polyadenos Kamala

FABACEAE

- Cajanus acutifolius* Native
Pigeon Pea
Cajanus reticulatus
Crotalaria aridicola subsp.
glabrata
Crotalaria brevis
Crotalaria calycina
* *Crotalaria lanceolata* subsp.
lanceolata
Crotalaria montana var.
angustifolia
Derris sp. (Daintree D. E.
Boyland + 469)
Erythrina vespertilio Bat's
Wing Coral Tree
Indigofera linifolia
Indigofera linnaei
Indigofera pratensis



Indigofera pratensis

- Jacksonia thesioides*
Broombrush
Rhynchosia minima var.
minima Rhynchosia
* *Stylostanthes humilis*
Townsville Stylo
Tephrosia astragaloides

- Tephrosia filipes* var. *filipes*
Uraria picta
Zornia muriculata subsp
muriculata
- FLACOURTIACEAE
Scolopia braunii Flintwood
- HALORAGACEAE
Gonocarpus acanthocarpus
- LAMIACEAE
Clerodendrum longiflorum var.
glabrum Witches Tongues
Plectranthus mirus
Plectranthus
- LAURACEAE
Cassytha filiformis Dodder
Laurel
- LECYTHIDACEAE
Planchonia careya Cocky
Apple
- LOGANIACEAE
Geniostoma rupestre var.
australianum
Mitrasacme connata
Mitrasacme nummularia
- LORANTHACEAE
Dendrophthoe glabrescens
Mistletoe
- MALVACEAE
Abelmoschus moschatus subsp
tuberosus
Hibiscus meraukensis
Merauke Hibiscus
Hibiscus normanii
* *Urena lobata* Urena Burr
- MELASTOMATACEAE
Melastoma malabathricum var.
malabathricum Melastoma
- MIMOSACEAE
Acacia aulacocarpa Hickory
Wattle
Acacia calyculata
Acacia flavescens Red Wattle
Acacia melanoxylon
Blackwood
Acacia simsii
Acacia umbellata
Acacia whitei
Vachellia bidwillii
- MORACEAE
Ficus congesta var. *congesta*
Red Leaf Fig
Ficus rubiginosa forma
rubiginosa Port Jackson Fig
- MYRSINACEAE
Lysimachia ovalis
Myrsine porosa Northern
Muttonwood
Myrsine subsessilis subsp.
cryptostemon
- MYRTACEAE
Corymbia citriodora Lemon
Scented Gum
Corymbia clarksoniana
Clarkson's Bloodwood
Corymbia dallachiana
Dallachy's Gum
Corymbia erythrophloia
Eucalyptus granitica Granite
Ironbark
Eucalyptus leptophleba Red
Molloy Box
Eucalyptus platyphylla Poplar
Gum
Eucalyptus portuensis
Northern White
Eucalyptus tereticornis Forest
Red Gum
Lophostemon grandiflorus
Northern Swamp Box
Melaleuca leucadendra Tea
Tree
Melaleuca nervosa subsp.
nervosa
Melaleuca viminalis Red
Bottlebrush
Melaleuca viridiflora var.
viridiflora Broad-leaf Tea Tree
Syzygium australe Creek
Lillypilly
Tristaniopsis exiliflora Kanuka
Box
- OLEACEAE
Chionanthus ramiflora Native
Olive
Ligustrum australianum
- ONAGRACEAE
Ludwigia octovalvis Willow
Primrose
- OROBANCHACEAE
Buchnera linearis
- PHYLLANTHACEAE
Breynia cernua Fart Tree
Cleistanthus semiopacus Rusty
Cleistanthus
Glochidion harveyanum var.
harveyanum Harvey's
Buttonwood
- Phyllanthus carpentariae*
Phyllanthus fuernrohrii
Phyllanthus virgatus
- PITTOSPORACEAE
Bursaria incana Prickly Pine
Bursaria tenuifolia Sweet
Blackthorn
Pittosporum venulosum Brown
Pittosporum
- POLYGALACEAE
* *Polygala paniculata* Island
Snakeroot
- POLYGONACEAE
Persicaria subsessilis Hairy
Knotweed
- PROTEACEAE
Banksia aquilona Honeysuckle
Silky Oak
Grevillea glauca Clothes Peg
Grevillea
Grevillea parallela



Grevillea parallela

- Hakea persiehana*
Helicia australasica Creek
Silky Oak
Persoonia falcata Northern
Geebung
Stenocarpus sinnatus Wheel-
of-fire Tree
Xylomelum scottianum Woody
Pear

- PUTRANJIVACEAE
Drypetes deplanchei Grey
Boxwood

- RHAMNACEAE
Alphitonia excelsa Red Ash

- RUBIACEAE
Atractocarpus fitzalanii subsp
fitzalanii Brown Gardenia
Coelospermum reticulatum
Psychotria fitzalanii
Spermacoce brachystema
Timonius timon var. *timon*
Timonius

SANTALACEAE
Exocarpos latifolius
Santalum lanceolatum

SAPINDACEAE
Dodonaea lanceolata var.
subsessilifolia Hop Bush
Guioa acutifolia Glossy
Tamarind
Jagera pseudorhus var.
pseudorhus Foambark

SAPOTACEAE
Sersalisia sericea

SPARRMANNIACEAE
Grewia retusifolia

SYMPLOCACEAE
Symplocos puberula White
Hazelwood

THYMELAEACEAE
Pimelea confertiflora
Wikstroemia indica Tie Bush

URTICACEAE
Pipturus argenteus Native
Mulberry

VERBENACEAE
* *Lantana camara* Lantana

VIOLACEAE
Afrohybanthus enneaspermus
Spade Flower



Afrohybanthus enneaspermus
Afrohybanthus stellarioides

VITACEAE
Cayratia trifolia

FLOWERING PLANTS- MONOCOTYLEDONS

ARACEAE
* *Colocasia esculenta* Taro

ARECACEAE

Oraniopsis appendiculata
Rainforest Coconut

COLCHICACEAE
Iphigenia indica
Schelhammera multiflora

COMMELINACEAE
Cartonema spicatum
Commelina ensifolia Sailor's
Purse
Murdannia graminea Grass
Lily

CYPERACEAE
Carex maculata
Cyperus aquatilis
Cyperus polystachyos subsp.
polystachos
Fimbristylis dichotoma
Common Fingerrush
Gahnia aspera
Isolepis inundata Swamp Club
Rush
Rhynchospora leae
Scleria mackaviensis

DIOSCOREACEAE
Dioscorea bulbifera Cheeky
Yam

ERIOCAULACEAE
Eriocaulon australe

HAEMODORACEAE
Haemodorum coccineum Blood
Lily

HEMEROCALLIDACEAE
Dianella caerulea var. *vannata*
Blue Flax Lily
Geitonoplesium cymosum

JOHNSONIACEAE
Tricoryne anceps subsp. *anceps*

JUNCACEAE
Juncus usitatus

LAXMANNIACEAE
Lomandra hystrix Creek
Matrush
Lomandra multiflora Many-
flowered Matrush

ORCHIDACEAE
Dendrobium canaliculatum

PANDANACEAE
Freycinetia scandens
Pandanus cookii Cook's
Pandanus

POACEAE

Aristida latifolia Feather Top
Wiregrass
Arundinella setosa
Capillipedium spicigerum
Scented Top Grass
Chrysopogon filipes Australian
Vetiveria
Cleistochloa subjuncea
Cymbopogon queenslandicus
* *Dactyloctenium aegyptium*
Coast Button Grass
Ectrosia nervilemma
Entolasia stricta Wiry Panic
Eragrostis brownii Brown's
Lovegrass
Eriachne ciliata Slender
Wanderrie
Eriachne pallescens var.
pallescens
Heteropogon contortus Bunch
Spear Grass
Heteropogon triticeus Giant
Spear Grass
* *Melinis repens* Red Natal
Grass
Mnesithea rottboellioides
Oplismenus aemulus
Panicum mitchellii
* *Paspalum conjugatum* Sour
Grass
* *Paspalum paniculatum*
Russell River Grass
Pogonatherum crinitum
Pseudopogonatherum
contortum
Sacciolepis indica
Sarga plumosum Plume
Sorghum
Schizachyrium fragile Fire
Grass
Schizachyrium pseudeulalia
* *Setaria pumila* subsp.
subtesselata Pale Pigeon Grass
* *Sporobolus jacquemontii*
* *Themeda quadrivalvis*
Grader Grass
Themeda triandra Kangaroo
Grass
Tripogon loliiformis

SMILACEAE
Smilax australis Sarsaparilla
Vine

TACCACEAE
Tacca leontopetaloides Native
Arrowroot

XANTHORRHOACEAE
Xanthorrhoea johnsonii Forest

Articles of interest

Beating around the bush

Recently, the excellent and informative website "The Conversation" has commenced a series of profiles of Australian native plants, under the heading "Beating around the Bush". The first of these discusses the Bunya Pine (<https://theconversation.com/bunya-pines-are-ancient-delicious-and-possibly-deadly-96003>), a more recent article illustrates the sandpaper figs of southeast Queensland and their pollinating waspos (<https://theconversation.com/sandpaper-figs-make-food-fire-medicine-and-a-cosy-home-for-wasps-96404>).

The Townsville Mystery Tree

You've no doubt all heard of the Townsville Mystery Tree, discovered by SGAP's John Elliot near the peak of Mt Stuart. The tree, clearly a Myrtaceae, was named *Backhousia tetraptera*, in recognition of its unique four-winged fruits. Read about its discovery on the Townsville SGAP website: sgaptownsville.org.au/Mystery-Tree.html.

The most recent newsletter from Townsville Branch reports the discovery of a new occurrence of the plant, on Leichhardt Creek in Clemant State Forest, to the north of the city. Cameron Atkinson discovered the tree whilst out bushwalking. We don't yet have any samples of the tree, but his excellent photos (right) leave little doubt that the known range of the species has grown significantly.



Backhousia tetraptera growing on Leichhardt Creek, north of Townsville.

Flowering in June



Pimelea sericostachya



Claoxylon hillii



Grevillea glossadenia

Innisfail Branch

Meetings at 4 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at 1 Stitt Street, Innisfail.

Contact: innisfail@npq.org.au

Townsville Branch

Meetings at 8 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, February to November, in Annandale Community Centre.

Excursions the following Sunday.

Contact: johnelliott@sgaptownsville.org.au

www.sgaptownsville.org.au

Tablelands Branch

Meetings on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Excursion the following Sunday.

Contact: Chris Jaminon on 4091 4565 or email hjaminon@bigpond.com

Cairns Branch - Next Meeting

Sunday 17 March 2018: After some debate, Ivan Evans Walk, located in Toogood Road, Bayview Heights, has been selected as the venue for the next excursion. Meet at midday at the carpark near the western end of Toogood Road, which is also the northern starting point of the Ivan Evans Walk. We'll have lunch and a bit of a meeting before starting on our walk.

Bring insect repellent, sturdy walking shoes and water for the walk.

