

Community Nursery and Landcare

Caring for Kuranda's environment
"by standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before"

Box trailers for hire. Members discount. All plugs catered for
Contact Hans on 0459 978 842 to book.



Ulysses butterfly. Photo: David Clode

Butterfly Bonanza

What more could we want? Great cool weather for planting, plenty of moisture and now the plants ready to grow. February is our key month for growth, so let's get the maximum effect from all the rain that's fallen, when the sun and heat combine to have plants leaping skywards.

Have you considered giving over a corner of your block to butterfly attracting plants? There are quite a few to choose from in our nursery, even some of our very good revegetation trees are hosts for butterflies. There's too many to list from our nursery but Callistemon and Melaleucas provide nectar for all butterflies (as well as a variety of birds) and host the Ghost and Emperor Gum moths, also the Dull and Common Oakblues. Vines don't need much space, really just an existing tree to climb up is perfect – Lacewing vine Adenia

heterophylla, with its bright red seed pods, hosts Orange Cruiser, Red Glasswing and Orange Lacewings. Our favourite Aristolochia acuminata hosts the gorgeous Cairns Birdwing, Red-bodied Swallowtail and Big Greasy. Our much loved Flame trees Brachichyton acerifolia host Common Aeroplane, Tailed Emperor and Helenita Blues and Corky bark Carallia brachiata hosts the Four O'Clock Moth, very colourful, with bright yellow black spotted caterpillars. Native gingers host Banded Demons, Northern laurel hosts Maclays Swallowtail, Blue triangle and Common Oakblue. The list goes on. Come in and see what we have.

January Butterfly Plant – Melicope rubra

Small grey-barked tree, in cultivation 2-3m, glossy light green leaves on wide spreading branches. Flowers and fruits while still young. Clusters of bright pink flowers occur along the branches in summer, then green citrus-like fruits. It attracts birds such as lorikeets and other honey-eaters. Host tree for the Ulysses butterfly and the Emperor Gum Moth. It can tolerate a fairly wide range of climates.



• Date Claimers •

Water quality monitoring – Kuranda Tree frog creeks – Various dates. Learn how to use testing equipment. All welcome. Call Neil on 0481 310 144 to join in.

Saturdays 30 January, 6 February, 13 February and 20 February – 7.30–9am. Tree Planting at 67 Monaro Close. Good fun and exercise for all ages. Yummy morning tea. Call 0419 624 940 and meet at the KEC nursery 7.30am to carpool. Call Andrew on 0407 161 175

17–23 February. Frog monitoring fun starts after 7pm. Check our Facebook page for dates and sites, call or email on 0419 624 940 or info@envirocare.org.au

The What and How of Weeds

Saturday 27 February 10am–3pm

A field day learning about weeds, their significance, identification and methods of treatment. We'll have staff from our local government agencies, those who deal with the weed assault we're under here and talk about effective no-chemical methods.

Register at info@envirocare.org.au

Funded by
Federal Communities Environment Program



Thank you Kuranda

Happy New Year Kuranda! Thank you for all of your support in making 2020 a success. Despite a pandemic, we adapted to change and came through stronger. We hope to continue to have your support this year in helping us find new yellow crazy ant or electric ant infestations.

Yellow crazy ants

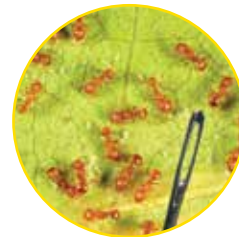
- 4mm body length
- Long legs and antennae
- Spray acid from their abdomen
- Brown striped abdomen



If you think you have found yellow crazy ants, collect a specimen and call Wet Tropics Management Authority on 1800 CRAZY ANT

Electric ants

- Tiny at 1.5mm body length
- Gingerly brown in colour
- Slow moving and tend to forage in straight lines
- Bites result in raised itchy red lumps that can last for several days



If you think you have been stung by an electric ant, call Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 for a free yard check.

Door-knocking continues

Last month on 16 January, Taskforce volunteers Bernd Seidl and Tim Brown continued door-knocking for the Green Forest yellow crazy ant infestation, focusing on residents living nearby on Oak Forest Road, Kuranda. Volunteers met with residents to chat about the yellow crazy ant and electric ant infestations and provide information on what the ants look like and how to report them. The aim of this door-knock was to meet face to face with community members to raise awareness about invasive ants.

I'd like to thank Bernd and Tim in particular for being the Taskforce champions. They are always professional and enthusiastic about sharing what they know about yellow crazy ants with our community.



Taskforce champions Bernd Seidl and Tim Brown

Upcoming events

March 2021

The Taskforce and Wet Tropics Management Authority's Yellow Crazy Ant Eradication Program will give a presentation on yellow crazy ants and electric ants to the councillors of Mareeba Shire Council. The presentation aims to raise awareness about invasive ants within the shire, update councillors on how the program is progressing and ask for support in helping the program find any new infestations.

April 2021

The Taskforce will meet with Cairns Regional Council's Green Space, Our Space volunteers to present information about yellow crazy ants and electric ants during their monthly volunteer information session. Taskforce volunteers are welcome to join and share invasive ant knowledge with volunteer peers. We hope to raise invasive ant awareness with the Green Space, Our Space volunteers who are doing great work in our community, making our green spaces a better place for all and hopefully be another eye on ground for yellow crazy ants and electric ants. Contact Ciara at coordinator@communitytaskforce.org.au for more details to join this event. **Ciara**

Join the invasive resist-ants

Yellow Crazy Ant Community Taskforce
envirocare.org.au/yellow-crazy-ants-taskforce
yca.ciara@gmail.com



REPORT

YELLOW CRAZY ANTS

CALL: 1800 CRAZY ANT

We need your help to recognise and report yellow crazy ants.

