

HFNC Excursion to Nigretta Falls and 'Mercers Jungle' on 27 April 1968

Margaret Corrick

The purpose of this excursion was to survey the plants on the following areas on the north bank of the Wannon River below Nigretta Falls:

Section 1. 'Mercers Jungle' – about 2 chains on either side and about a quarter mile up the small permanent stream which joins the Wannon one half mile downstream from Nigretta Falls.

Section 2. Additional species found near the Wannon between the Jungle and Nigretta Falls.

Section 3. Species photographed by Mr. L. Elmore on the Wannon banks at Nigretta Falls in 1958/59

| Botanic name | Common name | Section 1 | Section 2 | Section 3 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <i>Acacia armata</i> | Hedge Wattle | * | | |
| <i>Acacia mearnsii</i> | Black Wattle | * | | |
| <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i> | Blackwood | * | | |
| <i>Acacia verticillata</i> | Prickly Moses | * | | |
| <i>Acaena anserinifolia</i> | Bidgee-widgee | * | | |
| <i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i> | Maidenhair Fern | * | | |
| <i>Ajuga australis</i> ? | Austral Bugle | * | | |
| <i>Alternanthera denticulata</i> | Lesser Joyweed | * | | |
| <i>Anagallis arvensis</i> # | Scarlet Pimpernel | * | | |
| <i>Apium prostratum</i> | Sea Cellery | * | | |
| <i>Astroloma humifusum</i> | Cranberry Heath | * | | |
| <i>Bursaria spinosa</i> | Sweet Bursaria | * | | |
| <i>Carex appressa</i> | Tall Sedge | * | | |
| <i>Carex gaudichaudiana</i> | Fen Sedge | * | | |
| <i>Centaurium pulchellum</i> # | Centaury | * | | |
| <i>Centipeda cunninghamii</i> | Common Sneeze-weed | * | | |
| <i>Cheilanthes tenuifolia</i> | Rock Fern | * | | |
| <i>Chenopodium glaucum</i> | Glaucous Goosefoot | * | | |
| <i>Chorizandra enodis</i> | Black Bristle-rush | * | | |
| <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> # | Scotch Thistle | * | | |
| <i>Clematis microphylla</i> | Small-leaved Clematis | * | | |
| <i>Crassula helmsii</i> | Swamp Crassula | * | | |
| <i>Cryptostemma calendula</i> # | Capeweed | * | | |
| <i>Danthonia</i> sp. | Wallaby Grass | * | | |
| <i>Dianella revoluta</i> | Black-anther Flax-lily | * | | |
| <i>Dichondra repens</i> | Kidney-weed | * | | |
| <i>Distichlis disticophylla</i> | Salt Grass | * | | |
| <i>Epilobium</i> sp. | Willow-herb | * | | |
| <i>Eriochilus cuculatus</i> | Parson's Bands | * | | |
| <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> | River Red Gum | * | | |
| <i>Exocarpos cupressiformis</i> | Cherry Ballart | * | | |
| <i>Gahnia clarkei</i> | Tall Saw-sedge | * | | |
| <i>Gnaphalium luteoalbum</i> | Jersey Cudweed | * | | |
| <i>Geranium potentilloides</i> | Crane's-bill | * | | |
| <i>Gnaphalium japonicum</i> | Creeping Cudweed | * | | |
| <i>Goodenia humilis</i> | Swamp Goodenia | * | | |
| <i>Gratiola peruviana</i> | Austral Brooklime | * | | |
| <i>Holcus lanatus</i> # | Yorkshire Fog | * | | |
| <i>Hydrocotyle laxiflora</i> | Stinking Penny-wort | * | | |
| <i>Hymenanthera angustifolia</i> | Tree Violet | * | | |
| <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i> # | Flatweed | * | | |
| <i>Inula graveolens</i> # | Stinkwort | * | | |
| <i>Juncus amabilis</i> | Hollow-rush | * | | |
| <i>Juncus caespiticus</i> | Grassy Rush | * | | |

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|------------------------------------|------------------------|---|---|---|
| <i>Juncus maritimus</i> | Sea Rush | * | | |
| <i>Juncus pallidus</i> | Pale Rush | * | | |
| <i>Juncus pauciflorus</i> | Loose-flower Rush | * | | |
| <i>Lepidosperma longitudinale</i> | Pithy Sword-sedge | * | | |
| <i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i> | Woolly Tea-tree | * | | |
| <i>Leptospermum obovatum</i> | River Tea-tree | * | | |
| <i>Lobelia alata</i> | Angled Lobelia | * | | |
| <i>Lobelia pratioides ?</i> | Poison Lobelia | * | | |
| <i>Lomandra glauca</i> | Dwarf Mat-rush | * | | |
| <i>Lomandra longifolia</i> | Spiny-headed Mat-rush | * | | |
| <i>Mentha laxiflora/australis?</i> | River Mint/Forest Mint | * | | |
| <i>Mimulus repens</i> | Creeping Monkey-face | * | | |
| <i>Oxalis corniculata</i> | Grassland Wood-sorrel | * | | |
| <i>Pelargonium rodneyanum</i> | Magenta Stork's-bill | * | | |
| <i>Phragmites communis</i> | Common Reed | * | | |
| <i>Plantago coronopus #</i> | Plantain | * | | |
| <i>Poa sp.</i> | Big Tussock Grass | * | | |
| <i>Pratia pedunculata</i> | Matted Pratia | * | | |
| <i>Pteridium esculentum</i> | Bracken | * | | |
| <i>Pterostylis nutans</i> | Nodding Greenhood | * | | |
| <i>Rumex acetosella</i> | Sheep Sorrel | * | | |
| <i>Salvia verbenaca #</i> | Wild Sage | * | | |
| <i>Scirpus cernuus</i> | Nodding Club-rush | * | | |
| <i>Scirpus nodosus</i> | Knobby Club-rush | * | | |
| <i>Selliera radicans</i> | Swamp Weed | * | | |
| <i>Senecio glomeratus ?</i> | Annual Fireweed | * | | |
| <i>Solanum nigrum #</i> | Black Nightshade | * | | |
| <i>Taraxicum officinale #</i> | Dandelion | * | | |
| <i>Themeda australis</i> | Kangaroo Grass | * | | |
| <i>Triglochin procera</i> | Water Ribbons | * | | |
| <i>Triglochin striata</i> | Streaked Arrow-grass | * | | |
| <i>Villarsia sp.</i> | Marsh Flower | * | | |
| <i>Viminaria juncea</i> | Golden Spray | * | | |
| <i>Viola hederacea</i> | Ivy-leaf Violet | * | | |
| <i>Xanthorrhoea minor</i> | Grass Tree | * | | |
| <i>Casuarina stricta</i> | Drooping Sheoak | | * | |
| <i>Hypoxis sp.</i> | Yellow Star | | * | |
| <i>Polygonum prostratum</i> | Creeping Cudweed | | * | |
| <i>Virbascum thapsus ?</i> | Great Mullein | | * | |
| <i>Wahlenbergia communis</i> | Bluebell | | * | |
| <i>Caesia vittata</i> | Blue Grass-lily | | | * |
| <i>Convolvulus erubescens</i> | Pink Bindweed | | | * |
| <i>Dillwynia hispida</i> | Red Parrot-pea | | | * |
| <i>Kennedia prostrata</i> | Running Postman | | | * |

[Note – many of the botanic names listed above have been revised since 1968, e.g. *Polygonum prostratum* is now *Persicaria prostrata*. However, the common names are mostly unchanged. These data, with updated names, have been incorporated in lists of indigenous flora for 44 sections of Wannan frontage from Wannan Falls to Red Rd Bridge – see HFNC website for the lists updated to 2020].

The total number of native species in Sections 1 & 2 is 73, with 11 introduced species #.

We concluded that the area was surprisingly rich in native flora, particularly as it is surrounded by farmland which has been cleared and developed for close to one hundred years. The lists above give a one-sided picture as the census was done in autumn and at the conclusion of a long drought. It will be necessary to visit the area again in late spring in order to list such species as lilies, grasses and annuals which were not in evidence on this visit.

The assistance of Mr Cliff Beaglehole in determination of species collected is gratefully acknowledged.