

AUSTRALIAN PLANTS On Australian Postage Stamps

The Australian National Herbarium and the Australian National Botanic Gardens are sponsoring a web site that lists and shows all Australian stamps that display an Australian plant (<http://www.anbg.gov.au/stamps/>). They are also working on lists for other countries that show plants native to Australia.

Stamps are listed according to plant species and year of issue. The chronological sequence starts with the South Australian Proclamation Tree stamp of 1936, a River Red Gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*. The first real featured plant is the Flannel Flower, *Actinotus helianthi* 2/-, 8 April 1959.

It ends with *Cocos nucifera* featured on a stamp of Darwin Botanic Gardens in 2013.

When you click on the link for each species, a new page displays containing a very high quality image of the stamp along with the date of issue and the name of the designer. The page also describes the characteristics of the plant and provides details about its distribution, propagation, and cultivation.

You can use the BACK and NEXT buttons at the end of each stamp page move in chronological order of their issue.

The STAMPS button brings you back to the alphabetical index.

Only the first issued stamp with a particular botanical illustration is included when the same illustration is used on stamps with several denominations or re-issues.

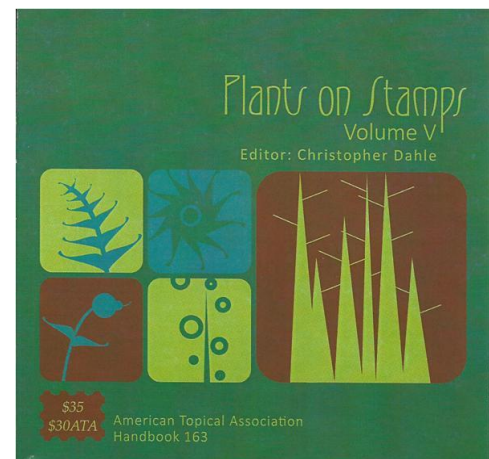
The site offers links to other botanical and horticultural information. If you are researching Australian plants, you cannot beat this site for one-stop answers.



NEW PLANTS HANDBOOK

Christopher Dahle, our Associate Editor for Botany, has produced an update to the Plants Handbook. The ATA published it on compact disk in August 2013. It became available at APS StampShow 2013, and your editor is happy to say that he purchased the first copy. The print version was not available at the time of the show, but should be on sale from the ATA by the time you receive this edition. Cost for the print copy is \$40 plus postage (\$4 US/\$10 Canada/\$17 Intl). Cost for the digital version is \$35 (ATA Members \$30) plus postage (\$1 US/\$2.25 Canada/\$3 Intl). See the ATA web site (www.americantopicalassn.org) to place orders.

This handbook is not merely an addendum to the Plants I, II, III, and IV handbooks (HB94, HB112, HB137, and HB149) produced by previous Unit members. It is a consolidation of all five Plants handbooks plus the Orchids Handbook (HB118). These other handbooks together are a \$40 value. The contents of the CD are in searchable portable document format (PDF) files.



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