

USING

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NATIVE

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PLANTS



INFORMATION  

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FOR RECREATIONAL  

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PLANT SOCIETIES



**Queensland  
Government**  

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Queensland Parks  
and Wildlife Service

## Important

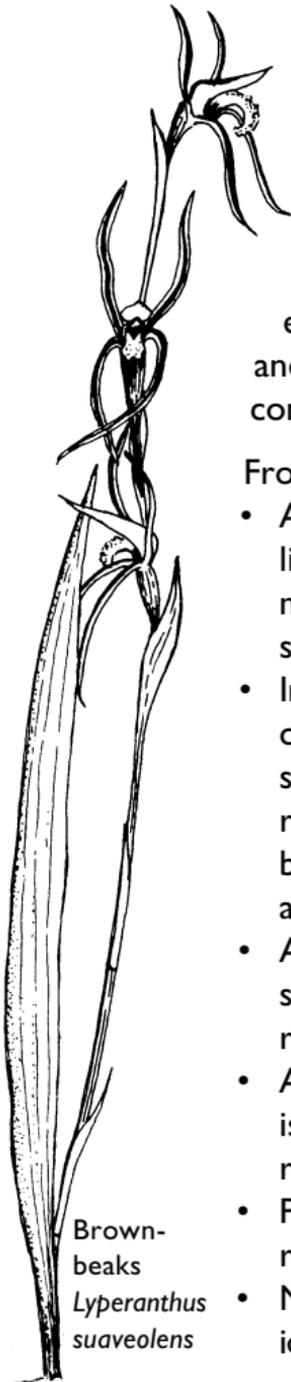
All native plants are now listed as protected but a wide range of exemptions is provided for personal and recreational users. All taking and use of protected plants must be done under a licence, authorisation or an exemption specified in the *Nature Conservation (Protected Plants) Conservation Plan 2000* or the *Nature Conservation Regulation 1994*. This legislation is supported by three non-statutory documents — the *Management program for protected plant parts in Queensland 2001–2005*, the *Management program for protected whole plants in Queensland 2001–2005* and the *Code of practice for the taking and use of protected plants*.

A whole plant includes a seedling (but not an ungerminated seed) and, if a person divides a plant, each resulting viable plant.

Plant parts include stems, phyllodes, foliage, buds, flowers, spores, seeds, fruit, bark, oils, roots, rhizomes, resins, gums, exudates, galls, genetic material, chemicals and other structural component or constituent of a plant.

From 1 January 2001:

- All taking of plants in the wild under a licence or when a licence is not needed must comply with the 'general sustainability requirement'.
- Individual hobby growers who are members of a recreational plant society and want to sell Type A restricted plants can apply for a recreational wildlife licence or apply to become an authorised propagator (see authorised propagator brochure).
- Approved recreational plant societies can sell Type A restricted plants under a recreational wildlife licence.
- Access to propagating material in the wild is significantly de-regulated (see recreational and personal use brochure).
- Plants can be taken in the wild under a recreational wildlife harvesting licence.
- New provisions apply to taking specimens for identification and study (see separate brochure).



Brown-beaks

*Lyperanthus suaveolens*

## ***What is an approved recreational plant society?***

To be approved as a recreational plant society, the organisation must be a not-for-profit organisation incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* and have objects that include conserving native plants by artificial propagation in cultivation. The society might also be involved in studying native plants in the wild.



King orchid  
*Dendrobium speciosum*

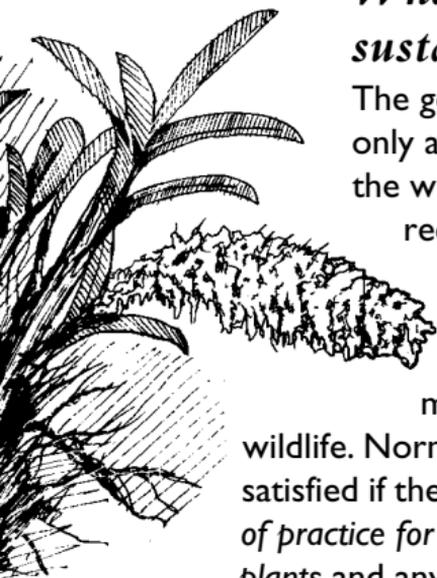
## ***When is a recreational wildlife licence required?***

A recreational wildlife licence is required to sell Type A restricted plants for a non-commercial purpose. A recreational wildlife licence for protected plants can be granted to a recreational plant society or a member of a recreational plant society provided the applicant:

- does not employ or engage anyone to propagate or sell the plants; and
- the propagation and selling are not, under a local law, a business or home occupation.

## ***When is a recreational wildlife harvesting licence required?***

A recreational wildlife harvesting licence is required to take whole Type A restricted plants in the wild. Individuals and recreational plant societies can apply for a recreational wildlife harvesting licence. Limits apply to the number of plants that can be taken (for individuals see recreational and personal use brochure). A recreational plant society can take five plants of a species in a month or 100 plants in any 12-month period. However, a society taking plants under a salvage operation approved by QPWS is not subject to these limits and can also take whole endangered plants. All salvage operations must be approved by QPWS and conducted under a harvesting licence.



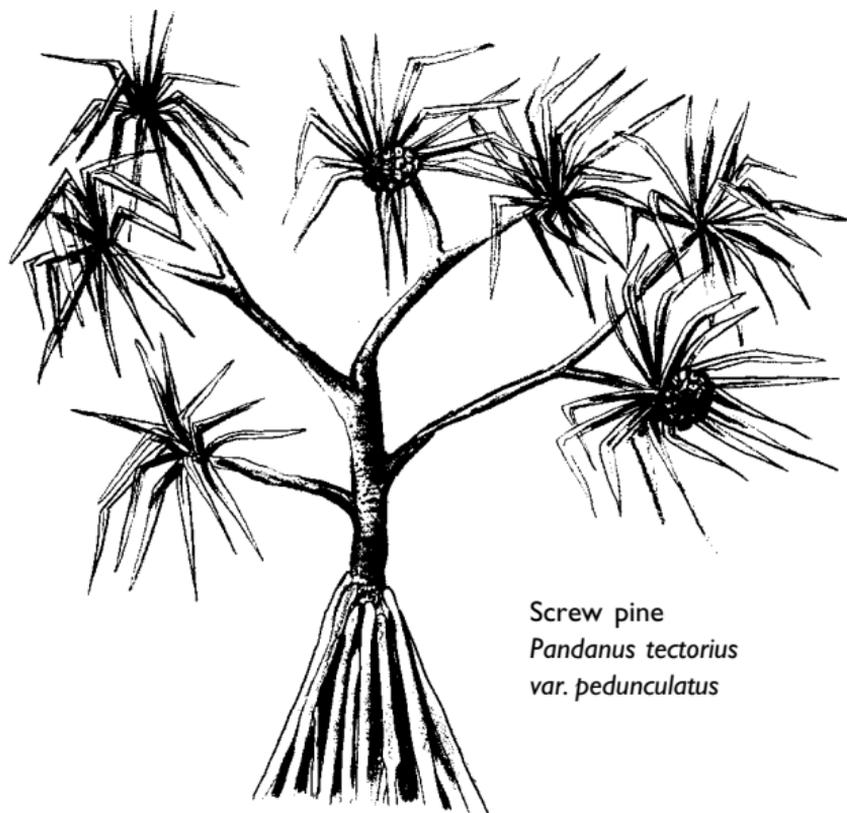
## *What is the general sustainability requirement?*

The general sustainability requirement only applies to the taking of plants from the wild. Under the general sustainability requirement, anyone who harvests plants must do so in a way that ensures the harvesting is ecologically sustainable and minimises damage to soil and other wildlife. Normally this requirement will be satisfied if the harvester complies with the *Code of practice for the taking and use of protected plants* and any relevant provisions of the harvest period notice and the management programs.

The requirement does not apply when plants are taken under an approved salvage operation by a recreational plant society.

## *Selling Type A restricted plants*

An individual who is the holder of a recreational wildlife licence can sell Type A restricted plants provided an official tag is attached to the plant. Licensed recreational plant societies must attach an official tag and sell the plants only at an annual show or society meeting open to the public. The sale price must not be more than is reasonable to cover the costs of salvaging or growing the plant.



Screw pine  
*Pandanus tectorius*  
var. *pedunculatus*



Hyacinth  
orchid  
*Dipodium  
punctatum*

Type A restricted plants (listed in Schedule 12 section 5 of the *Nature Conservation Regulation 1994*) require a tag in order to be sold.

At 1 January 2001, these were:

- orchids (other than propagated *Spathoglottis plicata*)
- grass trees (*Xanthorrhoea* spp.)
- ant plants (*Myrmecodia* spp. and *Hydnophytum* spp.)
- cycads (all Cycadaceae and Zamiaceae)
- tassel ferns (*Huperzia* spp.)
- elkhorns and staghorns (*Platycerium* spp.)

A tag can be attached to a plant in one of several ways:

- inserted into or fastened to the outside of the individual tube or pot containing the plant;
- attached to the stem of the plant;
- fastened to the board or other material on which the plant is mounted; or
- inserted between the board or other material and any backing material in a way that allows the tag to be seen.

### ***Selling Type B restricted plants***

A recreational wildlife licensee is not permitted to sell a plant raised from seed or other propagating material of a Type B restricted plant taken *in the wild*. However the plants (other than an endangered plant) may be sold under its licence by a recreational plant society at an annual show or society meeting open to the public. Type B restricted plants (including endangered plants) propagated from plants lawfully in cultivation are not affected.

### ***How do I obtain a recreational wildlife licence or recreational wildlife harvesting licence?***

You should read the *Nature Conservation Regulation 1994* Chapters 1 and 3 and contact your nearest wildlife licensing centre for an application form and information kit. If you wish to harvest plants in the wild you should also read the *Nature Conservation (Protected Plants) Conservation Plan 2000* and the *Code of practice for the taking and use of protected plants*.

## *QPWS licensing centres for protected plants*

2nd floor,  
17–19 Sheridan Street  
PO Box 2066  
CAIRNS QLD 4870  
(07) 4046 6717

cnr Lennox and Alice Streets  
PO Box 101  
MARYBOROUGH QLD  
4650  
(07) 4121 1800

Marlow Street  
Pallarenda  
PO Box 5597  
TOWNSVILLE MC  
QLD 4810  
(07) 4722 5388

55 Priors Pocket Road  
Moggill  
PO Box 42  
KENMORE QLD 4069  
(07) 3202 0200

cnr Wood and River Streets  
PO Box 623  
MACKAY QLD 4740  
(07) 4944 7800

2nd floor, 158 Hume Street  
PO Box 731  
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350  
(07) 4639 8339

cnr Yeppoon and  
Norman Roads  
North Rockhampton  
PO Box 3130  
ROCKHAMPTON  
SHOPPING FAIR  
QLD 4701  
(07) 4936 0511

Park Street  
PO Box 149  
CHARLEVILLE QLD 4470  
(07) 4654 1255

Kabool Road  
West Burleigh  
PO Box 3454  
BURLEIGHTOWN LPO  
QLD 4220  
(07) 5520 9602

### **Disclaimer**

*This brochure contains only advisory information and is not a substitute for the legislation, providing only an introduction to the regulatory and administrative scheme. The Queensland Government accepts no liability for any decisions or any actions taken on the basis of this document. All involved in using native plants should familiarise themselves with the Nature Conservation Act 1992 and the relevant subordinate legislation under the Act and the legislation of other States or the Commonwealth in relation to the movement of native plants into or out of Queensland or Australia.*