



Guidelines for Collection of Pimelea Plants. June 2017



Pimelea plant material is required by the Pimelea project team for:

1. rumen microbial studies for the selection of microbes capable of degrading the toxin simplexin
2. absorbent studies (initially in the laboratory and eventually in animals) to determine whether absorbents can be utilised to absorb the toxin within the rumen and prevent absorption into circulatory systems

How you can help

If you would like to help with this project, we are looking for pimelea plant material from pre-flowering to post-flowering stages. We require substantial plant quantities (1-2 kg per collection) preferably as single collections from one site/paddock of one of the three species (*Pimelea simplex*, *Pimelea trichostachya* or *Pimelea elongata*).

The following points outline the steps to take when collecting the material. These procedures will ensure that your efforts result in samples with maximum usefulness – both for current research and also for relevance in future studies.

- **Before collecting plant material please contact the project team to ascertain best method of storage and transport to ensure that all your hard work is put to good use. (Email: mary.fletcher@uq.edu.au)**
- **Collect two representative plants that are flowering and press them between newspaper. Label these with the site number.** These samples will be used to positively identify which species you have collected and will give more scientific credibility to data derived from your plant material.
- **Collect whole plants and place into paper bags.** Include roots where it is possible to pull them out. Remove large lumps of dirt from the roots. If you do not have paper bags, use ones of a porous material so that the plants can dry out easily without going mouldy. Fresh material is specifically sought, and collected plant material should be kept very cool and delivered to DAF as quickly as possible.
- **Fold the bags closed and record the following on the bag or box**
 - ✓ Site name & Number
 - ✓ Date of collection
 - ✓ Name of collector
 - ✓ Type of plant material (eg pre-flowering/flowering/post-flowering)
- **Record the site of collection and give it a site name** (eg Site 1 “Rosebank”). The ideal data is latitude and longitude with a GPS. Location description (eg. distance from homestead, paddock name and position in the paddock) is useful.
- **Complete the attached Herbarium sheet and where possible record the soil type and associated vegetation** (eg. stoney gidgee with Mitchell grass). ***No need to submit this form to herbarium, we will do this***
- **A photo of the landscape** where it is growing would be a real bonus.
- **Send/deliver your collected plant material with your pressed specimens to your closest Dept of Agriculture and Fisheries Office or to Natural Toxins Laboratory, Block 10 Loading Bay, Health and Food Sciences Precinct, 39 Kessels Rd Coopers Plains QLD 4108**
- It is advisable to pack sample bags into a sturdy carton/s.
- **Email/send your photos (labelled according to site number) to mary.fletcher@uq.edu.au**

A small number of people experience nasal, eye or respiratory irritation from prolonged exposure to pimelea material. Please wear a dust mask when collecting large amounts. Take care when transporting material. Fresh material should not be put in a closed vehicle with people and air dried material should be transported in sealed containers such as a large esky or in a sealed plastic bag. Set the air conditioner to ‘fresh flow’ rather than ‘recirculate’. Transporting in the back of a utility, in the boot of a car, or stowed on a roof rack is desirable.

For further information, please contact Mary Fletcher on 07 344 32479 or via email at mary.fletcher@uq.edu.au



Queensland Herbarium Environmental Protection Agency

Botanical Specimens for Identification

Complete this form (one for **each** specimen)
and send with specimen/s to:

Botanical Advisory Service
Queensland Herbarium, EPA
Brisbane Botanic Gardens Mt Coot-tha
Mt Coot-tha Road,
TOOWONG QLD 4066

Office Use

Recd. _____
Ident. _____
Desp. _____
Our Ref.: _____

Name: Mary Fletcher
Company / Department: Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation, UQ
Postal Address Health and Food Sciences Precinct
PO Box 156 Archerfield 4108
Postcode 4108
Telephone: 07 344 32479 Fax: 3216 6565
email: Mary.fletcher@uq.edu.au

Please send results by post email fax telephone

Purpose of identification (e.g. commercial consultancy, suspected poisonous, possible weed etc)

Plants collected for pimelea toxin project

Information required (1) Identification & (2) Herbarium voucher AQ number, please

Label Information: *Specimens sent to the Queensland Herbarium for identification are frequently retained in the collection for scientific research and geographic distribution records. The label information below when accompanying **each** specimen aids the identification process and greatly increases the scientific value of the specimen.*

Collector's Name & No.: _____ Date of collection _____

Locality (include distance to nearest town) _____

Latitude _____ S Longitude _____ E Pastoral District: _____

Or Map and grid reference (eg 9442 333 666) _____

Or AMG Coordinates (Zone, Easting, Northing) _____

Geodetic System Used (GPS systems): e.g. AGD84, AGD66, WGS84, GDA94 _____

Situation (e.g. plain, creekbank, mountain) _____

Soil/Geology _____

Vegetation Type (e.g. forest, heath, cultivation, RE number) _____

Kind of plant (e.g. tree, vine, herb) _____

Description (e.g. size, bark type, flower or fruit colour, frequency) _____

Abundance _____

Other Notes Please place in the collection as a voucher and advise the AQ number. Please send a copy of this form and your identification report to Dr Mary Fletcher, QAAFI, PO Box 156 Archerfield 4108