

# Curriculum Vitae

for

## Taz Wild Plants

And Principals

Principals: Biz and Lindsay Nicolson

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Biz and Lindsay have been farming their 12,500 acre property “Bonneys Plains” for 31 years. In 1976 they established the **Taz Wild Plants** nursery on their farm, specialising in Tasmanian Native Plants. The company **Tasmanian Revegetation Services** was established in 1998.

## Achievements:

- Feb 2006      Festivalé Promotion of Taz Wild Foods and launch of Taz Wild Foods product range
- Sept 2005      *A Touch of Spice* Launch of Taz Wild Foods, Garden World Legana. Official opening by Kerry Finch MLA
- 2002-2006      Tasmanian Project Coordinator – Land Water & Wool project for Environment Australia – research of riparian management and revegetation on wool growing properties
- 2003-2005      Co-ordinator Upper Macquarie Rivercare Project
- 1999-2002      Initiated, planned and implemented Conara Floral Park project. This project was designed to provide nature conservation information to the traveling public and included an interpretation centre, a nature trail with interpretative signs, growing and planting rare roadside plants and rehabilitation of degraded bushland.
- Department Infrastructure Energy & Resources Planning Award*
- Tasmanian 2003 Landcare Award Winner – Nature Conservation Category*
- 1999-2002      Managed Midlands Bushweb project for the Northern Midlands Council. This project included the protection of over 6000 hectares, one third of this area protected in perpetuity, protection of 70 km of riverbanks, 120 hectares of rehabilitation and 156 hectares of revegetation and removal of gorse from 1000 hectares. Education kits for farmers and school children were produced, plus a roadside vegetation management manual. Instigated the Bandicoot project – this project was designed to protect small marsupials including the endangered eastern barred and brown bandicoots, bettongs and potoroos in the Longford to Cressy District. Final Report for project includes oral history project, natural history and flora pictures and descriptions in published book *The Nature of the Midlands*.
- Winners National Landcare Award – Nature Conservation Category, 2002*

- 2001 Initiated project – “Commercial Uses of Tasmanian Native Plants” – a project to explore new commercial enterprises based on native plants in harmony with the natural environment for Northern Midlands Council.
- 1999-2001 Project Managers – “Isis Rivercare” project
- 1998-2001 Coordinators “Upper South Esk – Corridors of Green” project.
- 1996 *Winners National Landcare Scholarship*
- Travel scholarship to study management, awareness and production of understorey vegetation.
- 1994 *Winners National “Primary Producer” Landcare Award*
- 1992 *Finalist National “Primary Producer” Landcare Award*
- 1991 *Winners “Farming for Agriculturally Sustainable Systems in Tasmania (FASST)*

## Committees:

Combined contribution:

Member National Landcare Advisory Committee.

Developed APASE (Advancing Productive Agricultural Sustainable Environments) with DPIE, DPI&F & TFGA

Rural Tree Decline Working Group

Board of Greening Australia (Tas) –Vice-president, two years

Understorey Network – Initiated network, inaugural president

Ben Lomond/Buffalo Brook Landcare Group – President 3 years, Secretary 3 years.

Tasmanian Landcare Association. – Vice-president

Community Information Network

State Landcare Assessment Panel – community rep 4 years

Rural Womens Network

Whole Farm Planning Consultative Group

TFGA Native Species Working Group

Avoca Tree Growing Group and Avoca Native Seed Bank – initiators 1982

## **Farm Tours:**

“Bonneys Plains” has hosted 46 farm tours, and field days and visits from:

- Farm Planning Groups
- Landcare Groups
- Farm Discussion Groups
- School and Agriculture College Students
- Forestry Groups (from Indonesia & South East Asia)
- TFGA
- National Landcare Conference Delegates
- Horticulturists
- Breed Societies
- Politicians
- Field Naturalists
- Land & Water Research & Development Corporation
- Department of Agriculture & other agency staff
- Agri-business consultants
- Interstate Farmers
- Landcare Officers and Individuals

## **Presentations:**

Case Study and other presentations have been made to:

- Twenty Five (25) Property Management Planning Courses
- Banking Industry
- TFGA Commodity Councillors
- Women in Agriculture Groups
- School of Agricultural Science classes
- Nature Conservation Off-Reserve Conference (Brisbane, Qld)
- National Native Grasses Conference (Clare, SA)
- Rivers Forum (Canberra, ACT)
- Victorian Catchment Management Conference (Beechworth, Vic)
- Numerous local seminars, conferences and meetings.