

## **Development of the Maranoa Balonne catchment community herbarium**

**Location:** Maranoa Balonne Landcare and Catchment Centre, Roma Qld.

**Field Supervision:** Paul Nicholls (*Field/Technical*),  
Additional support - Jamie Gorry, Angela Betts (*Administrative*), Pam Fisher (*Communication & media*)

### **Objectives**

- To conduct a review of the representative ecosystems and characteristic species of the Maranoa Balonne catchment. This entails a literature review component to collate the available information to enable appropriate species selection and collection. Consultation with government agency staff required.
- To identify and collect suitable species in representative ecosystems and process to herbarium standards. This entails fieldwork and landholder consultation.
- To develop a suitable electronic database of herbarium specimens including photographic records for use in on-line websites and other electronic media.

### **Purpose/outcomes**

It is expected the student would produce a herbarium of representative species in the major ecosystems for the Maranoa Balonne, including the development of an electronic database. Electronic media incorporating this information would be provided as vegetation resources for the wider community. All information forms would be used by QMDC Technical staff for reference purposes and in the development of workshop training materials.

### **Desired Skills of IP student**

A person with a keen interest in plant community ecology and identification, with:

- Proficient use of MS Access, Excel, Word software
- Basic GPS and mapping skills,
- Ability to use plant taxonomic keys,
- Knowledge of plant ecology and physiology
- Knowledge of vegetation survey techniques and practices,
- Knowledge in plant preservation for herbarium presentation,
- Literature review and research skills,
- Report writing for identified audience.

### **Expected skill development**

- Proficient use of electronic and paper taxonomic keys
- Plant identification accuracy for Brigalow Belt and Mulga Lands ecosystems
- Database design and management skills
- Negotiation/communications skills with landholders and government agencies
- Media design and presentation

**Other information**

- Student will require an Open drivers license (manual operation)
- Share accommodation and low fee lodging options are available in Roma
- Vehicle support will be provided to conduct the duties of the placement.
- Current collection of partially identified plant species (~100 specimens)