



# MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Garden volunteers help in Cooktown

August 8, 2017  
COOKTOWN

A group of Cairns volunteers has completed an inventory of Cooktown's historical Botanic Gardens which identified more than 200 species.

Cook Shire Council Botanic Gardens Curator Tony Roberts said the Society For Growing Australian Plants (SGAP) Cairns branch volunteers had pushed progress in the gardens forward by months or even years. "We have a team of only three, plus myself, in the gardens, and it is a massive job with limited resources," Mr Roberts said. "The work of volunteers like the Cairns SGAP team, is invaluable and sets us up to better manage the gardens in the future.

The SGAP volunteers, who spent two days at the gardens in July, identified more than 200 species in the gardens' 29 beds, as well as flora of interest along the neighbouring Scenic Rim walking trails. "The species inventory data will be added to a database and used to correctly label and manage plants in the future," Mr Robert said. "I would like to thank the Cairns SGAP volunteers for the incredible contributions they have made to our gardens."

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