

Honours project at the University of Tasmania, Hobart

Population genetics of the Tasmanian endemic yellow gums



- Study endemic Tasmanian eucalypts
- Extensive field work in Tasmania's mountains
- Internationally recognised research group

The morphology of the Tasmanian yellow gum eucalypts varies clinally on many Tasmanian mountains, from small shrubs on the mountaintops (*Eucalyptus vernicosa*), through small trees (*E. subcrenulata*) in sub-alpine woodland, to tall forest trees near the base of mountains (classified as *E. johnstonii* or *E. subcrenulata*).

This project will use well-established molecular genetics methods to understand the evolutionary changes which underlie the dramatic differences between tall and shrub forms along these mountain clines. It will involve extensive field work in sometimes difficult but beautiful terrain in the mountains of Tasmania. The data will be added to genotype databases that we are building for Tasmania's endemic eucalypts, which contribute to our understanding of evolutionary processes and feed into conservation management strategies for these species.

The **Eucalypt Genetics Group at UTAS**, led by Profs Potts and Vaillancourt, has a world-class interdisciplinary research programme that investigates the evolutionary and ecological forces that shape diversity in *Eucalyptus*.

The group consistently publishes in high impact journals, with recent publications in *Nature*, *New Phytologist* and *Molecular Biology and Evolution*.

The group collaborates with other universities and research institutions in Australia and internationally that can bring other skills to a supervisory team.

Learn more at www.eucalyptgenetics.com

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