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G'day LFWers and GFWers,

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Land for Wildlife News...

**CARING FOR OUR COUNTRY (CFOC)
 EVALUATION**

ECO FAIR 2012

Garden for Wildlife News...

With the weather beginning to slowly warm after a cold and frosty winter period, things have already started to get busy in gardens all over Alice Springs.

Reports have begun to trickle into the GfW inbox of wildlife beginning to make its appearance known in people's backyards. Members have begun to notice Fairy Wrens coming into breeding plumage, Butcherbirds



singing and even the odd snake or two warming up on sunny afternoons.

With increased courtship behaviour noticed in the feral Spotted Turtle Dove population, now's a great time to get involved in the trapping program aimed at ridding Alice Springs of these introduced avian invaders.

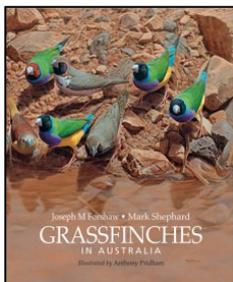
For more information on the dove trapping program, or to report interesting wildlife observations from your backyard, send us and email; lfw@lowecol.com.au

Articles & Contributions...

Community Notices...

On the Bookshelf...

GRASS FINCHES IN AUSTRALIA



Forshaw, Joseph,
Mark Shephard and
Anthony Pridham.

Collingwood: CSIRO
Publishing, 2012.

The only up-to-date, fully illustrated monograph on Australian grass finches. In this book, the authors have summarised our present knowledge of each species and have given readers a visual appreciation of the birds in their natural habitats and in aviculture. The resulting combination of superb artwork and scientifically accurate text ensures that this volume will become the standard reference work on Australian grass finches.

LIFE IN A GALL; THE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY OF INSECTS THAT LIVE IN PLANT GALLS.



Blanche, Rosalind

CSIRO Publishing, 2012

This book introduces the Australian native insects that induce galls on plants and the plant species that host them. It explores the ways the insects have adapted to

living part of their lives in the confined spaces of galls, and describes the strategies employed by different insect groups to find a suitable site to induce a gall, obtain food, mate and escape the gall.

Life in a Gall also looks at the predators, parasitoids, inquilines, kleptoparasites and micro-organisms that prey on gall-inducing insects and the ways the insects defend themselves from these enemies. It covers the problems gall-inducing insects can cause for agriculture, forestry and horticulture, and gives examples of several pest species. On the positive side, the book describes the essential services gall-inducing insects provide by pollinating figs, controlling invasive weeds and contributing to indigenous food.

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Thanks for all the emails and photographs this month everyone. Please keep them coming for the next edition.

Cheers,

Jesse, Chris, and Bill

