

## **“Seek and Share” Around the World**

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Wonderful people, great ideas, and lasting friendships — this is what I.P.P.S. is all about.

I (senior author) have been a member of I.P.P.S. for 15 years. While I am not now a plant propagator, I can travel the world and enjoy meeting new plant people and catching up with fellow I.P.P.S. members, see what is happening, and pick up new ideas I can share with others.

Here are two ideas that immediately come to mind:

- 1) Did you know that smoke helps many Australian and South African native seeds to germinate?
- 2) Petrol can be used to clean sticky seeds.

When I first came to Japan to the conference in Miyazaki 5 years ago I had a wonderful time. It was a totally new experience. I left, however, with an impression that Japan was very Americanized but how wrong that proved to be.

I met my dear friend Shozo Watanabe at an I.P.P.S. conference in New Zealand a few years back and since then my visits to Japan have been more than memorable. Shozo has shown me the real Japan. He has shared your culture and your horticulture with me. I find it absolutely fascinating, quite unique, and different from what happens back home in New Zealand. This is the kind of friendship and sharing that happens within I.P.P.S. worldwide. I.P.P.S. is a community, a family.

People who have been in the industry only a short time and those who have spent a life time in it have a place to share knowledge that will make our industry stronger and build on what our fathers passed on to us.

The aim of this paper is to expand the following concepts promoted by I.P.P.S.:

- That I.P.P.S. encourages and fosters horticultural information sharing and education.
- The long-term benefits to ornamental horticulture and the future of I.P.P.S. when young and skilled people are encouraged to join and participate.

I will now show a series of slides which start with a youngster and finishes with one of I.P.P.S.'s oldest members showing the contributions of people of all ages, abilities, and achievements.

This presentation also aims to demonstrate the international I.P.P.S. community and New Zealand I.P.P.S. activities.