



## MEDIA RELEASE

9 February 2009

### **Botanic Gardens staff to converge in Mackay**

The peak body for botanic gardens across Australia and New Zealand today announced Mackay as the host city for its 2009 Congress.

Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand (BGANZ) President Philip Moors said the Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens would host the Congress, which is expected to attract between 150 and 200 delegates.

“There is widespread concern for the planet and its ecosystems as a result of manmade impacts on the natural environment and economic insecurity, and this congress will explore the role that botanic gardens can play in helping their communities to ensure a sustainable future.

“The Congress recognises the role and responsibilities of botanic gardens as a resource for the future preservation of species and to support the global effort to retain significant and regionally important plant materials,” Dr Moors said.

The Congress takes place from 8 – 10 October and is hosted by Mackay Regional Botanic Gardens. The theme of the Congress, *Plan(e)t Priority: Regional Reality*, will allow delegates to explore the significance of regional botanic gardens and the unique plant resources preserved in regional centres.

Further information about the Congress is available from the Conference Secretariat, Wombat Creative on 07 5538 5109 or [bganz@wombatcreative.com.au](mailto:bganz@wombatcreative.com.au). A call for papers has been made and closes Friday 6 March. Registration, program and venue details will be available online shortly at [www.wombatcreative.com.au/bganz](http://www.wombatcreative.com.au/bganz).

#### **Congress Secretariat**

Wombat Creative Pty Ltd

PO Box 878 | Broadbeach Q 4218

Phone 07 5538 5109 | Fax 07 5538 9843

Email [bganz@wombatcreative.com.au](mailto:bganz@wombatcreative.com.au)