**Grevillea spp and Petalostigma pubescens**

Dr. Ian Cock

**Figure 1:** Grevillea spp: Grevillea (family Proteaceae) is a genus of approximately 360 species, most of which are native to Australia, although some species are also native to Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and the South Pacific region. Indigenous Australians used some Grevillea species as a food plant and as a medicine. The leaves and bark in particular were used to treat skin sores, cuts and as a general antiseptic.\(^1\) Recent studies have verified the antibacterial properties of one species, *Grevillea robusta.*\(^2\) This photograph was taken in Brisbane, Australia by Dr Ian Cock in June 2010.

**REFERENCES**


**Figure 2:** Petalostigma pubescens: The genus Petalostigma (family Picrodendraceae) consists of seven species including two species, *Petalostigma pubescens* and *Petalostigma triloculare* which are both commonly known as ‘quinine tree’. An infusion of the bark or the fruit in water is known to have been used by Australian Aborigines to relieve sore eyes, and as an antiseptic.\(^1\) Fruit was also held in the mouth to relieve toothache.\(^1\) Studies within my laboratory have demonstrated the toxicity and broad spectrum antiseptic properties of the leaves and fruit.\(^3\) This photograph was taken in January 2011 in Toohey Forrest, Australia by Dr Ian Cock.