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Spring on Dazzling Display at the Mogumber Farm

Spring has definitely sprung at the Mogumber Farm with over 130 different species of plant life bursting into a dazzling display. Staff from the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) recently conducted a week long survey to document and collect samples of the plant species on the 5045 hectare property west of New Norcia.

Plants such as the Spider Orchid, Cowslip Orchid and Donkey Orchid were documented along with Coneflowers, Featherflowers, Wild Honeysuckle, Starflowers and many more. The samples will be sent to the West Australian Herbarium to be properly identified before being returned to the Traditional Owners of the area the Yued people.

Mr. Glen Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of SWLASC said, "Western Australia is home to some stunning plant life and the Mogumber Farm has got its fair share of species. This survey lets us know what types of plants we have growing on the farm. From this we are able to work with the Yued people to protect and conserve this beautiful area".

"Surveys can actually be quite intense, our staff spend 5 days camped out at the site waking before dawn each morning to get the surveys underway", he added.

The samples will strengthen the Herbariums database on Western Australian Plant life and also be used by the Yued people as a comprehensive record of the species on the farm.

The survey was conducted twice a day over 5 days. It included surveying 6 different types of habitats which ranged from heathland and Banksia woodlands to the canopy habitat of the Marri tree.

The surveys were funded through the Catchment Demonstration Initiative, which is a joint project between the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council and the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council.

The South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council is a representative body for the traditional owners of the South West of Australia, the Noongar People. SWALSC's main role is to work with its members to find resolutions for Native Title Claims in the south west as well as advancing the Noongar culture, language and society.

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