



Website: <u>www.hwoodturners.org</u>

2020 - Issue No 5 Friday 6th March Tutor: Clive Wilson 027 491 3868

Your new committee and portfolio responsibilities **OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY** NAME **Andre Duijnmayer** President **Robert Wiseley** Treasurer **Spencer Heald** Secretary **Fundraising Stephen Hawley Murray Price Membership and Events Stephen O'Connor Working Bee organisation** Working bees and maintenance assist Jacob Parker **Michael Doyle Machinery (Training and Safety)** Paul Wake Workshop organisation **Don McNaughton** Workshop organisation John Baker **Property Bob Hoyle Maintenance and Property**

Ex Officio committee

Clive Wilson Colin McKenzie David Rose Club Tutor - TT production/distribution Wood recovery and control Website maintenance



In a very short time **JAMES** converted a "wet" turned shape into a shiny smooth bowl. Wet turnings speed up the drying process, and together with micro-wave drying, the drying time can be reduced from maybe a year to just six-weeks. Wow! James could now be looking for more "Wetties" to turn.



The magnolia wood bowl - *above left* – and the small totara wood with inlaid lid – *above right* - were neatly crafted by **MALCOLM PORTEOUS.**

Look for **Malcolm's** future turning projects having special enhancements to be created with his new texturing tool

Saturday mornings 9.00am to 12 noon. Tomorrow – 7th March

The workshop will be available to club members for members to catch up on project work

Duty officer: Robert Wiseley

MEMBERS ONLY

Very low priced wood slabs for turning projects..

Rewarewa - Ash – Poplar - Plum - Chestnut - Cherry

This wood is currently stored at **COLIN's** residence in Te Awamutu. If you would like some of these treasures please contact COLIN and place your order.

Note: The wood is sap wet, end grains have been sealed and all you will need to do is....either.... put the slab into storage for drying ...or you can speed up the drying process by making several wet turnings out of your newly-purchased slabs.

BARGAINS HERE!







Three-cornered bowl/pot/vase shaped turning. This is the first of many projects currently underway across all three sessions. **COLIN** has done a great job guiding a keen bunch of turners with this special club project. The excellent example in picture was completed by **JOHN** Baker. A "Goodonya" gong for this job.



A working bee will be held on

Saturday 21st March

at the workshop

9.00am to 12noon

(keep this date free on your calendar)

RICHARD "the experimenter" JACKSON has been super-busy again









RICHARD "the experimenter" continues his foray into the 'Have-a-go' world of wood turning.

Top left: Goblet with ceramic cup. *Top right:* Goblet with glass cup. *Middle:* a stained pot with a (you'd never guess) a Loofah fibre wrap! *Bottom left:* A totara pot where drying has halted the effects of gradual decay. *Bottom right:* Resin inlays with dyes added by partial mixing to create the 'blotching' effect. These experiments are challenging, exciting, interesting and always engender lots of valuable learning discussions among our members. A "Goodonya" gong for these treasures.

TONKA WOOD - Dipteryx odorata

Dipteryx odorata (commonly known as "tonka", "cumaru" or "kumaru") is a species of <u>flowering tree</u> in the <u>pea</u> family, <u>Fabaceae</u>. The tree is native to Central America and northern <u>South America^[1]</u> and is <u>semi-deciduous</u>.¹

Its <u>seeds</u> are known as **tonka beans**.

They are black and wrinkled and have a smooth, brown interior.

They have a strong fragrance similar to sweet woodruff due to their high content of coumarin.

Biology of the tree

The tree grows up to 25–30 meters, with a trunk of up to one meter in diameter.

The tree bark is smooth and grey, whereas the wood is red.

The tree has alternate pinnate leaves with three to six leaflets, leathery, glossy and dark green, and pink flowers. Each developed fruit contains one seed. *D. odorata* is pollinated by insects. The worst pests are the <u>bats</u> because they eat the pulpy flesh of the fruit.

<u>Radio-carbon dating</u> of *D. odorata* stumps left by a large logging operation, showed that it was one of around 100 species which definitely live to over 1,000 years.

Until their research, it had been assumed unlikely that any Amazonian tree could live to old age due to the conditions of the rain forest.

Seeds

The tonka seed contains <u>coumarin</u>, a chemical isolate from this plant, which also gave the name to it. The seeds normally contain about 1 to 3% of coumarin, but rarely can it achieve 10%. Coumarin is responsible for the seed's pleasant odor and is used in the perfume industry. Coumarin is bitter to the taste, however, and, in large infused doses, it may cause hemorrhages, liver damage, or paralysis of the heart

It is therefore controlled as a food additive by many governments. Like a number of other plants, the tonka bean plant probably produces coumarin as a defense chemical.



The smooth brown inside of the tonka bean

Uses



Tonka beans were used as a <u>vanilla</u> substitute, as a <u>perfume</u>, and in <u>tobacco</u> before being banned in some countries.

They are used in some French cuisine (particularly, in desserts and stews) and in perfumes.

The use of Tonka beans in the food industry is regulated/restricted in the United States by the <u>Food and Drug Administration</u> Many anticoagulant prescription drugs, such as <u>warfarin</u>, are based on <u>4-hydroxycoumarin</u>, a chemical derivative of coumarin initially isolated from this bean.

Coumarin, however, does not have anticoagulant properties. There have been calls for removing the restrictions on the use of tonka beans in food in the United States.

The regulations are criticized as unreasonable due to the unlikelihood of consuming enough coumarin to cause ill effects and due to the presence of coumarin in unregulated foods

The beans were formerly also spelled "tonquin"^[10] and "tonkin",^[11] although it has no connection with <u>Tonkin</u>, now part of <u>Vietnam</u>. Tonquin is still used today to flavor some pipe tobaccos, such as <u>Samuel Gawith</u> "1792 Flake."

The wood: Heartwood tends to be a medium to dark brown, sometimes with a reddish or purplish hue. Lustre is low to medium. Main uses are for flooring, heavy construction, docks, railroad ties, bearings, handles and other turned objects. Tonka is very hard, strong and tough.

Cumaru, also known as Brazilian teak, is an increasingly popular hardwood used for flooring in the United States. It has a very appealing natural color variation and is considered quite durable.

Cultivation: Today, the main producers of tonka beans are Venezuela and Nigeria. The cumaru tree is an <u>emergent plant</u>, and a light-demanding <u>calcifuge</u> tree which grows on poor, well-drained soils. The best growth is reached on fertile soils rich in <u>humus</u>. In the native region there is a mean annual temperature of 25 °C and about 2000 mm rainfall per year with a dry season from June to November. In general, it has a very low plant density, but depending on the agricultural use, the density and the age of the trees diversify. In seed production systems, the plant density is higher and the trees are older than in timber production systems. The tree flowers from March to May, and the fruits ripen from June to July. So, the fresh fruits are picked up in June and July, and fallen pods are harvested from January to March or sometimes earlier. The hard outer shell is removed and the beans are spread out for 2–3 days to dry, after which they can be sold. The major producer is Venezuela, followed by Brazil and Colombia. The most important importing country is the <u>United States</u>, where it is used especially in the tobacco industry

Social aspects

This species is well known locally and generates an important income for rural families, particularly as a buffer in times of hardship. It is used for timber and non-timber products, so it is crucial that the use of this resource occurs in a sustainable way. The yield of beans per tree is about 1.0–3.5 kg per year, but cumaru trees produce a large volume of seeds every four years.



Tonka trees can grow up to 25–30 metres, with a trunk of up to one metre in diameter. The reddish coloured

wood is strong, hard and tough.

NOTE: I have a small quantity suitable for pen making. Let me know and I will give you some tonka wood to try.

Cheers Clive



DON completed his 24- wood variety segmented bowl. Patience and determination went a long way into producing this beauty.



JIM was challenged with several aspects with this design and it all turned out well. Well done Jim.



ANDRE` laminated 18 planks of re-cycled rimu wood to achieve the large size needed for his top-job bowl.



JACOB's garden dibber is so flash it might not ever get off the display shelf for fear of getting dirt on it.

An additional tool for each of the tool racks

A small hole-making tool has been placed on each of the lathe tool racks.

These gizmos were made from sharpening the end of an old screw driver. Use these for marking on projects, or for making holes to accommodate either of the two centres.

Please keep these gadgets in the small hole provided.



COLIN adorned his ash wood bowl with some quite skilful pyrography etching.

The added leather belt adds interest too.

Good one Colin!

RICHARD M. has completed the spindle turning section of the club's introductory programme with this Jim Dandy paper-pots maker. Next week it's an introduction to face plate turning.

Bowl making here we come!



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See you all next week

> Cheers Clive