

## PROVENANCE for MYRMECODIA PLATYTYREA from MOSSMAN GORGE, AUSTRALIA

In 2008 I got seeds from a grower in Australia for a plant labeled as “Myrmecodia platytyrea, Mossman, Australia”. When the plant got older it became obvious that it was not a regular *M. platytyrea* because: (1.) it had succulent leaves that normal platytyreas do not have, and (2.) it lacked the “corn cob-like” arrangement of the clypeoli on the stem that is very striking and characteristic of *M. platytyrea*.

So my plant (and others grow it as well) has ended up as part of an extended discussion about *M. platytyrea* and the Mossman plant on the Ant-plant forum at <http://myrmecodia.invisionzone.com/> Look in the Myrmecodia section and then the board: “Myrmecodia platytyrea subsp. antoinii “Mossman Form”” I am the “Frank” entries in that discussion.

So, the consensus now is that the plants in Mossman Gorge are not typical *M. platytyreas*. And the expectation is that they will be elevated to a new species in the future.

Also emerging from discussions on that forum is the fact that the caudex on the mature Mossman plants can be one of two shapes, conical or flattened. Seeds from any one fruit can produce either or both forms of caudex in their offspring. (photo courtesy of Robert Pulvirenti)



This is a photo of the plant I will be sending you. It is in a 3 inch pot and was sown on April 2, 2016

