

Your details

Title

Mr

First name

Hedley

Last name

Smith

Submission details

Submission type

I am making a personal submission

Organisation making the submission (if applicable)

Mr

Your position in the organisation (if applicable)

Mr

Consent to make submission public

I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story

To: Royal Commission into Bush Fires 2018

From: Hedley J Smith

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] phone [REDACTED]

Re: Characteristics of eucalyptus oil in air on hot summer days.

I wish to draw the Commissioners attention to a symbiosis that exists between eucalyptus trees, air temperature,

humidity and ourselves under certain conditions in hot weather.

The salient points of the above items, taken in conjunction with characteristics of eucalyptus trees, are that said trees exude a cloud of oil from their leaves on a rising temperature gradient protecting their leaves.

As the oil has a flashpoint of 49 C, a flame or lightning strike explodes the oil, which then immediately ignites the other trees nearby, and heat and fire travels at great speed from tree to tree.

Having grown up in the Blue Mountains from 1940, I became acutely aware of this danger, and learnt how to protect our home with clearance of debris and nearby fuel sources.

I hope this information helps in understanding the basis leading to recent catastrophes.

Regards, Hedley J Smith.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#).

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- RoyalComBF.docx

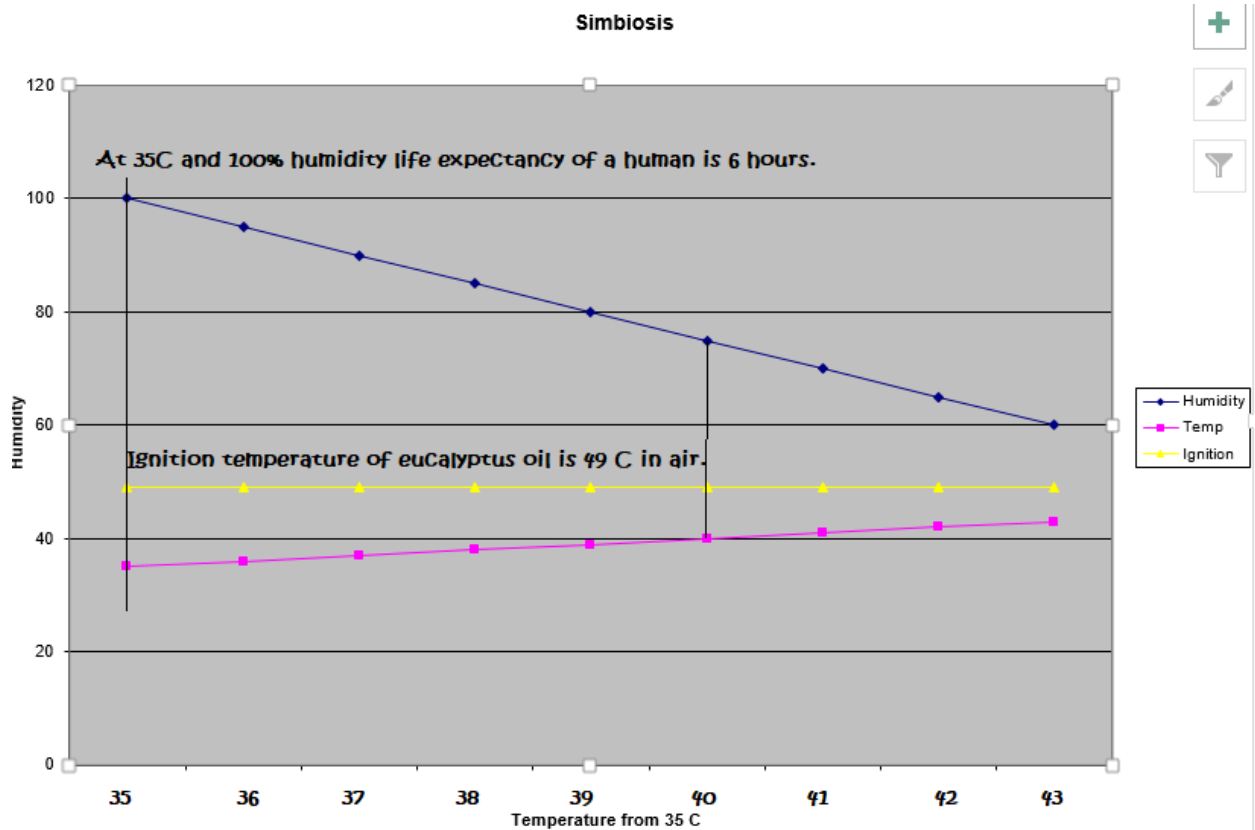
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To: Temora Independent
From: Hedley Smith
Re: Heat
Date: 6th March 2018

Sir,

The Independent March 2 featured a headline "Scorching summer ends _
Temora hits 44.3 degrees in January".

By sheer chance I was reading the January 20 edition of "New Scientist"
and I quote:

"an ambient temperature of 35 degrees and 100 per cent humidity is
considered the limit for human survival. Above this, even a healthy
person in the shade won't live longer than 6 hours."

Equivalent is 40 degrees and 75 per cent humidity.

We all should take this on board and think about next summer.

Particularly if there is no electric power available for air
conditioning.

Regards,

H J Smith.

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