



# Tassie flora tipped for cosmetics

By SEAN FORD

NORTH-West pyrethrum producer Botanical Resources Australia is part of a consortium whose work may lead to commercialisation of bioactive extracts from Tasmanian plants.

The project will lead to Tasmanian manufacturing and possibly science jobs, plus potential new income streams for farmers.

The Australian Bioactives Consortium has identified three Tasmanian plant extracts with potential for the cosmetics market.

They are the Tasmanian native pepper leaf, the blackcurrant cane and the tanacetum daisy flower.

ASX-listed Atlas Pearls and Perfumes Limited said its wholly-owned subsidiary, Kingston-based Essential Oils Tasmania (EOT), would now "further refine research parameters, assess

manufacturing capacity and investigate commercialisation opportunities of the extracts.

The consortium was established in 2011, aiming to deliver Tasmanian-sourced extracts with "proven bioactivity" relevant to the cosmetics industry.

Bioactive means having a biological effect.

EOT managing director Stephen Gleeson said: "EOT sees great

market potential for these extracts in the cosmetics industry and will continue to explore a range of international opportunities to commercialise this exciting part of Atlas Pearls and Perfumes' land-based business."

"EOT will build and commission an innovative manufacturing facility in Tasmania for production of fragrance, flavour and cosmetic ingredients

from unique Australian indigenous botanicals and marine (pearls) and fungal products, and secure long-term supply agreements for these products."

He said it would include Australia's first commercial supercritical fluid extraction (SFE) plant using carbon dioxide for extraction of ingredients and bioactive compounds.

"Tasmania is recognised as an attractive source of new cosmetic ingredients because of its environmentally pure resources," Mr Gleeson said.

The consortium included EOT, Botanical Resources, IP Pragmatics, Diemen Pepper, Ranicar Pacific, MacTavish West and the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation.