

HABITAT PLANTING GUIDE

Local Native Plants of the Tomaree Peninsula



ecopollinators



Eggs and Bacon



Rice Flower

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ABOUT THE PLANTING GUIDE

UNDERSTOREY AND GROUND COVERING PLANTS

This planting guide covers ground covering plants and small to mid-size shrubs that grow naturally on the Tomaree Peninsula. The plants should generally be available from local native plant nurseries though some plants may be seasonal. The guide excludes trees and wetland plants.

UNDERSTANDING THE GUIDE

- **Natural habitat** – the landscape where the plant grows naturally – this can be used as a guide if you have similar conditions on your site.
- **Light & Moisture** – unless otherwise indicated, most of the plants on this guide grow best in well-drained soil (water drains at a moderate rate without undue pooling). Only 'dry' or 'moist' soil conditions are listed if these are more optimal for the plant.
- **Fauna Habitat** – small wildlife which may be attracted to the plant for food or shelter.
- **Additional Attributes** – other attributes and ecological values of the plant, such as erosion control, windbreaks etc.

QUICK TIPS FOR HABITAT PLANTING

- **For native bees and other pollinators** – select a diverse mix of species so there are flowers across every season. Plant a range of colours and flower shapes, with emphasis on blue, purple/pink, white, violet and yellow flowers. Plant in clumps large enough to provide good sight and smell signals for pollinators.
- **For small native birds** – select a mix of plant structures, heights and densities¹: an inner sanctum of soft leafy shrubs, a protective circle of spiky-leafed plants and an 'eating-out' area made up of small shrubs, ground covers and grasses². Plants should provide a mix of food groups (nectar, fruit, seed or attract insects); consider the plants in your surrounding area to identify gaps in food or shelter needs for small birds.
- **For birds and other small wildlife, for healthy soil structure and erosion control assistance** – ensure there is a ground layer of leaf litter, natural bark, fallen sticks, branches, logs and rocks. Some small patches can be left bare for ground-nesting native bees.

¹ Structural complexity (the availability of vegetation at a variety of heights) is more influential on the bird community than whether the vegetation is native or exotic and is considered vital to establish bird friendly habitat – Best Practice Guidelines for Enhancing Urban Bird Habitat: Scientific Report, Birds in Backyards. <https://www.birdsinbackyards.net>

² Creating a Small Bird Habitat Haven, Habitat Network. <https://www.habitatnetwork.org>



ABOUT THE PLANTING GUIDE

FOR IMAGES OF PLANTS AND MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE:

Australian Native Plants Society: <https://resources.austplants.com.au/plant-database/>

Plants of South Eastern NSW: https://apps.lucidcentral.org/plants_se_nsw/text/intro/index.html





COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NATURAL HABITAT ³	LIGHT & MOISTURE	FLOWERING ⁴				FLOWER COLOUR	HEIGHT X SPREAD	FAUNA HABITAT	ADDITIONAL ATTRIBUTES
				S	S	A	W				
GROUND COVERING PLANTS											
Flannel Flower	<i>Actinotus helianthi</i>	Sandstone ridges	Sun (Dry)					White	Up to 90cm x 30cm	Range of insects	Can be used as container plant
Christmas Bells	<i>Blandfordia grandiflora</i>	Rock shelves, slopes, ridges	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)					Red-orange	80cm x 50cm	Native bees, nectar-feeding birds, kangaroos, wallabies	Can be used as container plant
Cut-leaved Daisy	<i>Brachyscome multifida</i> (syn. <i>Brachycome</i>)	Dry forest, grassy areas, and roadsides	Sun to semi-shade					Mauve	45cm x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, wasps, beetles	Soil-binding roots for erosion control; container plant; hanging basket
Pale Grass-Lily	<i>Caesia parviflora</i>	Ridges, slopes	Sun to semi-shade (Moist to well-drained)					White	75cm x 25cm	Native bees, hover flies, flies	Tuberous roots
Pigface	<i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>	Coastal sand dunes and sandstone cliffs	Sun (Dry)					Purple	20cm x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, fruit-eating birds	Creeping succulent with low flammability; wind erosion control; soil-binding for loose sandy soils; salt tolerant
Swamp Lily, Spider Lily	<i>Crinum pedunculatum</i>	Coastal swamps, along streams, beaches	Sun to semi-shade (Moist to well-drained)					White	60cm x 1m Flower stalk 1.5m	Insect-pollinated; native bees	Waterway or bank rehabilitation; street planting; scented flowers
Blue Flax Lily	<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Riverbanks, hillsides	Sun to semi-shade					Blue	Up to 1m x 30cm	Native bees (buzz pollinated) ⁵ , hover flies, butterflies, fruit-eating birds, lizards, frogs	Stabilises soil

³ Source for Natural Habitat, Flowering and Seeding information: Benson, D. and McDougall, L. (National Herbarium of New South Wales, Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney, Australia, 2000). Ecology of Sydney plant species: Parts 1 – 10. For additional references, please see <https://www.econetworkkps.org/ecopollinators/>

⁴ Flowering: darker shade indicates the primary flowering period for at least 2 months of the season; lighter shade indicates some flowering during the season.

⁵ Pollen in some flowers is hidden inside little pores at the tip of the stamen which most bees cannot reach. Buzz pollinator bees, such as Blue Banded Bees, Teddy Bear Bees, and Carpenter Bees, wrap their bodies around the flower and vigorously vibrate their flight muscles, making a loud, high-pitched buzzing noise. The pollen inside the pore flies out and the bee collects some for her nests.



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GROUND COVERING PLANTS											
Kidney Weed	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Woodland, creek flats	Semi-shade	■	■			Pale yellow	15cm Mat-forming		Lawn substitute in low traffic areas; erosion control
Gynea Lily	<i>Doryanthes excelsa</i>	Hillsides, plateaus	Sun to semi-shade			■	■	Red	1m x 1.5m Flower stalk up to 4m	Native bees, nectar-feeding birds	Needs deep soil and more suited to a large garden
Variable-leaved Goodenia	<i>Goodenia heterophylla</i>	Ridges, plateaus, hillsides	Semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Yellow	40cm x 1m	Native bees, hover flies	
Whiteroot	<i>Lobelia purpurascens</i> (syn. <i>Pratia</i>)	Shaded wet areas in forest, levee banks	Semi-shade (Moist)	■	■	■	■	White	30cm x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, brown flies, lizards, frogs; ground area for small birds	
Wattle Mat-rush	<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	Hillsides	Sun to semi-shade	■				Yellow	50cm x 20cm	Butterflies, seed-eating birds; useful habitat for ground fauna	Soil-binding roots for erosion control
Ribbon Grass, Spiny-headed Mat-rush	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Gullies, creeks	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Pale Yellow	Up to 1m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, wasps, hover flies, flies beetles, insect- and seed-eating birds, small frogs, lizards	Stabilising banks
Leafy Purple Flag, Native Iris	<i>Patersonia glabrata</i>	Plateaus, hillsides	Sun	■			■	Violet	Up to 80cm x 30cm	Native bees, beetles, large range of insects	
Grass Leaf Trigger Plant, Grass Trigger	<i>Stylidium graminifolium</i>	Swampy hollows, steep slopes, cliff faces	Sun to semi-shade	■	■			Pink	60cm x 25cm	Native bees	Container plant
Ivy-leaved Violet	<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Sheltered moist places, creekbanks	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)	■	■	■	■	White and mauve	20cm Mat-forming	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies; insect-eating birds; shelter for skinks and small frogs	Lawn substitute; container plant; hanging basket



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				S	S	A	W				
VINES, CLIMBERS AND SCRAMBLERS											
Appleberry	<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Gullies, hillsides; moist open forest	Semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Cream	50cm x 3m	Native bees; nectar-feeding birds; fruit-eating birds and small mammals	Small shrub when in the open; playground friendly
Headache Vine	<i>Clematis glycinoides</i>	Gullies, creekbanks	Sun to semi-shade	■	■		■	White	Up to 15m	Native bees, butterflies; shelter for small birds	Leaves strongly scented when crushed
Wombat Berry	<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i>	Gullies and moist hillsides	Semi-shade	■	■			Pale pink	Up to 6m	Native bees, beetles, fruit-eating birds; shelter for small birds; wombats eat tuberous roots	
Scrambling Lily	<i>Geitonoplesium cymosum</i>	Gullies, slopes	Semi-shade (Moist)	■	■			Mauve	Up to 8m	Native bees, fruit-eating birds	
Twining Glycine	<i>Glycine clandestina</i>	Hillsides to edges of swamps	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Mauve	Up to 2m	Native bees, butterflies, wasps	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility ⁶
Purple Coral Pea, False Sarsaparilla	<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Woodland and forest	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Purple	Up to 2m	Native bees, butterflies, wasps, insect-eating birds, ants, lizards; shelter for small birds	Container plant; nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Climbing Guinea Flower	<i>Hibbertia scandens</i>	Coastal dunes, foredune and hind dunes	Sun to shade	■	■	■	■	Yellow	Up to 4m	Nectarless flowers but popular for native bee forage (buzz pollinated), beetles; host food for Satin Green-Forester Moth; fruit-eating birds; shelter for small birds	Root infected by mycorrhiza, likely to assist nutrition
Dusky Coral Pea, Running Postman	<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	Variety of habitats especially in coastal districts	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Coral	Up to 4m	Native bees (favourite of leaf-cutter bees), butterflies; shelter for small birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Wonga Wonga Vine	<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Moist gullies; rocky sites	Sun to semi-shade (Moist to well-drained)	■			■	White	Up to 6m	Native bees, butterfly food plant, nectar- and seed-eating birds; shelter for small birds	Playground friendly

⁶ Nitrogen is essential for producing proteins and chlorophyll, promoting healthy leaf growth and thick stems



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SMALL SHRUBS - FOR OUTER EDGES AND INNER HEIGHT VARIETY											
Swamp Banksia	<i>Banksia robur</i>	Permanently damp sites on plateaus	Sun (Moist)	■	■	■	■	Greenish	1m x 2m	Native bees, nectar-feeding birds and small mammals such as Brown Antechinus and sugar gliders; nesting material for Green Carpenter Bees	Dramatic plant with a bold outline; plentiful nectar; cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Variable Bossiaea	<i>Bossiaea heterophylla</i>	Ridges, hillsides	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Yellow	Up to 1m x 60cm	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, wasps, beetles, flies	
Eggs and Bacon	<i>Bossiaea stephonsii</i>	Ridges, hillsides, less commonly gullies	Sun	■			■	Yellow	Up to 1m x 1m	Native bees, beetles	Exposed sites
White Correa	<i>Correa alba</i>	Beaches and headlands; coastal	Sun to semi-shade (Well-drained to dry)			■	■	White	1.5m x 1m	Native bees, small honeyeaters, wombats	Leaves aromatic when rubbed; tolerates salt spray
Common Correa, Native Fuchsia	<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Hillsides, gullies	Sun to semi-shade	■		■	■	Red-green	Up to 1.5m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, beetles, small honeyeaters, seed-eating birds, wombats	Fibrous root system for erosion control; container plant
Prickly Bitter-pea	<i>Daviesia acicularis</i>	Dry woodland	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Red-brown	Up to 1m x 1.5m	Native bees; spiky plant for small birds	
Smooth Parrot-pea	<i>Dillwynia glaberrima</i>	Deep sandy deposits	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Yellow	Up to 1m x 2m	Native bees, beetles; spiky plant for small birds	Suitable to plant under trees
Hop Goodenia	<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Cliff tops, hillsides, creekbanks, roadsides	Semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Yellow	Up to 1m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, nectar- and insect-eating birds; rosellas eat fruit; shelter and food source for native mice; shelter for lizards	Quick-growing filler



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SMALL SHRUBS - FOR OUTER EDGES AND INNER HEIGHT VARIETY											
Broad-leaf Drumsticks	<i>Isopogon anemonifolius</i>	Ridgetops and open sites	Sun to semi-shade	█	█		█	Yellow	Up to 1.5m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, nectar-feeding birds	Not suitable for wet sites
Thyme Honey Myrtle	<i>Melaleuca thymifolia</i>	Damp places and margins of swamps	Sun (Moist)	█	█	█		Pink	1m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, nectar-feeding birds, webbing moth caterpillar	Leaves aromatic when rubbed
Rice Flower	<i>Pimelea linifolia</i> subsp. <i>linifolia</i>	Hillsides, sandhills, cliffs	Sun to semi-shade	█	█	█	█	White	1.5m x 50cm	Native bees, butterflies, flies	
Shrubby Platysace	<i>Platysace lanceolata</i>	Steep rocky slopes and dry ridges	Sun to semi-shade (Dry)	█			█	White	Up to 1.5m x 40cm	Butterflies	
Pomax	<i>Pomax umbellata</i>	Ridges, cliff tops	Sun to shade	█				Reddish	40cm Spreading	Native bees	
Notched Bush-pea	<i>Pultenaea retusa</i>	Swampy to well-drained sites	Sun to semi-shade	█			█	Orange-yellow	1m x 1.5m	Native bees	
Fan Flower	<i>Scaevola calendulacea</i>	Coastal headlands and dunes	Sun to shade	█	█	█	█	Blue	40cm x 1m	Native bees	Mat-forming; container plant; hanging basket
Thyme Pink Bells	<i>Tetradlea thymifolia</i>	Hillslopes, rocky outcrops	Sun to semi-shade	█				Pink	Up to 1m x 75cm	Native bees (buzz pollinated), butterflies, other insects	Stoloniferous and suckering for erosion control; container plant



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SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Fringed Wattle	<i>Acacia fimbriata</i>	Ridges and hillsides	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Yellow	6m x 6m	Native bees, small honeyeaters, fairy wrens, Australasian Fig Birds, Noisy Friarbirds, Willy Wagtails, Crimson Rosellas, King Parrots	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; hedging and screening
Sydney Golden Wattle	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> subsp. <i>longifolia</i>	Ridges, hillsides, creeks	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Yellow	1-8m x 3m	Native bees, butterflies, moths, hover flies, wasps, beetles, insect- and seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Red-stemmed Wattle, Myrtle Wattle	<i>Acacia myrtifolia</i>	Sandstone ridges, hillsides	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Pale yellow	Up to 3m x 2m	Native bees, beetles, nectar-feeding insects, insect- and seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Coastal Wattle	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> subsp. <i>sophorae</i>	Coastal headlands, adjacent alluvial flats and sand dunes	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Yellow	Up to 3m x 2-4m	Native bees, hover flies, insect- and seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Hop Wattle	<i>Acacia stricta</i>	Open-forest margins; disturbed sites	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Pale yellow	1-6m x 2-4m	Native bees, insect- and seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; often suckers; windbreaks
Sweet Wattle	<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	Hillsides, rocky ridges	Sun to semi-shade	■		■	■	Pale yellow	Up to 2.5m x 2m	Native bees, hover flies, beetles; host plant for Green Wood Moth; insect- and seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; early flowering with fragrant flowers
Sunshine Wattle	<i>Acacia terminalis</i>	Dry forest and heath; sometimes swampy areas and along creeks	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■	■	Pale yellow	3m x 1.5m	Native bees, butterflies, beetles; nectar, insect- and seed-eating birds; feathery foliage for small birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility



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SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Prickly Moses	<i>Acacia ulicifolia</i>	Sandstone ridges and sand dunes	Sun to semi-shade	█		█	█	Pale yellow	Up to 2m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, moths, hover flies, wasps, beetles, flies; nectar, insect- and seed-eating birds	Soil-binding fibrous roots for erosion control; nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; windbreaks
Scrub She-oak	<i>Allocasuarina distyla</i>	Plateaus and exposed hillsides	Sun	█	█	█	█	Red (female) Brown (male)	Up to 3m x 2m	Seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Common Aotus	<i>Aotus ericoides</i>	Scrubby sites and creek banks	Sun to semi-shade	█			█	Yellow	2m x 1.5m	Native bees, butterflies	
Wallum Banksia	<i>Banksia aemula</i>	Old, leached sand deposits	Sun			█		Pale yellow	Up to 4m x 2.5m	Native bees; nectar-feeding birds; nesting material for Green Carpenter Bees	Cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils ⁷
Fern-leaved Banksia	<i>Banksia oblongifolia</i>	Hillsides, ridges, poorly-drained sites	Sun to semi-shade	█	█	█	█	Pale yellow	Up to 3m x 1.5m	Native bees, ants, nectar-feeding birds; nesting material for Green Carpenter Bees	Cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Hairpin Banksia, Golden Candlesticks	<i>Banksia spinulosa</i> var. <i>collina</i>	Heath and woodland; sandy soil on sandstone	Sun to semi-shade			█	█	Yellow	Up to 3m x 3m	Native bees; Crimson Rosellas and Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoos damage inflorescences; nesting material for Green Carpenter Bees	Relatively low in nectar but rich in pollen; cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Bossiaea	<i>Bossiaea rhombifolia</i>	Rocky ridges, steep hillsides	Sun to semi-shade	█			█	Orange-yellow	Up to 2m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies	
Coffee Bush	<i>Breynia oblongifolia</i>	Creek banks, slopes, gullies; sand dunes	Sun to semi-shade (Moist to well-drained)	█	█			Greenish	Up to 3m x 3m	Moths, butterflies, fruit-eating birds	Capable of suckering; hedging

⁷ Phosphorous is important for strong root growth



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SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Sweet Bursaria	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Eucalypt woodland	Sun to semi-shade					White	5-10m x 3m	Native bees, butterflies, Blue Flower Wasps, Australian Jewel Beetles; attracts beneficial insects for natural pest control; spiky plant for small birds	Fragrant flowers; seed capsules rattle in the wind; barrier plant; windbreak; fibrous roots for erosion control
Crimson Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i> (syn. <i>Melaleuca citrina</i>)	Creekbanks and shrub swamps	Sun (Moist)					Red	Up to 2m x 2m	Nectar-feeding birds, Grey-headed Flying Foxes; seed eaten by Crimson Rosellas	Lemon-scented leaves when rubbed
Stiff Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon linearis</i>	Periodically wet sites	Sun (Moist)					Pale Red	3m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, nectar-feeding birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed; hedge or screening plant
Common Fringe Myrtle	<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	Heath on ridges	Sun					White	Up to 2m x 1.5m	Native bees, flies, beetles, and small wasps	Leaves aromatic when rubbed; windbreak
Gorse Bitter-pea	<i>Daviesia ulicifolia</i>	Coastal headlands	Sun					Yellow-red	2m x 1m	Native bees; spiky plant for small birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; windbreak
Eggs and Bacon, Heathy Parrot-pea	<i>Dillwynia retorta</i>	Ridges, hillsides	Semi-shade					Yellow-red	3m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, beetles; spiky plant for small birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility; mycorrhizal fungi associated with roots
Native Hop Bush	<i>Dodonaea triquetra</i>	Hillsides, gullies	Sun to semi-shade					Greenish	Up to 3m x 2m	No nectar; pollen likely wind-dispersed; host food plant for beetles, scale insects, cicadas, ladybirds, jewel and metallic shield bugs and Green Wood Moth; seed-eating birds	



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SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Golden Glory Pea	<i>Gompholobium latifolium</i>	Rocky hillsides and ridges	Semi-shade	■	■			Yellow	Up to 3m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, beetles, wasps, flies	
Willow-leaved Hakea	<i>Hakea salicifolia</i>	Ridgetops, gullies, creek banks	Sun	■				White	Up to 5m x 4m	Native bees, caterpillars, nectar-feeding birds; shelter for small birds	Cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Silky Needle-bush	<i>Hakea sericea</i>	Slopes	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	White	4m x 1m	Native bees, butterflies, hover flies, black beetles, nectar-feeding birds; spiky plant for small birds	Fragrant flowers; barrier plant; good drought tolerance; cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Needlebush	<i>Hakea teretifolia</i>	Mainly coastal heath	Sun (Moist)	■	■			White	4m x 2m	Native bees, flies, beetles; wood-boring insects which attract black cockatoos; spiky plant for small birds	Barrier plant
White Kunzea, Tick Bush	<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	Rock outcrops, coastal plains	Sun to semi-shade	■	■			Cream	Up to 3m x 3m	Native bees, butterflies, beetles, flies, webbing caterpillars, wasps, nectar-feeding birds; shelter for small birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed (thought to be tick repellent by early settlers); fragrant flowers; screening plant
Mountain Devil	<i>Lambertia formosa</i>	Ridges, hillsides	Sun	■	■	■	■	Red	Up to 2m x 2m	Native bees, ants and nectar-feeding birds; host plant for Timber Moth; spiky plant for small birds	Barrier plant
Prickly Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum juniperinum</i>	Swamps in sandstone country	Sun	■	■			White	Up to 3m x 2m	Insect-pollinated; spiky plant for small birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed
Coast Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Coastal sand dunes, cliffs and headlands	Sun	■			■	White	4m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, insect-feeding birds; ringtail possums feed on flowers	Leaves aromatic when rubbed



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SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Lemon-scented Tea-tree	<i>Leptospermum liversidgei</i>	In low-lying sandy swampy coastal heath	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)					White	2m x 1m	Native bees	Lemon-scented leaves
Tantoon, Jelly Bush	<i>Leptospermum polygalifolium</i>	Banks of watercourses, wet places	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)					White	Up to 5m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, day moths, wasps, flies and wide variety of beetles and bugs; insect- and seed-eating birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed; windbreak; creekbank erosion control due to fibrous roots; source of 'Jelly Bush' honey
Flaky-barked Tea Tree	<i>Leptospermum trinervium</i>	Woodland and heath on sandstone	Sun to semi-shade					White	Up to 4m x 2m	Native bees, moths, wasps, flies, beetles; nectar, insect- and seed-eating birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed
Crinkle Bush	<i>Lomatia silaifolia</i>	Ridges and gullies	Sun to semi-shade					White	Up to 2m x 1.5m	Butterflies; flowering branches consumed by mammals including swamp wallabies	
Burrawang	<i>Macrozamia communis</i>	Well-drained and sandy soils	Semi-shade				n/a	n/a	Up to 2m x 3m	Host plant for Cycad Blue butterfly	
Prickly-leaved Paperbark	<i>Melaleuca nodosa</i>	Coastal heath, clay plains	Sun					White	Up to 4m x 2.5m	Native bees, flies, beetles, spiky plant for small birds	Leaves aromatic when rubbed
White Dogwood	<i>Ozothamnus diosmifolius</i>	Open forest	Sun to semi-shade					White	2m x 2m	Native bees, moths	
Conesticks	<i>Petrophile pulchella</i>	Ridges and slopes	Sun to semi-shade					Cream	Up to 3m x 1m	Native bees	
Handsome Flat Pea	<i>Platylobium formosum</i>	Open forest	Semi-shade					Yellow-orange	2.5m x 1.5m	Native bees, butterflies, wasps, seed-eating birds	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NATURAL HABITAT	LIGHT & MOISTURE	FLOWERING				FLOWER COLOUR	HEIGHT X SPREAD	FAUNA HABITAT	ADDITIONAL ATTRIBUTES
				S	S	A	W				
SHRUBS - FOR FOOD AND SHELTER											
Large Leaf Bush Pea	<i>Pultenaea daphnoides</i>	Sandstone gullies; slopes, escarpment plateaus	Sun to semi-shade	■			■	Yellow	3m x 2m	Native bees, wasps; host plant of Broom Heath-Blue butterfly; wallabies graze foliage	Nitrogen-fixing roots for soil fertility
Coastal Rosemary	<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	Ocean and harbour foreshores, often on exposed cliffs	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■	■	White	1.5m x 3m	Native bees, butterflies, shelter for small birds	Tolerates salt spray, strong winds
Forest Grasstree	<i>Xanthorrhoea latifolia</i> (See also <i>X. glauca</i> and <i>X. macronema</i>)	Ridges, slopes	Sun to semi-shade	■		■	■	Cream	Up to 2m	Native bees, butterflies, flies; nectar feeding birds and grey-headed flying foxes; insect-eating birds. Black cockatoos known to open flower spikes to get beetle larvae. Nesting habitat for ground dwelling mammals such as the Yellow-footed Antechinus and Common Dunnart	Slow growing and irregular flowering
Sandfly Zieria	<i>Zieria smithii</i>	Gullies	Semi-shade (Moist)	■	■	■	■	White	2m x 2m	Native bees, butterflies, flies, bugs, wasps	Leaves aromatic when rubbed



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NATURAL HABITAT	LIGHT & MOISTURE	FLOWERING				HEIGHT & WIDTH	FAUNA HABITAT	ADDITIONAL ATTRIBUTES
				S	S	A	W			
FERNS										
Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Damp, open situations often along creeks	Semi-shade (Moist)					50cm x 50cm	Shelter for lizards	Suckers and can spread to sizeable clump; container plant; hanging basket
Bird's Nest Fern	<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	On rocks or as large epiphytes in trees	Semi-shade (Moist)					Up to 1.5m x 1.5m	Frogs	Playground friendly
Prickly Rasp Fern	<i>Doodia aspera</i>	Forested stream banks and among rocks in drier situations	Semi-shade					60cm x 50cm	Shelter for lizards, insects	Potentially useful for erosion control due to dense plant cover and adaptation to slopes
Swamp Water-fern	<i>Telmatoblechnum indicum</i> (syn. <i>Blechnum</i>)	Edge of brackish swamps or lakes	Sun to shade (Moist)					Up to 1m x 1.5m	Shelter for lizards, frogs	Rhizomatous for erosion control



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NATURAL HABITAT	LIGHT & MOISTURE	SEEDING ⁸				HEIGHT & WIDTH	FAUNA HABITAT	ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS
				S	S	A	W			
GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES										
Tall Sedge	<i>Carex appressa</i>	Wetlands, creekbanks	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)					Up to 1.2m x 50cm	Tussocks provide habitat for birds, frogs and invertebrates. Spaces between the largest tussocks provide grazing, shelter and protection for animals such as swamp wallabies	Used as a biofilter in artificial wetlands to remove pollutants from stormwater; valuable in preventing creekbank erosion at the bank/water interface due to fibrous soil-binding roots; cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Bergalia Tussock, Drooping Sedge	<i>Carex longebrachiata</i>	Low-lying areas, creeks, gullies	Semi-shade (Moist)					80cm Spreading	Frog-attracting	Cluster roots enable phosphorous take-up in poor soils
Wiry Panic Grass	<i>Entolasia stricta</i>	Hillsides, ridges	Sun to semi-shade					80cm	Seed-eating birds	Intermediate warm and cool season grass ⁹ ; drought tolerant and provides ground cover where few other grasses will grow
Brown's Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis brownii</i>	Ridges, stony hillsides, sand deposits, rock pavements	Sun					60cm x 30cm	Seed-eating birds	Smaller tufted warm season grass; tolerates disturbance; rapidly colonises bare areas after clearing; fibrous roots for erosion control
Knobby Club-rush	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i> (syn. <i>Isolepsis</i>)	Foreshores, lake margins, headlands	Sun to semi-shade (Moist)					Up to 1m x 2m	Cover for small birds, frogs	Rhizomatous; weed suppression and land rejuvenation
Tall Saw-sedge	<i>Gahnia clarkei</i>	Creekbanks, near swampy areas, gullies	Semi-shade (Moist)					Up to 4.5m x 3m	Seed-eating birds; caterpillar food plant; shelter for birds; frog habitat	Roots enable phosphorous and micronutrient take-up in low fertility soil

⁸ Seeding: darker shade indicates the primary seeding period for at least 2 months of the season; lighter shade indicates some seeding during the season.

⁹ Warm-season grasses have active growing periods in spring, summer and autumn. They tolerate higher light and germinate best in temps of 25° - 35°C. Cool season grasses generally have active growth in autumn, winter and spring. In general they are found in areas with higher spring rainfall and tolerate lower light conditions. Many brown off over summer and remain green all winter. Cool season grasses germinate best over temperature ranges of 15° - 25°C.



COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	NATURAL HABITAT	LIGHT & MOISTURE	SEEDING				HEIGHT & WIDTH	FAUNA HABITAT	ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS
				S	S	A	W			
GRASSES, SEDGES AND RUSHES										
Red-fruit Saw-sedge	<i>Gahnia sieberiana</i>	Creekbanks, hillsides	Sun to shade (Moist)	■	■			Up to 3m x 3m	Seeds, insects, habitat for birds; caterpillar food plant; shelter for tree frogs	Roots enable phosphorous and micronutrient take-up in low fertility soil
Weeping Grass	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Damp shady areas; protected areas where there is some timber cover	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■	■	60cm Spreading	Seed-eating birds; caterpillar food plant; cover for ground-dwelling reptiles such as legless lizards and skinks	Tufted to mat-forming cool season grass; tolerates acid soils; lawn substitute in areas with lighter foot traffic, tolerates mowing
Two Colour Panic	<i>Panicum simile</i>	Ridges, hillsides	Sun		■			70cm	Seed-eating birds	Tufted warm season grass found in low fertility soils; ornamental value if planted thickly
A tussock grass	<i>Poa affinis</i>	Mainly coastal; creekbanks	Semi-shade	■	■			Up to 1.2m	Seed-eating birds; useful refuge for reptiles	Tufted cool season grass
River Tussock	<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	Riverflats, creeks, gullies	Sun to shade	■	■	■	■	1.2m x 50cm	Seed and nesting material for birds; food for caterpillars; refuge for reptiles	Tufted cool season grass
Kangaroo Grass	<i>Themeda triandra</i> (syn. <i>T. australis</i>)	Grassy woodlands; coastal headland; grassland	Sun to semi-shade	■	■	■		1.2m x 50cm	Insect- and seed-eating birds; food for caterpillars; cover for skinks, legless lizards, frogs and mammals	Tufted warm season grass; roots enhance soil health and structure by binding soil particles, increasing soil porosity, cycling nutrients, increasing soil organic matter, and supporting soil organisms; quite drought resistant due to its deep roots; coloniser of bare clay banks and slopes



THANK YOU

Thank you for planting local native plants. For ongoing updates to this guide,
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Feedback to ecopollinators@econetworkps.org is welcome to assist with updating.



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