

AUSTRALIAN  
NATIVE  
PLANTS

SIXTH EDITION



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AUSTRALIAN  
NATIVE  
PLANTS

Cultivation,  
Use in Landscaping  
and Propagation

John W. Wrigley  
Murray Fagg



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J. W. Wrigley  
Coffs Harbour 2012

M. A. Fagg  
Canberra 2012
























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## KEY TO SYMBOLS USED IN SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS

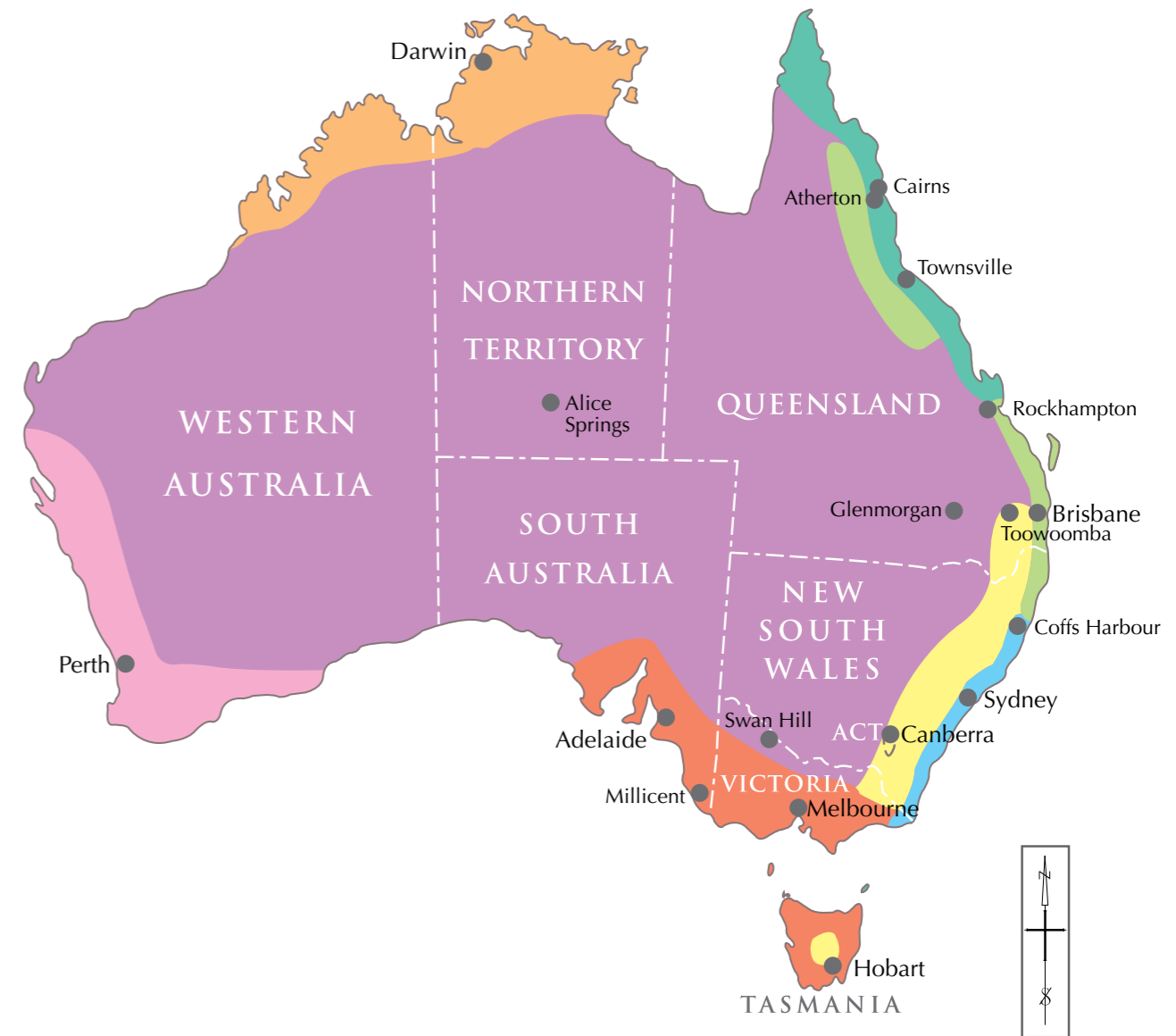
 Suitable for poorly drained places	 Flowers, fruits or foliage suitable for floral arrangements	 Suitable as a street tree
 Suitable for heavy shade	 Suitable for growing in water or an aquarium	 Suitable for the tropics
 Suitable for low-maintenance areas	 Suitable for pots or hanging baskets or for indoor decoration	 Rating needs to be confirmed'
 Suitable for areas with frosts down to -7°C (in conditions of normal rainfall)	 Suitable as hedge or for screening	 Rating applies to some forms of the species
 Recommended for foliage	 Attractive fruits	 Some part of the plant is edible
 Bird attracting	 Resistant to salty winds	 Some part of the plant is aromatic or perfumed
 Useful as feature or focal point in a landscape	 Attractive bark or trunk	 Planting zones optimum for the species

## SELECTED CLIMATIC DATA

Listed below are selected climatic data for some of the cities and towns mentioned in this book. Rainfall figures are expressed as the annual mean. Maximum and minimum temperature figures are those expected on at least four days in the hottest and coldest months. It should be noted that when we discuss the 'humid east coast' in the body of the book, we refer to the coastal area from Sydney north.

		RAINFALL	TEMPERATURES	
			Max.	Min.
Adelaide	Dry summers, wet winters	533mm	36°C	5°C
Alice Springs	Dry summer, drier winters	246mm	41°C	0°C
Atherton	Wet summers, dry winters	1246mm	35°C	9°C
Brisbane	Wet summers, drier winters	1146mm	32°C	6°C
Cairns	Very wet summers, dry winters	2036mm	33°C	14°C
Canberra	Even, low rainfall	633mm	33°C	-5°C
Coffs Harbour	Wet summers, dry winters	1759mm	28°C	2°C
Darwin	Wet summers, very dry winters	1813mm	35°C	17°C
Glenmorgan	Even, low rainfall	578mm	38°C	-1°C
Hobart	Wet summers, wet winters	622mm	27°C	1°C
Melbourne	Wet summers, wet winters	658mm	35°C	3°C
Millicent	Wet winters, drier summers	788mm	34°C	1°C
Perth	Dry summers, wet winters	883mm	36°C	6°C
Rockhampton	Wet summers, very dry winters	856mm	35°C	4°C
Swan Hill	Dry summers, wetter winters	345mm	37°C	1°C
Sydney	Wet winters, wetter summers	1216mm	30°C	6°C
Toowoomba	Wet summers, drier winters	955mm	32°C	-1°C
Townsville	Wet summers, very dry winters	1195mm	33°C	9°C

## CLIMATIC ZONES



### Key to Zones

 ZONE A	 ZONE C	 ZONE E	 ZONE G
 ZONE B	 ZONE D	 ZONE F	 ZONE H



# PREFACE TO THE SIXTH EDITION

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Over the years there have been many changes in our knowledge and attitudes towards native plants. Positive attitudes towards conservation have become more entrenched and much effort has been made to conserve and cultivate rare and threatened native plants, in particular by botanic gardens and dedicated members of the Australian Plants Society. Those species with particular horticultural appeal have been included in this edition and their conservation status noted.

With more than 200 000 copies of Australian Native Plants sold since the first edition was published in 1979, it is encouraging to know that the book has been accepted into so many homes and libraries.

In the past 32 years hundreds of new plants have been introduced to cultivation. Many new species and cultivars have featured in each edition.

This edition is no exception, with many new plants, particularly some fine cultivars, added and a significant increase in the number of colour photographs. The classification of plants has undergone great change in the last few years with new tools available to plant taxonomists allowing names to reflect the evolution of plant species. Countless name changes have been made in order to keep up with this latest research. While this is frustrating to growers, we have gone to some lengths to explain the reasons for the changes in the following section, 'How to Use this Book'.

We have continued the use of planting zone codes which were introduced in the fifth edition. These are colour-coded and feature in every plant entry of the book, tying in with those shown on the map on page 9. These planting-zone codes assist gardeners to choose the right plant for the right place, thereby preventing many disappointments. For example, Western Australia and much of southern Australia experience a winter rainfall, whereas the east coast and the tropics have their rain in summer producing high humidity. Summer rainfall allows many fungus diseases to thrive and plants from winter rainfall districts will often fall victim to these problems.

Technical terms have been avoided where the meaning can be expressed clearly in lay terms. Where technical terms are used, they are explained in the Glossary on page 673.

Scientific names for plants are used throughout but common names are used where they genuinely reflect common usage.

With 15 years as Curator of the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Canberra and more than 30 years working as a consultant and native plant grower near Coffs Harbour

in northern New South Wales, I have been fortunate in experiencing the rigours of a harsh cold climate and the joys of growing plants in the subtropics.

This book is a compilation of first-hand experiences and observations as well as data obtained by visiting gardens in most of Australia's major centres. Also, the experience of observing and collecting plants in their natural habitat in most major floristic areas of this great continent has helped me to appreciate the cultivation requirements of so many native plants.

The book considers and describes most species of native plants that have been brought into cultivation. Others that can be treated like those species have been given brief mention only. In the case of large genera such as *Acacia* and *Eucalyptus*, selections only have been made because of space consideration. If your favourite species is not here, then I apologise.

I am greatly indebted to Murray Fagg, who agreed to illustrate the first edition and as a good friend and colleague has continued with this work in this and a number of other joint publications. His fine drawings and colour photographs add meaning and life to many of the more unusual species rarely illustrated elsewhere. His links with the Australian National Herbarium in Canberra have been valuable in resolving taxonomic problems.

I hope that this book will enable many more native plants to be grown in gardens and parks, that many of the misconceptions about the cultivation of natives will be banished, that it will provide students of horticulture and researchers with sufficient information to form the basis of further experimental work, and that, in turn, it will enable more native plants to be grown more effectively.

J. W. Wrigley, Coffs Harbour 2012

# HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

You can use this book to help you plan your garden and select suitable native plants for your area. Chapters 1–8 provide basic information on selecting, propagating and caring for native plants. The remaining chapters form the bulk of the book and comprise more than 3500 plant entries in all.

While this book is not written as an identification guide, when used in association with full botanical keys in more technical State and National Floras and the growing number of interactive CDs and online keys, the descriptions, colour plates and drawings will assist the reader to affirm an identification.

## Descriptions

Each entry provides a description of the plant as well as details about how to propagate and cultivate it, the family to which it belongs and its natural distribution. The size given in plant descriptions is only a guide as these vary with location, culture and soil type. It is worth noting that sizes quoted on nursery labels frequently underestimate the ultimate size of trees and shrubs.

## Horticultural groupings

Plant entries are organised under chapter headings such as Ground Covers, Rockery Plants and Shrubs but, because many plants vary over their range, some forms listed under Rockery Plants, for example, could be used as ground covers and even grow into shrubs. So if you have a plant name, either common or scientific, but are uncertain about its form, it is always best to look it up in the Index.

## Map and zones

The map of Australia on page 9 is divided into different planting zones based on temperature range, rainfall and the time of the year when rain may be expected.

Appropriate zones are given with each plant entry, just beneath the name, thereby indicating where certain species should grow best. The zones are not exclusive and species may also thrive in other districts where appropriate conditions exist because of favourable microclimates or aspects.

## Distribution

Standard State abbreviations are used to indicate a species' natural occurrence in that State, together with PNG for Papua New Guinea, and NZ for New Zealand. Other localities are spelt out in full.

## Symbols

The symbols at the end of each description identify some of the important features of the plant. A key to the symbols is shown on page 8 and on the front jacket flap for quick reference. With continued use of the book, the reader will become familiar with these easily recognisable symbols: a bird for bird-attracting plants, a vase of flowers for species suitable as cut flowers, etc.

## Plant Names

Scientific names for plants are used throughout but we have included some common names as many growers are reluctant to accept scientific names in normal conversation. This is not best practice as the use of common names can lead to confusion. We have, of course, avoided making up common names where none exist.

To assist people in keeping up with scientific name changes, we have included recent earlier names as synonyms, abbreviated as 'Syn.' following the plant's scientific name.

The abbreviation for subspecies may be either subsp. or ssp. We have chosen to use ssp. in order to save space. The abbreviation sp. (species singular) is also used throughout this book, as is spp. (species plural). For example, *Banksia* spp. refers to a number of *Banksia* species.

Plants that have been bred for cultivation, often by hybridising, or by selecting unusual wild forms, are called 'cultivars'. These plants are given a distinctly different sort of name, in a non-Latin form, enclosed within single quote-marks, following the genus and possibly the species. For example: *Grevillea* 'Robyn Gordon' or *Callistemon pallidus* 'Candle Glow'. We have indicated in the text when these names have been registered with the Australian Cultivar Registration Authority (ACRA).

In each chapter, the first entry for a genus also shows the plant family to which it belongs. Where the family has changed in recent years, the older more familiar family is given in brackets.

## Genus and family name changes

Readers familiar with Australian plants and earlier editions of this book will notice many plant name changes and familiar plants placed in different families. Some well-known genera such as *Dryandra* have disappeared, as have iconic Australian families such as Epacridaceae.

There have always been name changes in botany, but to many people the current rate



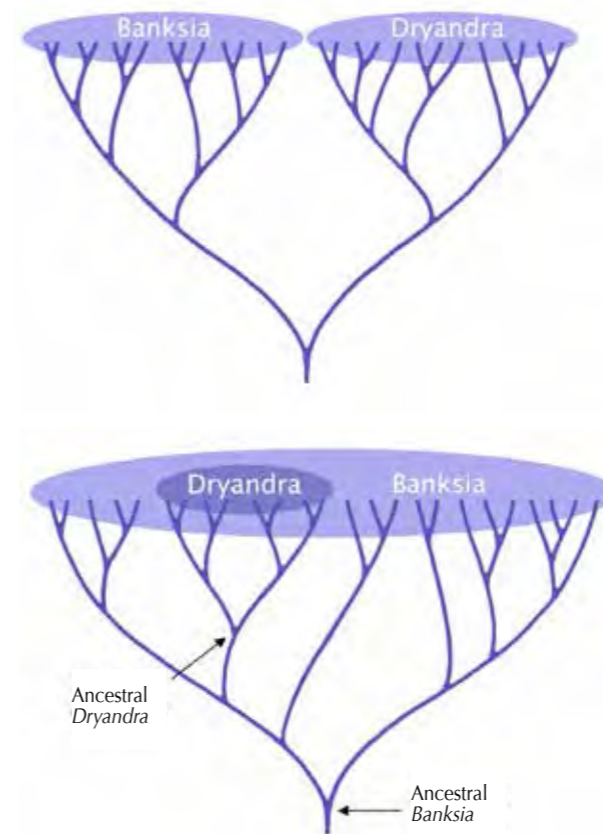
*Banksia heliantha*, previously known as *Dryandra quercifolia*. When transferred to the genus *Banksia* in 2007 this plant could not retain its species name because there was already a plant named *Banksia quercifolia*. Most other dryandras kept their species name when transferred to *Banksia*.

of change is overwhelming. But like any branch of science, new knowledge results in new concepts, and we must always keep in mind that the classification of plants into families, genera and species are just concepts to help us cope with the diversity of nature.

Traditionally botanists based their classification on the features they could see for each plant, and relied on their broad knowledge to decide which features were important in making that judgement. This was not a field of science that could readily be tested by numbers and statistics.

In recent years new methods have been developed to analyse the wealth of different characters that make one plant different to another, decide which are the more important, and apply statistics to the decision-making process. This has been made possible by the power of computers to analyse large amounts of data, and by the extra 'characters' we can now find from the plant's DNA.

These tools also allow us to make our classification reflect evolution—the most important aspect of this is the idea that all the plants classified into one taxonomic group, a genus for example, should have evolved from one common ancestor.



One technique—known as 'cladistics'—produces what looks like a 'family tree', grouping organisms together by the proportion of characters they have in common. Branches on this tree trace back to their common ancestor.

Taking the *Banksia-Dryandra* situation as an example, the first illustration (left) shows our old concept for the relationship between *Banksia* and *Dryandra*, with each 'twig' on the family tree representing a species.

The second illustration (left, below) shows our new understanding of the relationship between *Banksia* and *Dryandra* based on scientific analysis of their characters.

If our genus name is to be based on the concept of all plants in the genus having a single common ancestor, then the dryandras can either become

part of a broader *Banksia* genus, or the old *Banksia* genus must be split up into several different genera each reflecting a level of unique ancestry equivalent to *Dryandra*.

This is where we still rely on the judgement of a botanist, and not all botanists will make the same judgement. What is not really in dispute is that the old concept is not valid.

In the case of *Banksia-Dryandra*, the botanists decided to 'sink' *Dryandra* into a broader concept of *Banksia*.

But a similar situation arose earlier with the eucalypts. Here we had the option of sinking *Angophora* into a broader concept of *Eucalyptus*, or accepting three genera, *Angophora*, *Corymbia* and *Eucalyptus*. Most botanists chose the latter option.

Taking this concept to the broader level of defining a family, the same arguments apply. Our familiar family Epacridaceae was found to be nested within the much more diverse family Ericaceae, which includes the Scottish heather and the tropical rhododendrons. If we recognised Epacridaceae as being a distinct family with a single common ancestor, then the Ericaceae would have had to be broken up into many families equivalent in status to Epacridaceae.

Since most botanists in the world have accepted the previous broad definition of Ericaceae, the Australian epacrids are now included in this family.



Different botanists may still gain (perhaps undeserved) reputations as ‘splitters’ or ‘lumpers’, but new data analysis tools like cladistics give them more concrete evidence on which to make those decisions.

Having decided on the level of classification, a set of rules, the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* guides botanists in applying names to those units of classification. Application and interpretation of these rules can also result in name changes and debates. This was the case with the dispute over whether the name *Acacia* or *Racosperma* should be used for the Australian wattles, debated over two International Botanical Congresses, in Vienna in 2005 and Melbourne in 2011. The name *Acacia* was eventually retained for the majority of the Australian species.

### Australian Plant Census

Given that the final decisions, even when we have analytical tools and rules, come down to human judgement, how do we decide which judgement to accept?

Australia is fortunate in one respect in having a reasonably small number of major research herbaria, (only nine), with a good level of cooperation between them. We also have, by world standards, a very good *Australian Plant Name Index* (APNI) documenting every name ever applied to the Australian flora. Visit [www.anbg.gov.au/apni](http://www.anbg.gov.au/apni)

Since 2005 representatives from the Commonwealth and State herbaria have been working through the 175,000 names applied to the Australian flora, one by one, considering whether each is a ‘current’ name by today’s standards. This is a consensus process, aimed at reaching a practical decision while still allowing individual botanists to debate or challenge the science and acknowledging that with more research will come more changes. These deliberations form the basis of the *Australian Plant Census* (APC). Visit [www.chah.gov.au/apc](http://www.chah.gov.au/apc)

In some cases the decisions have been quite conservative, agreeing at this stage, for example, to retain the iconic genus *Callistemon* while most research suggests it is nested within the broader genus *Melaleuca* (four Australian herbaria are adopting this change). Similarly the iconic Australian family Chenopodiaceae is retained while some world researchers have incorporated it within the broader family Amaranthaceae. By the end of the first review of all the APNI names in 2012 the *Australian Plant Census* included about 25,000 species, most with many synonyms. This number includes both native and naturalised species, hybrids, and known species that have not yet been formally described. If subspecies, varieties etc are included, this number increases to about 36,000 taxa.

Unfortunately, when this book went to press, APC had not finalised the review of one family, Orchidaceae, as there were still unresolved plant name problems

With the exception of Orchidaceae, this edition of *Australian Native Plants* has followed the names and families accepted in the *Australian Plant Census* in 2012. Familiar names and families used in the recent past have been listed as synonyms.

Some major name changes in this edition:

### Families

- Plants once in the familiar milk-weed family Asclepiadaceae, are now in Apocynaceae.
- Plants like baobabs, once in the family Bombacaceae, and their relatives in Sterculiaceae, are now grouped together in Malvaceae.
- The cassia-like plants once in Caesalpiniaceae, and the wattle-like plants once in Mimosaceae are grouped with the pea-flowers in Fabaceae.
- Plants once in the unique Australian family Epacridaceae are now in the world-wide family Ericaceae.
- Many plants once in the ‘catch-all’ family Euphorbiaceae have been assigned to different families.
- Plants once in another ‘catch-all’ family, Scrophulariaceae, have been assigned to a range of different families.
- Another familiar Australian family, Myoporaceae, has gone, now being included in Scrophulariaceae.
- The problematic lily-like plants have been reallocated to a new range of families.

### Genera

- The eucalypts are placed in three genera, *Angophora*, *Corymbia* and *Eucalyptus*.
- The lilly-pillies, formerly in the genera *Eugenia*, *Acmena*, *Acmenosperma*, *Anetholea*, *Cleistocalyx* and *Waterhousea* are now included in the one genus *Syzygium*.
- In 1997 many species of *Baeckea* were transferred to the genus *Babingtonia*, however in 2007 after molecular examination of the group, it was resolved that some *Babingtonia* would be further split into the genera *Triplarina*, *Sannantha*, *Kardomia* and *Harmogia*.
- Many species of the popular Western Australian genus *Agonis* have been transferred to the new genera *Taxandria* and *Paragonis*.
- The genus *Dryandra* has gone, being incorporated into a broader concept of *Banksia*.
- *Parahebe* and *Derwentia* are now included in the genus *Veronica* which has been transferred to the family Plantaginaceae.
- Many other genera will now be found in unfamiliar families, for example the genus *Clerodendrum*, has been moved from Verbenaceae to be part of the mint family Lamiaceae.

## CHAPTER 1

# WHY NATIVE PLANTS?

Since the end of the 1950s the popularity of Australian native plants has steadily increased, and in recent years has accelerated to a boom. There are, perhaps, many reasons and combinations of circumstances which have brought this about.

All over the world, people are becoming more aware of their natural heritage. Thinking people in most countries, Eastern and Western, have realised the dangers that population pressures have placed on the environment. As a result, national parks organisations and similar bodies have increased their memberships dramatically, and have become significant pressure groups in persuading governments to pay heed to the need to conserve fast-diminishing natural resources.

This interest in one's surroundings, coupled with the ease with which one may move around the countryside, has made Australians more aware of the diverse range of plants and animals that can be seen, often not far from their own back door.

Awareness led to experimentation with growing native plants, many species of which had never previously been brought into cultivation. Native plants had built up a reputation for being difficult to grow, perhaps due to early attempts at transplanting plants from the bush.

I can remember that when I was a child my father, an experienced gardener with exotic plants, attempted to transplant native plants from the Sydney sandstone, with almost total failure.

## THE RISE TO POPULARITY

Experimentation, and the developing questioning attitudes of interested gardeners, led to the formation of the Society for Growing Australian Plants in Melbourne in the mid-1950s. This society, now generally known as the Australian Plants Society, blossomed and spread to all States, and is presently the largest horticultural society in Australia.

It played a most important role in popularising native plants as garden subjects and its journal, *Australian Plants*, as well as its State newsletters

became forums where people with some skills in growing native plants could share their knowledge with others.

Another important development, which made people mindful of the fact that native plants did have horticultural potential, was the establishment of public gardens in several major cities.

Of particular note are:

- King's Park and Botanic Garden, Perth, WA, which concentrates on growing the flora of Western Australia.
- Maranoa Gardens, managed by the Council of the City of Camberwell, Melbourne, Vic.
- Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, Ku-ring-gai Municipal Council, St Ives, Sydney, NSW.

- Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT.
- Mt Annan Botanic Garden, (now The Australian Botanic Garden) near Campbelltown, NSW.
- Stony Range Flora Reserve, Dee Why, Sydney, NSW.
- Burrendong Arboretum, near Wellington, NSW.
- Waite Agricultural Research Institute Arboretum of the University of Adelaide, SA, which has tree plantings dating from 1928.
- Olive Pink Botanic Garden, Alice Springs, NT.
- The North Coast Regional Botanic Garden, Coffs Harbour, NSW.
- Myall Park Botanic Garden, Glenmorgan, Qld.
- Emerald Botanic Gardens, Emerald, Qld.
- Sunraysia Oasis Botanic Gardens, Buronga, NSW, near Mildura, Vic.
- Tamworth Botanic Gardens, Tamworth, NSW.
- Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens, Port Augusta, SA.
- Desert Park Botanic Gardens, Alice Springs, NT.

As these gardens became well known, so public demand for supplies of native plants gradually grew. Pioneering nurserymen, such as the late George Althofer, of Nindethana Nursery, Dripstone, NSW, the late Percy and Olive Parry of Floralands, Gosford, NSW, and Boddy's Eastern Park Nursery, Victoria, were joined by others specialising in native plants. Of this younger brigade, Rodger Elliot, in establishing Austriflora Nursery in the Dandenongs, Victoria, played a major role in making a great variety of natives available to the public. In Queensland the wonderful variety of rainforest plants has been popularised, first by Alex and Barbara Hansa of Fairhill Nurseries, Yandina, and by Ann and Peter Radke of Yuruga Nursery, Walkamin, who have brought many new species into the market.

Not only are native species being brought into cultivation, but breeders are hybridising these species to produce some stunning cultivars which accentuate those traits that gardeners find attractive. Pioneers in this field include Dave Gordon with his early *Grevillea* hybrids, Ramm Botanicals who have produced an enormous range of Kangaroo Paw hybrids and more recently Peter Ollerenshaw with a range of *Leptospermum*, *Grevillea* and *Correa* hybrids.

The larger general nursery companies are slowly extending their range of native plants, but it is a slow process and it is likely the specialist native plant nursery will always be with us.

Robert Brown, the famous Scottish botanist of the early nineteenth century, wrote of the Australian vegetation: 'There is an endless variety of genera and species of shrub but the general impression is dismal.'\* We have come a long way in the years since Robert Brown examined our flora for the first time. Australians have grown to appreciate their flora for its beauty, its colour and its uniqueness of form.

Let us ensure that the whole world becomes familiar with this flora, which in future years will give Australia an important place in world horticulture.

\*R. Brown. In *Voyage to Terra Australis, 1801-1803*, Matthew Flinders, London, 1814.

## IN SUPPORT OF NATIVE PLANTS

Australian horticulture grew up with a strong background of European influence. The early settlers brought with them the plants with which they were familiar, and the native plants were strange and did nothing to relieve them of their homesickness. Only the early botanists realised their uniqueness, and records show that in the latter part of the nineteenth century there were hundreds of Australian species in cultivation in England. In the new country, native species were cleared and burnt to make way for crops, cattle and buildings, while many European species thrived and were persisted with.

It is apparent now, however, that natives often have a number of advantages over these old favourites. It should be pointed out most emphatically at this stage that I am not a purist and do not advocate an entirely native landscape. There are obvious advantages in using the qualities so well proven in many exotic species. This will be discussed in more detail in a later chapter.

So that a balanced judgement may be made, it is necessary to outline the attributes of native species.

Plants evolve in their environment. Natural selection ensures that a plant is adapted to suit that environment. Thus, the use of a local species promises a plant well suited to the conditions it

will experience. Also, with the growing and commendable tendency to retain as much of the local vegetation as possible when developing an urban landscape, it is usually found that native trees and shrubs offer a more sympathetic addition than the more contrasting exotics.

It has been argued that natives are more drought resistant than exotics and this is obviously a point in their favour. Care should be taken, however, as the argument is false if one generalises. If drought resistance is the property required, through correct selection appropriate native plant species can be chosen for the purpose.

'A monotony of dull greens and small-leaved shrubs' has been a criticism levelled at the Australian bush by many a European visitor. It could be argued that at least it is dull green throughout the year and not without leaves for half of it, as are the deciduous forests of the Northern Hemisphere, but no doubt one's personal opinion is coloured by fond memories of childhood and the environment in which one has grown up.

It should be pointed out, though, that all is not 'dull green and small-leaved' and in private gardens or urban landscapes an opportunity exists to use a wide range of colours and textures.

There are the silvery greys of wattles and saltbushes, the bright, shiny greens of rainforest trees, the reddish new growth or winter colour of many Myrtaceae plants or *Allocasuarina*. The coarse texture of large-leaved *Banksia* species can add variety.

The many overseas tourists who now visit Australia rightfully expect to see Australiana, and I believe there is a moral obligation for councils and governments to ensure that a significant proportion of well-selected native plants is used in street plantings and parks.

Some species of native plants are threatened with extinction for one reason or another. These species usually occur in a very restricted area. Some are known from road verges only. Others are found only on privately owned land. The precarious future of such species should be of concern and efforts should be made to bring them into cultivation, where at least their continued existence will be secure even if their environment is destroyed.

This is obviously a function of botanic gardens, and the establishment of regional botanic gardens in various climatic and soil-type areas throughout Australia should improve this situation.

Significant progress has been made with the North Coast Regional Botanic Garden at Coffs Harbour, NSW, and the regional arid botanic gardens near Mildura and Port Augusta, SA. A new botanic garden at Tamworth on the north-west slopes of New South Wales caters for rare and endangered plants of the region and the northern tablelands. Emerald in central Queensland has established an excellent botanic garden displaying the different vegetation types known in the region. There are many other examples. Local councils and private residents should support these projects and encourage their establishment in other areas.

A garden with a large number of Australian plants attracts native birds. Many people would consider this reason enough on its own to grow natives. The Nursery and Garden Industry of Australia has introduced the promotional programme 'Flora for Fauna', under which plants are labelled as bird or butterfly attracting, to encourage suitable plantings.

For birds to be retained in a garden, food, shelter and suitable nesting sites must be provided. Food, in the form of nectar produced by flowering shrubs and trees, is a natural by-product of the native garden, and many shrubs and trees produce fruits and seeds which also attract birds.

Careful plant selection will provide suitable flowers for birds for most of the year. Plants with these properties are designated accordingly in the species descriptions, but in general terms the genera *Grevillea*, *Banksia*, *Callistemon*, *Correa*, *Eucalyptus*, *Corymbia*, *Melaleuca*, and various *Syzygium* species, are worthy of consideration as bird attractors.

People may have many reasons for growing native plants. They may like to have a garden that is easy to maintain and that attracts birds, they may have an interest in conservation, or they may simply be seeking a challenge to their horticultural skills. Whatever the reasons, they will obtain enjoyment, relaxation and satisfaction.

It is hoped the following pages will provide ideas and information that make the cultivation of native plants more enjoyable and satisfying.

# COLLECTION OF MATERIAL

'Where can I obtain a certain species of plant?' This is the question most frequently asked at the Australian National Botanic Gardens' inquiry desk.

General nurseries throughout Australia are slowly increasing their stocks of native plants. Specialist nurseries, however, are still the major suppliers and these are located in most capital cities and large centres. Their advertisements may be found in gardening periodicals and particularly in the journal *Australian Plants*.

For those content to buy their plants, the remainder of this chapter will be of little interest. There is, however, an exciting field of endeavour open to those who are prepared to put in a little effort and collect material to propagate their own plants.

Field collection can be a fascinating and entertaining experience for all the family. It can take one to new parts of the country and can be incorporated with camping trips and picnics. Many of the author's most interesting collections have been made during family outings and holidays.

***Lechenaultia linarioides***

Yellow Lechenaultia

A G

Dense, tangled shrub to 1m high by 1m across, often suckering. Linear leaves are 8–12mm long. Flowers are creamy yellow and red, borne in masses in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Difficult to maintain.

***Lechenaultia longiloba***

A G

Semi-prostrate, suckering plant, occasionally reaching 30cm high. Fleshy linear leaves are mainly 1–2cm long. Dull red and yellowish flowers to 3.5cm long are seen in late winter and spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION As for genus.

***Lechenaultia macrantha***

Wreath Lechenaultia

A G

Prostrate plant forming neat circles 30cm across. Linear succulent leaves are 2.5–4.5cm long. Large cream and red

flowers are beautifully displayed around perimeter of plant.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION This species has flourished in Sydney on deep sand for periods of up to two years. Outstanding plant, but very difficult to maintain. ☀️ 🌿

***Lechenaultia superba***

Barrens Lechenaultia

A G

Erect plant to 70cm high. The fleshy, linear leaves are 1–2cm long. The orange-red flowers are seen in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Difficult to maintain. ❄️

***Lechenaultia tubiflora***

A G

Prostrate mat plant or compact sub-shrub to 30cm high. Crowded, linear leaves are about 1cm long. Tubular flowers are borne terminally and held erect. Flowers may be cream, pink, red or bicoloured. They are seen in spring and summer. Distribution: WA.

*Lechenaultia tubiflora*

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Not as difficult as others to maintain but three years seems the maximum life. ❄️ 🌿

***Leptorhynchus squamatus***

ASTERACEAE

Scaly Buttons

A B C G H

Spreading, semi-prostrate plant to 40cm across. Oblong to narrow-oblong leaves are up to 3cm long. Small, yellow, button-like flower heads on long slender stalks appear in spring and summer. Distribution: SA, Vic, NSW, ACT, Tas.

PROPAGATION From seed, cuttings, or by division.

CULTIVATION Needs sunny position and grows in most soils. ❄️

***Leucophyta brownii***(Syn. *Calocephalus brownii*)

ASTERACEAE

Cushion Bush

A B C D G

Compact, rounded silvery grey shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Tiny, grey, scale-like leaves are pressed against the stems.

*Lechenaultia macrantha* growing near Mullewa, WA

Globular flower heads are greenish yellow and about 1cm diameter (see photo page 87). Distribution: Vic, SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, without mist.

CULTIVATION Grows in most soil types in full sun. Good foliage contrast. Regular pruning ensures tight, rounded habit. Resistant to salt spray. ❄️ 🌿 🌿 🌿

*Libertia paniculata****Libertia paniculata***

IRIDACEAE

A B C D G

Tufted perennial with grass-like leaves to 50cm long. Bears white flowers, 25mm diameter, on slender, branching stems to 40cm in spring. Distribution: Vic, NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION By division or seed. CULTIVATION Grows in most soils but prefers some shade and ample moisture. *L. pulchella* has shorter leaves to 18cm but the flower stem exceeds the leaves and is well displayed. 🌿 ❄️

***Linum marginale***

LINACEAE

Native Flax

A B C H

Erect, slender plant to 60cm. Linear to narrow-elliptical leaves are 5–20mm long and often

*Linum marginale*

bluish. Bears open bright blue flowers, 1.5–2cm diameter, on branching stems. Distribution: temperate Australia.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy; thrives in most soils in full sun or part shade. Suspected of being toxic to stock. ❄️

***Lissanthe strigosa***

ERICACEAE (EPACRIDACEAE)

Peach Heath

A B C D

Rounded shrub to 50cm high by 50cm across. Prickly, linear

*Lissanthe strigosa*

to lanceolate leaves to 1.5cm. Small, profuse, white or pale pink bell-like flowers to 5mm long in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, with difficulty.

CULTIVATION Not often seen in cultivation. Flowers for a long period. Prefers good drainage and some shade. ❄️ 🌿

***Lobelia membranacea***

CAMPANULACEAE (LOBELIACEAE)

A B D E

Dainty prostrate plant spreading to 50cm across. Tiny ovate leaves to 5mm long. Bears pale blue flowers for much of the year.

*Lobelia membranacea*

Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by division.

CULTIVATION Enjoys damp conditions. Will seed itself in the garden and may become invasive. Frost hardy. 🌿 ❄️ 🌿

***Lobelia quadrangularis***

B D E F

Prostrate plant spreading to 80cm and rooting as it spreads. Tiny round leaves are up to 1.5cm

long. Blue flowers are borne prolifically in winter and spring. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld. PROPAGATION By division or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Requires damp spot, preferably with a little shade. Very floriferous. May be suitable for basket culture. ☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lobelia trigonocaulis*

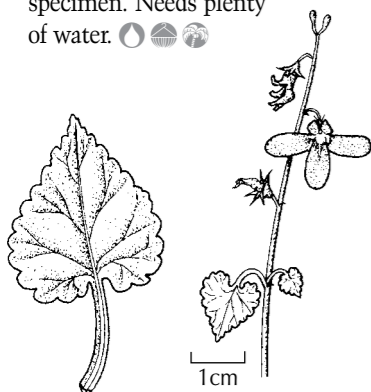
B D E

Trailing plant with weak stems to 50cm long. Heart-shaped leaves, 1–4cm long, are borne on long petioles. Blue or rarely white flowers with prominent 3-lobed lip on erect stems to 10cm.

Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION By division.

CULTIVATION Lovely plant for heavy shade or as basket specimen. Needs plenty of water. ☀️ 🌧️ 🌿



*Lobelia trigonocaulis*

### *Lomandra*

ASPARAGACEAE

Mat Rushes

Until recently, this genus has been largely ignored in cultivation, but the 50 species are hardy and most attractive. Most can be grown readily from seed. Only a few have so far been cultivated, but many others are worthy of trial. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants and lend interest to floral arrangements.



*Lomandra banksii*

### *Lomandra banksii*

D E

Strange branching plant to 1m with narrow strap-like leaves to 30cm spreading from ascending branches. Leaf bases are retained on old growth. Flowers are cream; not showy. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained soil and full sun. ☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lomandra confertifolia*

A B C D G



*Lomandra confertifolia*

Tufted plant with crowded, bright green, linear leaves, 8–70cm long. Flowers are often hidden in the foliage. Five subspecies are recognised. Distribution: NSW, Qld, Vic.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Shorter leaf forms make handsome little foliage plants. A number of cultivars are available in nurseries.

*L. c.* 'Little Con' is a dwarf form with fine leaves to 30cm. *L. c.* ssp. *rubiginosa* is taller the leaves reaching up to 50cm, several others are available including 'Seascape', 'Frosty Tips', 'Silver Grace' and 'Crackerjack'. Another dwarf cultivar of *L. c.* ssp. *pallida* is sold as 'Little Pal'. All are very hardy.

☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lomandra hystrix*

A B D E F G

Large tufted plant with arching, bright green leaves to 1.3m long. Branching flower spikes are usually slightly shorter. The primary branches of the flower are mainly in fours, a conspicuous difference from *L. longifolia* with which it is often confused. Flowers are seen in early summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy; should be used more frequently. Foliage is attractive. Excellent soil binder for creek banks, accepting some inundation. May be grown in heavy shade or full sun but requires ample moisture. Leaves will arch over rocks or hide ugly concrete edges of water features. Makes good indoor specimen. It is sometimes sold as *L. longifolia* but does not accept conditions as dry as that species does.

☀️ 🌧️ 🌿



*Lomandra leucocephala* ssp. *robusta*

### *Lomandra leucocephala* ssp. *robusta*

C H

Tufted plant with narrow grass-like leaves to 50cm. Tight clusters of woolly white flowers, to 6cm long, surround stem at irregular intervals. Flowers mostly in winter and spring. Distribution: all mainland States.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Prefers reasonable drainage and full sun. ☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lomandra longifolia*

A B C D H

Variable species forming tussocks 30–70cm high. Narrow strap-like leaves are relatively stiff. Bears crowded, spiny flower spikes held on flattened stems. On warm summer days flowers are strongly perfumed. Distribution: SA, Tas, Vic, NSW, ACT, Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Grows in almost any soil and aspect. Hardy; often used in median strips. A cultivar *L. l.* 'Tanika' has very fine leaves.

☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lomandra obliqua*

B D

Tiny plant with trailing stems to 40cm. Short, twisted leaves, 2–4cm long, are arranged in two rows on opposite sides of stems. Flowers are insignificant. Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, shaded position. Charming foliage plant; will trail over rocks.

☀️ 🌧️ 🌿

### *Lomandra purpurea*

Purple Mat Rush

A G

Tussock-forming plant with narrow dark green leaves to 60cm. The dark purple flowers are borne in well-spaced whorls on a stem to 1m high in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed or by division.

CULTIVATION Requires well-drained position in full sun or part shade. Flowers are an unusual colour for the genus.

☀️

### *Lotus australis*

FABACEAE

Australian Trefoil

A B C D H

Rounded shrub, 50cm diameter, with trifoliolate leaves. The mostly linear leaflets are 1–3cm long. Pea-flowers normally an unusual pale pink. Distribution: temperate Australia.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Needs full sun and reasonable drainage. Often short-lived in cultivation, 3–4 years being usual life span. Resistant to salt spray. ☀️ 🌧️ 🌿



*Macropidia fuliginosa*

### *Macropidia fuliginosa*

(Syn. *Anigozanthos fuliginosa*)

HAEMODORACEAE

Black Kangaroo Paw

A G H

Iris-like grey-green leaves to 50cm long. Branched flower spike to 80cm long with yellow-green tubular flowers to 6cm long. Flowers and stems are covered with dense jet black hairs. Petals are deeply divided and reflexed back on floral tube. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION Tissue culture is the most reliable method.

CULTIVATION Grows and flowers well in well-drained soils in

Sydney, Melbourne and Perth; needs sun for at least half the day. Flower spikes damaged by frost. Sold as a cut flower. 🌱🌱🌱

## Macrozamia

ZAMIACEAE

Burrawang

The genus *Macrozamia* is part of the ancient group of plants known as cycads. Cycads occur throughout the world but *Macrozamia* is endemic to Australia. All 41 species make attractive rockery feature plants, with their dark green palm-like leaves up to 1–2m long arching outwards from a central trunk, which in some species may be underground. They are slow growing; very old specimens of some species with trunks 1–2m high can be seen in the field. All respond to generous applications of a general fertiliser.

*Macrozamia* spp. do not produce flowers, having reproductive organs known as cones. Male and female cones are borne on separate plants and somewhat resemble pineapples in shape and size. The female cones are larger. The large seeds they produced may be red or yellow when ripe, and germinate readily. Seeds have a high starch content and were eaten by the Aborigines after being vigorously washed to remove toxic compounds known to cause violent vomiting. They are also *toxic to stock*, which has resulted in the genus's ruthless destruction in Queensland.

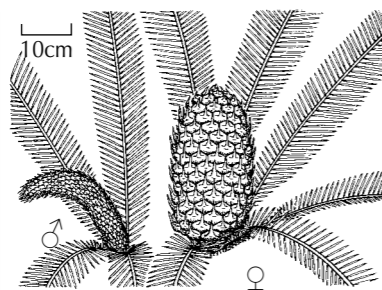
Most species have been cultivated but only a few of the better known are mentioned here.

### Macrozamia communis

Burrawang

🌱🌱🌱

This species does not generally develop a tall trunk. Pinnate leaves may be 1–2m long with



*Macrozamia communis*. Male and female cones are on separate plants

50–100 leaves in the crown.

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Good drainage essential. Some shade desirable. Scale insects may infest the leaves and are easily controlled with white oil. Control of the larvae of a beetle which severely damages trunks, ultimately causing death, has proved difficult, despite drenching with various insecticides. Good container plant. 🌱🌱🌱

### Macrozamia fawcettii

🌱🌱

Small cycad with an underground trunk. Dark green, pinnate, slightly twisted leaves are about 70cm long with up to 12 leaves rising from the crown. Cones are borne on a short stalk with the female cones up to 30cm long. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy, easily grown. Accepts full sun but prefers part shade for best growth. 🌱🌱🌱

### Macrozamia moorei

🌱🌱🌱

Very large cycad with huge trunk to 5m high. Pinnate leaves are up to 3m long with as many as 150 leaves in the crown. Female cones are 50–90cm long. Distribution: confined to the Carnarvon Range area of Qld. The similar *M. johnsonii* occurs

in northern NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Excellent specimen or feature plant for a large garden. Tends to grow a little smaller as container plant. Most soils and a little shade recommended.

🌱🌱🌱

### Macrozamia riedlei

🌱🌱

Large cycad with trunk reaching 2m. Pinnate fronds frequently reach 2m and more on old specimens. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs good drainage and full sun or part shade. Good container plant. 🌱🌱🌱

### Macrozamia spiralis

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Trunkless species with leaves to 1m long. Leaves are twisted spirally, with 2–12 leaves in the crown. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs good drainage and full sun or part shade. Good container plant. 🌱🌱🌱

### Malva preissiana

(Syn. *Lavatera plebeia*)

MALVACEAE

Australian Hollyhock

🌱🌱🌱

Short-lived perennial with erect



*Malva preissiana*



*Marsdenia suaveolens*

### Marsdenia suaveolens

APOCYNACEAE  
(ASCLEPIADACEAE)

🌱🌱

Variable plant; may be a weak trailer or semi-erect shrub, depending on degree of exposure to sun and wind. Opposite leaves, oblong to lanceolate, 2–7cm long, on short petioles. Umbels of small, scented, white or rarely pink flowers, 4–5mm diameter, in summer. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Tolerant of most soils but needs ample watering.

🌱🌱

stem 1–2m high. Broadly ovate, lobed leaves are up to 20cm long. Flowers, 6cm diameter and borne in clusters in leaf axils, appear in spring and summer. Colour varies from white to lilac. Distribution: all States.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs sunny, warm position; grows in most soils. Useful background plant but must be replaced in 2–3 years.



*Melaleuca incana* 'Velvet Cushion'

### Melaleuca incana 'Velvet Cushion'

(Syn. *M. 'Velvet Cushion'*)

MYRTACEAE

🌱🌱

Dwarf form of *M. incana* (refer page 424) making a compact shrub to about 60cm high by 60cm across. Hairy grey leaves are borne on small, pendulous branches. Cream brushes are not borne as prolifically as in the taller forms.

PROPAGATION Must be from cuttings.

CULTIVATION Does not perform well on the humid east coast; probably more suited to winter rainfall areas. Good drainage essential. A prostrate, more spreading form of *M. incana* is also in cultivation. 🌱🌱

### Mentha laxiflora

LAMIACEAE

Native Mint

🌱🌱🌱

Suckering plant with erect stems to 40cm. Lanceolate leaves are 4–5cm long. Highly aromatic foliage. Flowers, mauve or more rarely white, are borne in upper leaf axils. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by division.

CULTIVATION Heavy shade and ample moisture essential. May

become invasive. Leaves may be used as flavouring in drinks and cooking. 🌱🌱🌱

### Microseris lanceolata

ASTERACEAE

Yam Daisy

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Perennial herb with tuberous roots and slender, lanceolate radical leaves, 4–30cm long. Bright yellow flower heads, 3cm diameter, are held on stems 20–40cm, rather like a large dandelion. Distribution: temperate Australia. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Most situations suitable. The tuberous rootstock was an important food for the Aborigines. 🌱🌱

### Microstrobos fitzgeraldii

PODOCARPACEAE

Dwarf Mountain Pine

🌱🌱

Rare conifer, forming rounded bush less than 60cm with pendulous branchlets. Slightly incurved, lanceolate grey-green leaves are about 3mm long. Distribution: Blue Mountains, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-shaded area with good drainage, but ample watering. Handsome container plant. 🌱🌱🌱

CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

*Milligania densiflora***Milligania densiflora**

ASTELIACEAE (LILIACEAE)

A C

Tufted plant with thick, tapered leaves to 30cm long. Branching stems to 30cm of open white flowers to 2cm diameter occur in spring. Distribution: alpine areas of Tas.

PROPAGATION By division.

CULTIVATION Needs some shade in well-drained situation with ample moisture and well-composted soil.

D ☀️ 🌧️

**Minuria integerrima**

ASTERACEAE

A G H

Perennial plant with glabrous, linear to oblanceolate leaves to 5cm long on erect stems to 50cm long. White daisy-like flowers, 1cm diameter, are well displayed in late winter and spring. Distribution: all mainland States. PROPAGATION From cuttings, using new growth as it emerges from rootstock.

CULTIVATION Likes most soils; full sun. Cut back old growth after flowering. ☀️

*Minuria leptophylla***Minuria leptophylla**

A G H

Small cushion-shaped plant, 10cm high by 30–40cm across. Linear leaves to 4cm long. Daisy-like flowers, 2cm diameter, white to lilac blue, cover the plant for a large part of the year. Distribution: all mainland States.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, but try seed when available.

CULTIVATION Prefers full sun and good drainage. Showy in flower. Also basket plant.

*M. cunninghamii* is similar and may be treated in the same way. 🌧️

**Mirbelia rubiifolia**(Syn. *M. reticulata*)

FABACEAE

B D

Straggly shrub less than 50cm high with branches occasionally spreading to 80cm. Whorls of small lanceolate leaves, to 3cm long, are sharply pointed with reticulate veining. Small magenta pea-flowers appear in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Usually short lived in cultivation. Needs well-drained sandy soil, half shade, and mulch of sandstone chips.

D

**Mitrasacme**

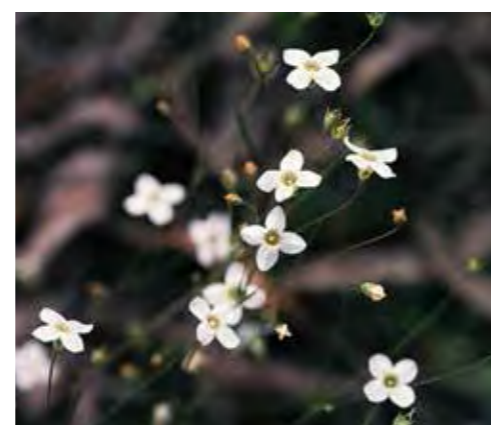
LOGANIACEAE

Some 50 or more species are recognised in this genus, most occurring in Australia. They are nearly all small, annual or perennial herbaceous plants with little horticultural value, but may add some interest to a small rockery pocket because of their relatively long flowering period. The small four-petalled flowers are usually white but occasionally yellowish. Propagation is by cuttings or seed for annual species.

**Mitrasacme polymorpha**

A B D

Dwarf, erect perennial herb, with small, dull green, narrow-ovate

*Mitrasacme polymorpha*

leaves, less than 1cm long. Bears small white flowers on long slender pedicels in spring and summer. Distribution: Vic, NSW, Qld, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs good drainage and semi-shaded position. 🌧️

Other perennial species in cultivation are *M. paludosa*, *M. pilosa* and *M. serpyllifolia*.

*Molineria capitulata***Molineria capitulata**(Syn. *M. recurvata*, *Curculigo recurvata*)

HYPOXIDACEAE (LILIACEAE)

Weevil Lily

D E F

Tufted, suckering perennial with several entire, narrow spade-shaped, pleated leaves to 1.5m long. Short flower spikes bearing variable number of yellow flowers, 2cm diameter, emerge from between leaf bases. Distribution: Qld, south-east Asia.

PROPAGATION From seed or by division.

CULTIVATION Likes shady position, soil rich in humus, in frost-free area. In these conditions it will spread vigorously. Foliage is main feature. Attractive indoor plant.

D 🌧️ 🌞 🌱

*Murdannia graminea***Murdannia graminea**

COMMELINACEAE

B D E F

Tufted plant with lax grass-like leaves up to 10cm long. Branched flower spike to 50cm. The 3-petalled mauve-purple flowers, 2cm diameter, are seen in spring and summer. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed or by division of tuberous rootstock. CULTIVATION Likes sunny position in most soils. NSW collections are frost hardy. 🌧️ 🌞

**Nertera granadensis**(Syn. *N. depressa*)

RUBIACEAE

Bead Plant

C

*Nertera granadensis*

Prostrate mat-forming plant to 40cm diameter with rounded leaves, very small, to 4mm long. Flowers are insignificant. Bears globular red fruits, 4mm diameter, on surface of mat. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA, South America.

PROPAGATION By division.

CULTIVATION Not common in cultivation in Australia. Often seen overseas in sheltered rockeries and as container plant. Prefers cool position in well-composted soil. Fruits are a feature. Grows well at Coffs Harbour, NSW. 🌧️ 🌞 🌱

**Operculina brownii**

CONVOLVULACEAE

Potato Vine

H

Annual or perennial twining plant or ground cover with heart-shaped leaves to 10cm. White funnel-shaped flowers to 6cm long. Almost round sepals, 3cm long in fruit, dry to form a papery 'flower' with black pea-sized seeds in the centre. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld, south-east Asia.

PROPAGATION From scarified or boiled seed.

CULTIVATION Not often seen in cultivation, this trailing plant has an extended period of interest. In its dry natural habitat it behaves as an annual; in frost-free areas its life may be lengthened if water is available. The flowers and dry calyces make it an ornamental. Sets ample seed for propagation. Needs well-drained site in full sun.

🌧️ 🌞

**Orthrosanthus laxus**

IRIDACEAE

Morning Iris

A G

Iris-like plant with flat leaves to 40cm long. Bears spikes of light blue flowers, 3cm in diameter,

*Orthrosanthus laxus*

on stems a little longer than leaves. Many spikes are produced simultaneously. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed; flowers in first year. CULTIVATION Needs sunny, well-drained position. Could be used as annual bedding plant. *O. multiflorus* and *O. polystachyus* are also in limited cultivation. ❄️

### *Patersonia*

IRIDACEAE

Native Iris

About 17 species of *Patersonia* occur in Australia and several others enter south-east Asia. They are known collectively as Native Iris. Except for *P. umbrosa* var. *xanthina*, which has yellow flowers, all have flowers of violet hue. Each flower only lasts a few hours but a succession of flowers, produced on stems about 40cm high, ensures a worthwhile display. Many flowering stems are produced by each plant and in the field all plants in the one area flower on the same day.

Most species form clumps of strap-like leaves about 30cm high. As most can be handled in the same way, exceptions are mentioned under the relevant species. Propagation is easy from seed, which is usually set in profusion.

All require full sun to give maximum flowering performance and most appreciate good drainage. Flowering is in spring and summer.

### *Patersonia drummondii*

A G

Some hairs at base of twisted leaves. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

### *Patersonia fragilis*

(Syn. *P. glauca*)

A B C D

Leaves, 20–60cm long, almost terete with pointed tips. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, Tas. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION More tolerant of poorly drained soils than most other species. ☀️ ❄️

### *Patersonia glabrata*

A B C D

Linear leaves to 30cm long. Flowers slightly paler than most. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

### *Patersonia juncea*

Rush-leaved *Patersonia*

A G

Densely tufted plant with linear leaves to 22cm long. Flowering stem to 20cm with pale violet flowers about 4.5cm diameter. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Good drainage important. Hardy in temperate areas. ❄️

*Patersonia occidentalis*

### *Patersonia occidentalis*

(Syn. *P. longiscapa*)

A B C D G

Flat leaves, 18–40cm long, and flower stem to 80cm high. Distribution: WA, SA, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Good drainage particularly important. Mass plantings used successfully at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. ❄️

### *Patersonia pygmaea*

A G

This species rarely exceeds 15cm. Flowers generally violet but many paler clones are found. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

### *Patersonia sericea*

A B C D G

*Patersonia sericea*

Generally hairy in appearance. Leaves to 50cm. Flowers usually deep violet. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

### *Patersonia umbrosa* var. *umbrosa*

A C G

Very erect plant to 50cm. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Some shade preferred. ❄️ ☀️

*Patersonia umbrosa* var. *xanthina*

### *Patersonia umbrosa* var. *xanthina*

(Syn. *P. xanthina*)

A C G

The only yellow *Patersonia*. Form similar to *P. u.* var. *umbrosa*. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Some shade preferred. ❄️ ☀️

### *Pelargonium* 'Applause'

GERANIACEAE

A B C D G H

This hybrid between *P. australe* and *P. rodneyanum* is a new release that displays the best characters of each species. It

forms a rounded plant 40cm high by 60cm across with soft pink flowers for an extended period from spring to autumn.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Hardy plant which will grow in most soils and full sun. Possessing a tuber, it may be cut back after flowering to permit new shoots emerging in spring. ❄️ ☀️

### *Pelargonium australe*

A B C D G H

Variable plants, most forming rounded bushes, 50cm diameter; some are shorter and more spreading. Ovate to round leaves with 5–7 lobes; length 2–9cm. Flowers are borne in umbels of 4–12 blooms, each about 1.5cm diameter. Colour varies from almost white with purple veining to mauve. Distribution: temperate Australia.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or seed. When selecting wild clones, look for good colour and number of flowers. CULTIVATION Likes most soils, full sun. ❄️

### *Pelargonium rodneyanum*

A B C D G H

Australia's most beautiful *Pelargonium*. Stemless plant less

*Pelargonium rodneyanum*

than 30cm high, developing a thickened tuber. Leaves are ovate to narrow-ovate, 2–5cm long. Bears magenta flowers held on slender peduncles longer than the leaves. Distribution: NSW, Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Grows in well-drained soil in sun or half shade. May be useful as parent in hybridisation with exotic species. ❄️

### *Pennisetum alopecuroides*

The plant sold under this name has been grown for many years despite its potential to become a pest by its prolific seeding. Close examination by taxonomists has now determined that it is an introduced species and should be known as *Cenchrus purpurascens*.

### *Pentachondra pumila*

ERICACEAE (EPACRIDACEAE)

A C

Prostrate mat plant to 1m across, clinging to rocks and open ground. Elliptical leaves to 6mm long. Small white bearded flowers and bright red berry-like fruits seen simultaneously over spring and summer. Distribution: alpine

*Pentachondra pumila*



areas of NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, but subsequent growth is slow.

CULTIVATION Plant in small rockery pocket with peaty soil where watering can be carefully controlled. Never allow to dry out. Needs full sun or half shade. Good container plant. ☀️🌧️



*Petrophile media*

### **Petrophile media**

PROTEACEAE

A G

Rounded shrub 50cm diameter. Long, terete leaves, often over 15cm, form porcupine-like shape with globular heads of cream flowers borne almost at ground level in spring and early summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Needs perfect drainage and full sun. *P. longifolia* is very similar and is also in cultivation. ☀️

### **Pimelea alpina**

THYMELAEACEAE

Alpine Rice Flower

A C

Prostrate spreading plant to 30cm across. Pairs of opposite, elliptical leaves are crowded towards the branch ends and up to 1cm long. Heads of perfumed pink or white

flowers about 1.5cm diameter are seen in summer. Distribution: alpine areas of NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Dainty little plant, not easily maintained.

Requires peaty but well-drained soil in full sun. Best suited to cooler climates. May be best as container plant. ☀️🌧️

### **Pimelea glauca**

A B C D

Compact little shrub to 30cm diameter. Bluish green, lanceolate leaves are 5–20mm long. Bears heads of creamy white flowers in spring and summer. Distribution: SA, Vic, NSW, ACT, Qld, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, sunny situation. ☀️

### **Pimelea humilis**

A B C

Low, often spreading shrub to 30cm high by 50cm across, with hairy stems and tending to produce suckers. Opposite leaves are oblong to lanceolate, to 1.5cm long. White, slightly



*Pimelea humilis*

hairy flower heads are about 3cm diameter and seen in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Useful for temperate regions. Good drainage essential, in full or part sun. ☀️

### **Pimelea treyvaudii**

A B C

Erect or sprawling plant to 60cm high by 60cm across. Narrow-elliptical grey-green leaves to 3cm. White flowers are borne in large terminal heads surrounded by creamy green bracts in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Showy plant for well-drained, partially shaded site. Flowers are well displayed. ☀️

### **Plantago**

PLANTAGINACEAE

The common weed Lamb's Tongue (*P. lanceolata*) is familiar to most gardeners and one they could easily do without. Several native *Plantago* spp., although not weed species, have little to offer the horticulturist. *P. muelleri* is an exception.

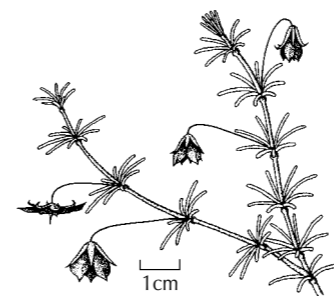
### **Plantago muelleri**

A C

Perennial plant forming overlapping star-like rosettes of thick bright green leaves. Flowers are light brown and insignificant on short stems, 7cm high. Distribution: alpine areas of NSW.

PROPAGATION By division, but seed worth trying after stratification.

CULTIVATION Grow in small rockery pocket in peaty soil where moisture can be carefully controlled. Never allow to dry out. Needs half shade to full sun. ☀️🌧️



*Platytheca galioides*

### **Platytheca galioides**

(Syn. *P. verticillata*)

ELAEOCARPACEAE  
(TREMADRACEAE)

A G

Small, erect heath-like shrub to 50cm with whorls of linear leaves 1–1.5cm long. Bears masses of dark blue, nodding flowers in spring and summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Often short lived in cultivation. Needs very well-drained site in half to three-quarters shade. Sandstone mulch may help. Useful container plant. *P. juniperina* is also in cultivation. ☀️🌧️

### **Plectranthus argentatus**

LAMIACEAE

B D

Very vigorous, suckering, herbaceous plant, 60cm–1m high.



*Plectranthus argentatus*

Large, velvety, grey, ovate leaves are slightly aromatic. Flowers are blue and seen in summer and autumn. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Only suitable for large rockery. Any situation in frost-free area, but prefers shade. Prune regularly to maintain good shape. Possible value as container plant. ☀️🌧️

### **Plectranthus graveolens**

B D E

Vigorous herbaceous plant, usually less than 40cm, often growing in shallow soil and leaf mould on rock faces. Felt-like, ovate leaves, 5–10cm long, are strongly aromatic, and spikes of pale blue flowers with prominent lip appear in spring and summer. Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Shaded or sunny position in any soil in frost-free area is suitable. Spreads to 1m and more but readily checked. Resistant to salt spray. 🌧️🌧️🌧️ *P. suaveolens* and *P. parviflorus* are difficult to separate from the above species. They are also frost tender.

### **Poa labillardieri**

POACEAE

A B C D

Tussock-forming grass with narrow greyish leaves to 80cm. Bears plume-like heads of flowers on stems to 1m. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA. PROPAGATION From seed or by division of tussock.

CULTIVATION Very hardy. Accepts most situations provided ample water available. ☀️🌧️

### **Poa poiformis**

Blue Tussock Grass

A B C D

Tufted perennial grass with blue-green leaves to 1m, often shorter,

with pointed tip. Straw-coloured flowers are borne in panicles about 30cm long on stems about the same length as the leaves. Distribution: NSW, Vic, SA, Tas, Lord Howe Island.

PROPAGATION By division or seed. CULTIVATION Hardy; often used for revegetation of sand dunes. Attractive in rockeries as flowers appear over most of the year. Resistant to salt spray. ☀️🌧️

### **Podolepis jaceoides**

ASTERACEAE

A B C D

Rosette-forming perennial with oblanceolate basal leaves to 20cm. Stem leaves are narrow-lanceolate to 5cm. Flowering stems may reach 80cm. Yellow flowers, about 4cm diameter, are seen in summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Useful for full-sun situation. Cut back stems after flowering. ☀️



*Podolepis monticola*

### **Podolepis monticola**

B C D

Perennial plant forming rosettes of light green, ovate to obovate leaves, 5–20cm long. Bears masses of bright yellow flowers, 2cm diameter, on stems 40cm long, in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

**PROPAGATION** From divisions, treated as cuttings. Seed may also be worth trying.

**CULTIVATION** Rare; grows well in well-drained, shaded location.



### *Podolepis robusta*



Perennial plant forming rosettes of oblong to narrow-spathulate leaves to 20cm long. Large yellow flower heads, 25cm diameter, on woolly, leafy stems 60cm high, appear in spring and summer. Distribution: alpine areas of NSW, Vic, ACT.

**PROPAGATION** From seed.

Stratification may increase percentage of germination.

**CULTIVATION** Tends to become untidy on aging. Needs well-drained position with ample moisture and some shade.



*Proiphys amboinensis*

### *Proiphys amboinensis*

(Syn. *Eurycles amboinensis*)

AMARYLLIDACEAE (LILIACEAE)

Cardwell Lily



Bulbous plant with large, rounded leaves (25cm diameter) on stalk 20cm high. Umbels of large white flowers, 6cm diameter, follow on stems to 50cm in summer.

Plant reduced to bulb in dormant season. Distribution: Qld.

**PROPAGATION** From seed or bulb off-set.

**CULTIVATION** Needs well-shaded frost-free position in good loamy soil. Good container plant.



### *Proiphys cunninghamii*

(Syn. *Eurycles cunninghamii*)

Brisbane Lily



Bulbous perennial similar to above, but leaves are ovate and white flowers are smaller and seen in late spring and early summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

**PROPAGATION** From seed or bulb off-set.

**CULTIVATION** As for *P. amboinensis* but tolerant of cooler temperatures.



*Pseuderanthemum variabile*

### *Pseuderanthemum variabile*

ACANTHACEAE

Pastel Flower



Perennial plant to 30cm but usually less. Lanceolate to ovate leaves are 2–7cm long and usually purplish on the underside. Spikes of pink to lilac tubular flowers with spreading lobes appear in spring and summer. Distribution: NSW, Qld, NT.

**PROPAGATION** From cuttings or by division of creeping rhizome.

**CULTIVATION** Shady situation in most soils. Plants in cultivation tend to be larger than those in the field.



*Pterocaulon sphacelatum*

### *Pterocaulon sphacelatum*

ASTERACEAE



Erect, aromatic herb to 1m high with winged stems. Oblanceolate to oblong leaves are hairy with scalloped margins. Globular heads of pale pink flowers, 2cm diameter, are seen in spring. Distribution: NT, Qld, NSW, SA, WA.

**PROPAGATION** From seed or cuttings.

**CULTIVATION** The aromatic leaves have a strong fruity fragrance and were used by Aborigines to treat head colds. Sunny, well-drained position. Cut back after flowering.



### *Ptilotus*

AMARANTHACEAE

*Ptilotus* is a large genus of over 115 species, all but one being endemic to Australia, and reaching its greatest development in the northern semi-arid parts of

the continent. Most species have horticultural merit but very few have been brought into cultivation, due partly to general inaccessibility and partly to the generally low percentage of germination. All require well-drained, relatively dry, sunny positions. A number of species have potential for the cut flower trade and some are being cultivated for this purpose.

### *Ptilotus drummondii*



Small herb to 30cm in cultivation. Basal and stem leaves more or less linear. Pink, fluffy flower heads are cylindrical (or globular) to 4.5cm long; seen in spring. Four varieties are recognised. Distribution: WA.

**PROPAGATION** From seed.

**CULTIVATION** Requires perfect drainage. Growing in coarse sand in Australian National Botanic Gardens rockery. Excellent for dry areas.



*Ptilotus manglesii*

### *Ptilotus manglesii*

Pom Poms



Low herb with rosette of obovate leaves to 8cm long. Trailing flower stems with showy, erect, fluffy flowers, pink and white, in cylindrical heads 5cm long by 4cm diameter, appear in spring. Distribution: WA.

**PROPAGATION** Root cuttings



*Ptilotus nobilis*

have been successful at Royal Horticultural Society Garden, Wisley, UK.

**CULTIVATION** As a pot plant in UK, but good rockery plant in mild climate. Excellent drainage required.

### *Ptilotus nobilis*

(Syn. *Ptilotus exaltatus*)

Pussytails, Mulla-mulla



Erect perennial to 60cm high with narrow-obovate to oblanceolate leaves to 20cm. Large, woolly, tapering heads of lilac-grey or yellowish green flowers in cylindrical spikes to 20cm long in spring. Three subspecies are recognised. Distribution: arid parts of all mainland States. **PROPAGATION** From seed, but germination usually poor. Selections propagated by tissue culture.

**CULTIVATION** Spectacular rockery plant; excellent container plant. *P. nobilis* 'Ozlotus Abell Star', bred for the cut flower trade and for landscaping, requires staking when used for cut flowers. It has been granted Plant Breeders Rights. Two other cultivars, *P. 'Joey'* and *P. 'Phoenix'* are available. Note: These cultivars have all been

registered as *P. exaltatus* and may still be found in nurseries with this name.

### *Ptilotus obovatus*

Cotton Bush



Compact shrub 60cm high with rounded, silvery grey, woolly leaves to 4cm long. Small, globular heads, 2cm diameter, of pink and grey flowers on branching stems, seen in spring. Distribution: arid parts of mainland States.

**PROPAGATION** From cuttings.

Selections from tissue culture.

**CULTIVATION** Hardy. Most soils satisfactory. Needs sunny position. Stems of *P. obovatus* 'Ozlotus Pink Suantra', bred for cut flower trade, may reach 1m.



### *Ptilotus spathulatus*



Prostrate perennial with rosette of spatulate leaves to 5cm long, from which horizontal stems emerge. They bear vertical, greenish, woolly flower spikes at their end in spring. Flowers seem to appear out of the ground. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From seed; germination usually fairly good.  
CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, sunny position. Interesting novelty plant. ❄️

### *Pultenaea procumbens*

FABACEAE

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

Low bush 30cm high by 1m across. Small, concave, broadly lanceolate leaves, to 1cm long, are pointed and slightly hairy. Yellow and brown pea-flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Requires well-drained soil with some shade.

🌑 ❄️



*Pultenaea spinosa*

### *Pultenaea spinosa*

(Syn. *P. subternata*, *P. cunninghamii*)

Ⓐ Ⓒ

Low shrub to 80cm high with hairy branches. Leaves are ovate, to 8mm, pointed and hairy. Yellow and brown pea-flowers appear in upper leaf axils in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Very useful rockery plant. Needs good drainage, full sun or part shade. Frost tolerant.

❄️

### *Pycnosorus globosus*

(Syn. *Craspedia globosa*)

ASTERACEAE

Billy Buttons, Drumsticks

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ

Robust perennial with woolly, silvery, linear leaves, to 30cm long. Erect flower stems to 80cm high with globular yellow flower heads to 3cm diameter are seen in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Handsome foliage plant; good cut flower. Blooms were used in the presentation bouquets at the 2000 Olympic Games. Hardy in sunny situation in most soils. ❄️ 🌧️ 🌑



*Pycnosorus globosus*

### *Ranunculus graniticola*

RANUNCULACEAE

Buttercup

Ⓐ Ⓒ

Perennial with rosette of ovate, toothed, simple or divided leaves to 4cm long. Bears bright yellow



*Ranunculus graniticola*

flowers, 2cm diameter, on stems to 20cm in summer. Distribution: alpine areas of NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Very hardy in sunny position in peaty soil with ample moisture. ❄️

### *Ranunculus lappaceus*

Common Buttercup

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ

Hardy perennial with ovate or triangular, divided leaves to 8cm long on a long stalk. Branched flower spikes to 40cm bear golden yellow flowers to 3cm diameter in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Very hardy. Grows in most soils; requires sunny position and ample moisture. ❄️ *R. collinus*, another alpine species, has also adapted to cultivation. *R. anemoneus*, the large white alpine buttercup, and *R. millanii* have not been so successful.

### *Rhodanthe anthemoides*

(Syn. *Helipterum anthemoides*)

ASTERACEAE

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ

Glaucous perennial, 50cm high by



*Rhodanthe anthemoides*

### *Rhytidosporum procumbens*

(Syn. *Billardiera procumbens*, *Marianthus procumbens*)

PITTOSPORACEAE

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

Tiny shrub sometimes reaching 20cm in height by 30cm across. Small, dark green, linear to linear-oblong leaves. Starry white flowers, about 1cm diameter, occur in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, SA, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, but try seed.

CULTIVATION Well-drained, partly shaded position most suitable. *R. prostratum* is very similar.

🌑 ❄️

30cm across with linear leaves to 1cm long. White everlasting-daisy flowers, 2cm diameter, are borne in summer. Distribution: Tas, Vic, SA, NSW, ACT, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Prefers well-drained, sunny position. Cut back after flowering. Possible value as basket plant. Selected varieties are promoted as *Rhodanthe (Helipterum)* 'Paper Cascade', 'Paper Baby', 'Paper Star' and 'Anna Star'. ❄️ 🌑



*Rostellularia adscendens*

### *Rostellularia adscendens*

(Syn. *R. pogonanthera*)

ACANTHACEAE

Ⓔ Ⓕ

Small herbaceous perennial to 40cm high with lanceolate leaves to 4cm long. Small pink flowers borne in a terminal spike have prominent lip. Five varieties are recognised. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld, NSW, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings and probably seed.

CULTIVATION Useful for small rockery pocket in warm climate. Hardy in full sun. 🌞



*Rubus gunnianus*

### *Rubus gunnianus*

ROSACEAE

Ⓐ Ⓒ

Mat-forming plant with essentially underground stems

emerging to form rosettes of shiny, bright green, lobed or trifoliolate leaves. Leaflets are ovate to 2cm long. Creamy white flowers are about 2cm diameter; shy to flower in cultivation.

Red fruit clusters are edible and attractive. Distribution: Tas.

PROPAGATION By division. Seeds do not germinate readily, but may respond to stratification.

CULTIVATION Requires ample moisture in peaty soil; needs some overhead shade in warmer areas. ❄️ 🌧️ 🌑



*Sannantha bidwillii* 'Howie's Feathertips' used effectively as a bonsai

### *Sannantha bidwillii* 'Howie's Feathertips'

(Syn. *Baeckea virgata* 'Howie's Feathertips', *B. virgata* [miniature], *Babingtonia bidwillii* 'Howie's Feathertips')

MYRTACEAE

Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ Ⓔ

Small, dense shrub to 1m by 1.5m. Slightly pendulous tips. Crowded heath-like leaves to 1cm. Small white flowers, 6mm in diameter, are borne in summer. *Note: Baeckea virgata* is now considered to occur only in New Caledonia. Australian species previously known by this name were transferred to *Babingtonia* and several new species created. However after further examination, the eastern species

*Sannantha bidwillii* 'Howie's Feathertips'

were split into several new genera and *Babingtonia* now only applies to WA species. Thus 'Howies' Feathertips' is now thought to be a depauperate form of *Sannantha bidwillii*.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Very good for large rockery or as specimen plant. Foliage is a feature. Hardy in full sun or part shade. Suitable for tropics. Flowering is sometimes sparse but compact habit is a feature. ☀️ 🌿 🌱

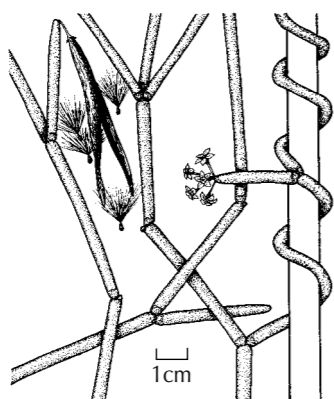
### *Sarcostemma viminalis* ssp. *australe*

(Syn. *S. australe*)  
APOCYNACEAE  
(ASCLEPIADACEAE)

Caustic Bush  
B D E F H

Leafless plant with branching, cylindrical, succulent stems, sometimes reaching 2m high. Flowers are pale green, about 7mm diameter, in umbels along the stems and seen in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, SA, WA, NT.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION In sunny, exposed position in rockery, expect it to form a bush 1m or more in diameter with odd stems

stretching over rocks. Suitable basket plant. *S. viminalis* ssp. *brunonianum* is similar but with more twining stems; often seen growing in dry littoral rainforests and other coastal locations as well as inland. 🌿 🌱 🌿

*Sarcostemma viminalis* ssp. *brunonianum*

### *Scaevola*

GOODENIACEAE

Fan Flowers

*Scaevola* is a large genus of plants in the family Goodeniaceae. It occurs in tropical areas apart from Australia, but reaches its best development in the south-west of Western Australia with more than half of the 85 Australian species

occurring there, many still un-named.

Plants vary from quite large, spreading shrubs, to small undershrubs and perennials, all with the familiar fan-shaped flowers in colours from white to blue and purple, rarely yellow. All are propagated very easily from cuttings and most respond to good drainage and full sun

### *Scaevola anchusifolia*

Silky Scaevola

A G

Prostrate or semi-erect plant to 80cm high. Dark green, hairy, oblanceolate, often toothed leaves to 9cm long. Flowers in loose terminal spikes, to 15cm long, are pale blue to purple and seen in late winter and spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION As for genus.

### *Scaevola calliptera*

Royal Robe

A G

Erect herb to 40cm with sessile, more or less oblong, toothed leaves to 5cm long. Large purple flowers with yellow throat are subtended by toothed, elliptical bracteoles to 3cm long. Flowering is from spring to early summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Not particularly reliable on humid east coast but grows well in Perth area. Useful container plant. Similar to *S. striata*, with which it shares common name, but differs in the shape of its bracteoles. ? 🌿 🌱

### *Scaevola crassifolia*

Thick-leaved Fan Flower

A G

Rounded shrub to 1m high. Thick, rounded leaves to 8cm across have serrated margins. Light blue or rarely white flowers

*Scaevola crassifolia*

are borne in terminal spikes to 5cm long in spring and early summer. Distribution: WA, SA.  
PROPAGATION From stem or leaf cuttings.

CULTIVATION Resistant to salt spray. 🌿

### *Scaevola humilis*

A B C D

Small, erect or spreading perennial which may develop suckering habit. Obovate leaves are up to 5cm long and the pale blue fan-shaped flowers are borne in the leaf axils through most of the year. Similar to *S. aemula* (page 125) but generally smaller in all its parts. *S. aemula* (page 125) also has yellowish brown hairs on the stems and flowers. Distribution: NT, Qld, NSW, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Does not spread as vigorously as the better forms of *S. aemula*. 🌿

### *Scaevola microphylla*

A G

Low spreading herb with prostrate or arching branches, up to 30cm high by 80cm across. Leaves are oblong to obovate, 1–5cm long, with coarsely toothed margins.

Lower leaves have a short petiole; upper leaves are more or less stem clasping. Fan-shaped flowers are blue and seen in spring and summer. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Excellent for well-drained soil in sunny site. 🌿

### *Scaevola phlebopetala*

Velvet Fan Flower

A G

Prostrate plant spreading to 80cm. Wedge-shaped to linear, toothed leaves are 2–10cm long. Large flowers, very deep purple with yellow throat, are subtended by small, linear bracteoles about 8mm long. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Handsome plant; stems trail over rocks. Not easy to maintain. Possible basket plant. 🌿

### *Scaevola ramosissima*

B D

Prostrate plant with wiry stems to 60cm and broad-linear leaves 2–8cm long. Bears large purple flowers in spring and summer. Distribution: Vic, NSW, Qld.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION As for genus.

### *Scaevola striata*

Royal Robe

A G

*Scaevola striata* 'Pink Perfection'

are borne in the leaf axils through most of the year. Similar to *S. aemula* (page 125) but generally smaller in all its parts. *S. aemula* (page 125) also has yellowish brown hairs on the stems and flowers. Distribution: NT, Qld, NSW, SA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Does not spread as vigorously as the better forms of *S. aemula*. 🌿

Similar to *S. phlebopetala* and *S. calliptera*. Distinguished by the large, leafy, elliptical bracteoles that subtend the flower. It tends to sucker. Two varieties are recognised, differing in the nature of the stem hairs. The pink-flowered cultivar 'Pink Perfection' is outstanding. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Useful basket plant. 🌿 🌱

*Schelhammera undulata*

### *Schelhammera undulata*

COLCHICACEAE (LILIACEAE)

A B C D

Slender plant rarely exceeding 15cm. Leaves are ovate, sessile, to 5cm long. Flowers are pale pink to mauve, 1.5cm diameter, and last only a short time. Distribution: Vic, NSW.  
PROPAGATION By division; seed worth trying.  
CULTIVATION Needs soil rich in humus in shady situation. Suitable as container plant. *S. multiflora* from north Qld is very similar and has also been cultivated. 🌿 🌱 🌿

**Senecio pectinatus**

ASTERACEAE

A C

Stoloniferous plant with radical, oblong leaves to 5cm, variably lobed. Bears single yellow daisy flowers to 2.5cm diameter on stems to 20cm high in summer. Distribution: alpine areas of NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION By division.

CULTIVATION Hardy in well-composted soil and cool location.

Not rampant. Needs ample moisture. ☀

**Sowerbaea juncea**

ASPARAGACEAE (LILIACEAE)

Vanilla Lily

A B D

Tufted plant with rush-like leaves, 30cm high. Umbel of purple, vanilla-scented flowers on slender stem to 40cm occurs in spring. Many flowering stems seen on well-established plants. Distribution: Vic, NSW, Qld, Tas.

PROPAGATION By division; seed is worth trying.

CULTIVATION Damp position; requires at least three-quarters sunlight. *S. laxiflora* from WA is similar but with fewer flowers; it can be treated in the same way.

☀ ☁ ☂

*Sowerbaea juncea**Stackhousia pulvinaris***Spermacoce stenophylla**

RUBIACEAE

E F H

Small spreading herb to 50cm across with grey-green, lanceolate-ovate leaves to 3cm long. Globular heads of blue flowers are borne in the leaf axils just after the wet season. Distribution: Qld, NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings and probably seed. CULTIVATION Colourful rockery plant in warm climate. Requires full sun in well-drained soil. ☀

**Stackhousia monogyna**

CELASTRACEAE

(STACKHOUSIACEAE)

A B C

Glabrous perennial with erect stems to 60cm high. Linear to

*Stackhousia monogyna*

lanceolate leaves are up to 3cm long. Spikes of white or cream flowers are borne terminally from spring to early summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings prepared from new leafy stems emerging from rootstock.

CULTIVATION Not easy. Needs well-drained position with ample water; do not allow to dry out. Requires some shade. ☀ ☁

**Stackhousia pulvinaris**

A C

Prostrate mat plant spreading to 40cm with light green, small, linear leaves to 1cm. Yellow-cream star-like flowers occur in profusion in early summer.

Distribution: alpine areas of NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION By division.

CULTIVATION Beautiful rock-hugging plant. Needs well-composted soil and ample moisture in cool position. Prefers some shade in warmer areas.

☀ ☁

**Stackhousia spathulata**

A B C

Small perennial herb to 30cm. Light green, thick, spatulate

leaves to 3cm long. Heads of white flowers borne on erect stems in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by division.

CULTIVATION Well-drained, sunny position. ☀

**Stemodia glabella**(Syn. *Morgania glabra*)PLANTAGINACEAE  
(SCROPHULARIACEAE)

Bluerod

E F H

Erect perennial to 50cm high, often suckering. Narrow-lanceolate, aromatic leaves to 5cm long are toothed. Dark blue axillary flowers to 1.2cm long are showy and borne for many months as growth extends.

Distribution: all mainland States.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs ample moisture in sunny, frost-free area. Prune regularly to keep growth compact. Possible annual bedding plant. ☀ ☁

*Stemodia glabella***Stemodia viscosa**

Pagurda

E F H

Similar to *S. glabella* but generally smaller, with slightly sticky leaves. Blue flowers in upper axils occur in spring and summer.

Distribution: SA, WA, NT, also recorded for India.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, but seed probably satisfactory also.

CULTIVATION Needs well-composted soil in full sun in frost-free area. Possible annual bedding plant. ☀ ☁

**Stirlingia simplex**

PROTEACEAE

A C G

Small sub-shrub to 20cm high with grey-green, much-divided leaves to 12cm long. More or less terete segments. Heads of pale yellow flowers on erect stems to 30cm are borne above the plant in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings (taken from leafy shoots near base of plant). CULTIVATION Excellent drainage essential. Sandy soil. Has flowered in Canberra. ☀ ☁

**Stylidium**

STYLIDIACEAE

Trigger Plants

The genus *Stylidium*, with some 110 species in Australia, includes many plants suitable for the rockery. Only a few are in common cultivation in the open ground, but many have been successfully grown in pot culture.

Their unique pollination method gives rise to their common name. The anthers and the stigma are combined into an irritable organ known as a column. When an insect alights on the base of this column it reacts like a trigger and hits the insect on its back, transferring a quantity of pollen, which is then moved to the next

flower. The triggers are only reactive on warm sunny days, giving an indication as to the most suitable location in the garden.

**Stylidium adnatum**

Common Beaked Trigger Plant

A G

Small clumping plant with whorls of bright green, linear leaves about 1.5cm long on erect stems. Terminal sprays of pale pink flowers are borne in spring and summer. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Excellent for well-tended rockery or as container plant in shade house. Grow in well-composted soil and keep moist but not wet. Prefers part shade. ☁

*Stylidium adnatum***Stylidium bulbiferum**

Circus Trigger Plant

A G

Stoloniferous plant forming circular mats 15cm high by 30cm in diameter. Linear leaves along red stems are crowded towards tips. Flowers are red, pink or almost white, seen in spring. Distribution: WA.

*Eremophila subfloccosa*

### *Eremophila subfloccosa*

**H**  
Low spreading shrub to 60cm with woolly grey foliage. Green flowers in spring. Three subspecies are recognised. Distribution: SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings (definitely no mist).

CULTIVATION Excellent foliage plant; hardy and reliable. ☼ 🌧

### *Eremophila weldii*

**H**  
Small open shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Dwarf forms are also known. Small, obovate or oblanceolate leaves are up to 1cm long, slightly concave upwards. Flowers are blue-mauve with spotted throat, about 1.5cm long. They are seen in spring and often in other seasons.

Distribution: SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Fairly widely grown; useful pot plant. Well-drained soil and full sun or part shade recommended. ☼ 🌧 🌧

### *Eremophila youngii*

**H**  
Erect shrub reaching 2m high by 1m or more across. Greyish, linear-lanceolate leaves are up to 4cm long and hooked at the tip. Pink to red, slightly hairy, tubular

flowers, 2.5cm long, are seen in winter and spring. Two subspecies are recognised.

Distribution: WA (arid regions) NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Adaptable species with erect habit, unusual in the genus. Requires well-drained, sunny site. ☼ 🌧

### *Eriostemon*

RUTACEAE

Wax Flowers

The genus *Eriostemon* has recently been revised, resulting in most species being transferred to the genus *Philotheca*. The main distinguishing factor is that the petals of an *Eriostemon* flower have several veins and those of *Philotheca* have a single vein. *Eriostemon* now has only three species, one of which occurs only in New Caledonia and is likely to be placed in another genus eventually. This leaves only two species native to Australia, the well-known *E. australasius* and the little-known *E. banksii* from the north-east coast of Queensland.

### *Eriostemon australasius*

(Syn. *E. lanceolatus*)

Wax Flower

**B C D**

Erect shrub to 2m high by 1m across with narrow-elliptical leaves to 7cm. Flowers are pink or rarely white, star-like, to 3cm diameter, and occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, with difficulty. Seed has germinated after chipping and washing treatment. Smoke treatment may also be successful. (See p. 32)

CULTIVATION Outstanding in flower, but nondescript for remainder of year. Perfect drainage and cool root run, provided by sandstone slabs or thick mulch, are essential. Some shade or full

*Eriostemon australasius*

sun suitable. White form available as *E. a.* 'Brilliance'. ☼ 🌧

### *Eucalyptus*

MYRTACEAE

A fuller discussion of this very large genus appears in Chapter 13. A few shrubby species are examined in this chapter. These few species rarely reach tree proportions, in general forming spreading, woody shrubs. They mostly have very showy flowers and are of particular value for this reason.

The majority of these small eucalypts are mallees; that is, they have a number of thin stems arising from a lignotuber or

*Eucalyptus approximans*

swollen woody tissue at, or just under, ground level. This habit can be most attractive in cultivation and should be encouraged by regular pruning of leading growths. While some eucalypts are tolerant of a wide range of conditions, most species mentioned below have more specific requirements and perform best in areas of low rainfall. *E. kruseana*, *E. macrocarpa*, *E. preissiana*, *E. rhodantha* and *E. tetraptera* are used as indoor container plants in the USA.

Propagation is easy from seed, either sown directly into their final containers (see p. 35) or pricked out at cotyledon stage.

### *Eucalyptus approximans*

Barren Mountain Mallee

**A B C D**

Mallee, or slender, low-branching tree, to 4m high by 3m diameter with smooth bark shedding in ribbons. Leaves are narrow, lanceolate, to 10cm. Bears cream flowers in spring. Distribution: restricted area in northern NSW, south-eastern Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Very reliable; hardy. Does not always form mallee habit in cultivation. Very frost hardy.

☼

### *Eucalyptus burdettiana*

Burdett Gum

**A C G H**

Shrub or small mallee to about 3.5m high. Lanceolate, shiny leaves are up to 9cm long. Flowers are yellow-green, about 3cm diameter. The bud cap is unique, being cylindrical, 4cm long and covered with warty protuberances. Flowers are seen in late summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Growing well in Kings Park and Waite Institute, Adelaide. Good drainage, full sun and winter rainfall essential. ☼ 🌧

### *Eucalyptus burgessiana*

(Syn. *E. obstans*)

Falconbridge Mallee Ash

**B C**

Mallee to 4m, often less. Bark is smooth and sheds in ribbons. Leaves are broad-lanceolate to ovate. Bears cream flowers in prominent sprays in winter and spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy; thrives on poor soils. Usually loses mallee form in better conditions.

Flowers are showy. Good drainage important. ☼

### *Eucalyptus conglomerata*

Swamp Stringybark

**B D**

Tall shrub or small tree to 8m with stringy bark. Ovate to narrow-ovate leaves, 6–16cm long. Cream flowers are borne in the upper leaf axils. Fruits, about 5mm in diameter, are often crowded. Distribution: Qld (coastal wallum).

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Rare; in limited cultivation. Accepts reasonably damp conditions. 🌧

CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

### *Eucalyptus cunninghamii*

(Syn. *E. rupicola*)

Cliff Mallee Ash

**C**

Spreading shrub to 3m high and 5m or more diameter with smooth bark and narrow-lanceolate leaves to 10cm. Masses of creamy white flowers appear in autumn. Distribution: Blue Mountains, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy. Good low screen plant. May be useful on banks in cooler climates. Rarely cultivated. Prefers good drainage and full sun. ☼ 🌧

### *Eucalyptus desmondensis*

Desmond Mallee

**A G H**

Slender mallee to 5m, sparsely branched with pendulous habit. Bark is silvery grey. Leaves are also grey, oblong, to 11cm (often less). Flowers are creamy yellow, and flowering season varies.

Distribution: near Ravensthorpe, WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Must have perfect drainage. Not easy to grow near east coast. Does well in drier climates; performs well in Perth. Very untidy appearance but interesting bark colour. Not fully frost tested. Subject to chewing insects. 🌧 🌧

### *Eucalyptus grossa*

Coarse-leaved Mallee

**A G H**

Spreading mallee-type shrub to 3m high and often 4m or more across. Thick wide leaves to 10cm on red stems. Flowers are conspicuous, creamy yellow, and occur in spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Performs well in drier climates. Not easy to grow near the east coast. Requires good drainage. Slightly frost tender when young. 🌧

### *Eucalyptus kruseana*

Bookleaf Mallee

**A B C G H**

Well-branched shrub to 3m high by 1m diameter. Blue-grey, round leaves to 2cm diameter. Flowers are creamy yellow in clusters near ends of branches and occur in autumn to winter. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Very beautiful. Hardy in most soils. Although from arid area it does well on the coast. Needs sunny posi-

*Eucalyptus kruseana*

tion. Tolerates frost. Subject to chewing insects. Prune to maintain shape. Flowers when very small. ☼ 🌧 🌞 🌱 🌿

*Eucalyptus luehmanniana*

### *Eucalyptus luehmanniana*

Yellow-top Mallee Ash

**B**

Mallee to 6m high, with smooth white bark shedding in long ribbons. Glossy leaves are broad-lanceolate to 18cm long. Large cream flowers are borne on flattened stalks in spring and early summer. Fruits are cup-shaped, about 1cm across. Distribution: NSW (Sydney region). PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Not common in

cultivation but deserves to be seen more frequently. Bark and general form both attractive. Reasonable drainage and full sun recommended. ☼ 🌧 🌞 🌱 🌿

*Eucalyptus macrocarpa*

### *Eucalyptus macrocarpa*

Mottlecah

**G H**

Straggling, open shrub to 5m (some compact forms seen in the field). Sparsely branched with large, blue-grey, stalkless, oblong leaves. Crimson flowers are the largest of the genus, 8cm diameter. They occur from late winter to early summer. Fruits are large, grey and attractive.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Outstanding ornamental; does best in drier climates. Needs good drainage and warm position. Slightly frost tender. Needs regular pruning.

☼ 🌧 🌞 🌱 🌿

### *Eucalyptus pimpiniana*

Pimpin Mallee

**H**

Spreading shrub or mallee to 2m with thick leaves to 9cm. Masses of greenish cream flowers appear

regularly. Distribution: SA (rare). PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Very old plants at Waite Institute, Adelaide, flower prolifically. Full sun. Useful for dry areas. Frost tolerance not fully tested.

### *Eucalyptus pleurocarpa*

Tallarack

**A C G H**

Usually compact, rounded shrub to 4m high and 5m diameter, with square grey stems and blue-grey ovate leaves. Cream flowers are well displayed in spring and early summer. This species has been known for many years as *E. tetragona*, a name now applied to a closely related species which does not retain the grey-green on older foliage and stems. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Beautiful, shapely foliage plant. Unlike most grey-leaved eucalypts, little insect damage has been noted. Frost hardy. Requires well-drained soil. Thrives on tablelands and inland drier areas. Used extensively by the cut flower trade for both foliage and fruits.

☼ 🌧 🌞 🌱 🌿

### *Eucalyptus preissiana*

Bell-fruit Mallee

**A B C G**

Straggling plant to 4m with smooth bark. Leaves are thick, oblong, to 11cm. Large bright yellow flowers, 3cm diameter, occur in spring. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Excellent ornamental if pruned to control shape. Rarely successful in Sydney but good plants known in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth. Subspecies *lobata* has larger fruits than the type. Good drainage important.

☼ 🌧

### *Eucalyptus rhodantha*

Rose Mallee

**G H**

Very similar to *E. macrocarpa* but generally more compact shrub growing to 3m. Blue-grey, rounded leaves to 10cm diameter. Bears large red flowers, 7cm diameter, for most of the year. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Not easy on the east coast but thrives in drier climates. Performs well in Perth on deep sand. Not fully tested for frost resistance. Very attractive. ☼ 🌧 🌞 🌱 🌿

CONSERVATION STATUS

Endangered.

### *Eucalyptus serraensis*

(Syn. *Eucalyptus alpina*)

Grampians Stringybark

**A C**

Spreading shrub to 3m high by 5m across (occasionally a small tree). Twisted branches and thick oblong leaves to 12cm. Bears cream flowers from summer to early winter. Distribution: high peaks of the Grampians, Vic. PROPAGATION From seed. (Stratification may assist germination.)

*Eucalyptus preissiana*  
ssp. *lobata*

CULTIVATION Hardy in Canberra and Melbourne. Moderately dense habit makes it a useful screen plant. Suited to most soils and aspects. Not tested in warmer, humid areas. ☼ 🌧 🌞

### *Eucalyptus stricta*

Blue Mountains Mallee Ash

**B C**

Mallee to 5m high with erect stems and narrow-lanceolate leaves to 10cm. Bears cream flowers in summer and autumn. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Very hardy in most coastal and tableland situations. Requires good drainage and ample moisture. Interesting landscaping plant, as mallee habit usually adopted. ☼ 🌧

*Eucalyptus tetraptera*

### *Eucalyptus tetraptera*

Square-fruit Mallee

**A G H**

Straggly bush to 3m with thick, lanceolate leaves to 15cm. Large, square red calyx, and pink flowers in spring and summer. Fruits are also red. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Reasonably hardy in

well-drained positions on coast and tablelands. Pruning essential to control growth. Some grub damage noticed. Very unusual eucalypt. Good specimens in Adelaide. ☼ 🌧 🌞

### *Eucalyptus vernicosa*

Varnished Gum

**A C**

Compact shrub to 3m with smooth bark and small, thick, ovate leaves to 5cm. Cream flowers occur in summer. Distribution: alpine areas of Tas. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Very hardy in most soils in sunny, well-watered situation in temperate areas. Relatively slow growing. Good foliage plant. ☼ 🌧

*Eucryphia lucida* 'Ballerina'

### *Eucryphia lucida*

CUNONIACEAE

(EUCRYPHIACEAE)

Leatherwood

**A B C**

Erect shrub or small tree to 7m with oblong leaves to 4cm. White, or rarely pink, fragrant flowers, 3cm diameter, reminiscent of a single rose, occur in late spring and summer. It is famous for the leatherwood honey produced from its flowers. Distribution: Tas. PROPAGATION From cuttings;

success also reported from seed.  
**CULTIVATION** Very reliable. Prefers well-composted soil and plenty of shade. Neat appearance; useful screen plant. Ample moisture essential. *E. l.* 'Ballerina' has pink petals and crimson stamens. *E. l.* 'Leatherwood Cream', a registered cultivar, has green and cream variegated leaves. 🌱🌿🌞🌧️

### *Eucryphia milliganii*

Ⓐ Ⓒ

Another Tasmanian endemic, with smaller leaves and flowers, reaching 2m. It can also be used as a screen plant. 🌱

### *Eugenia reinwardtiana*

(Syn. *E. carissoides*)

MYRTACEAE

Beach Cherry

Ⓓ Ⓔ

Rounded shrub to 2m. Dark green, elliptical leaves to 5cm. White flowers are followed by shiny red edible fruits, about 1.5cm diameter. The 1983 revision of *Eugenia* and *Syzygium* has left this and one other undescribed species as the only species of *Eugenia* occurring naturally in Australia. Distribution: Qld, WA, Pacific Is. **PROPAGATION** From seed.



*Eugenia reinwardtiana*

**CULTIVATION** Hardy. Slow-growing plant. Grows and fruits well at least as far south as Coffs Harbour. Accepts full sun. Fruits are tasty. 🌱🌿🌞

### *Eupomatia*

EUPOMATIACEAE

This interesting family, with only one genus and three species, is considered to be of ancient origin and without close relations in our modern floras. They occur in Australia and PNG and make fine garden or indoor specimens. Their floral structure is peculiar in that each flower consists of an outer ring of fertile stamens and an inner ring of infertile stamens (or staminodes). These latter are petal-like and provide a food source for a species of beetle (*Elleschodes* sp.), which in turn acts as the pollinating agent. The overall flower colour is cream.

When the fruits ripen in winter they soften and become fig-like. They are edible and aromatic and said to resemble a guava in flavour. The common name native guava has been given to *E. laurina*. The third species, *E. barbata*, a small shrub from north Queensland, has not been seen in cultivation.

As garden subjects they are handsome shrubs with glossy green leaves. They require shade and a well-composted soil with ample moisture. Their frost tolerance has not been fully tested but *E. laurina* will tolerate at least mild frosts. Propagation is easy from cuttings or seed.

### *Eupomatia bennettii*

Ⓓ

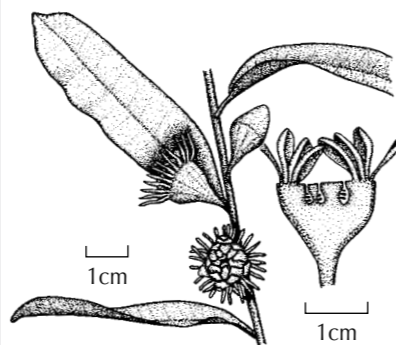
Rounded or straggly shrub to 1m high, sometimes much less, with glossy, ovate leaves to 20cm with winged petioles. Flowers are creamy yellow, orange at centre, 2.5cm diameter, and appear in

spring and early summer. Fruits are 2cm diameter and resemble rose hips. Distribution: NSW, Qld (in or near rainforest).

**PROPAGATION** From cuttings, and possibly seed.

**CULTIVATION** Very handsome foliage plant. Suitable for shaded rockery and as indoor specimen.

🌱🌿🌞🌧️



*Eupomatia laurina*.

Diagrammatic cross-section through flower showing cavities containing seeds. Fleshy petal-like structures are fertile and sterile stamens.

### *Eupomatia laurina*

Native Guava, Bolwarra

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓓ

Shrub or small tree to 6m. Branches are weak when young. Glossy, elliptical leaves to 12cm. Cream, strongly perfumed flowers, 2.5cm diameter, appear in spring and summer. Fruits are 2cm diameter and resemble rose hips. Distribution: Vic, NSW, Qld, PNG (in or near rainforest).

**PROPAGATION** From cuttings or seed.

**CULTIVATION** Handsome foliage plant. Requires pruning from early age to encourage branching and strengthen limbs. Suitable indoor plant. Frost susceptibility needs further testing.

🌱🌿🌞🌧️



*Euryomyrtus ramosissima*

### *Euryomyrtus ramosissima*

(Syn. *Baeckea ramosissima*)

MYRTACEAE

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

Very variable, usually spreading, heath-like shrub to 1m high or sometimes prostrate. Excellent forms are found on mid-north coast of NSW in heath. Flowers are often deep pink and at least 1cm diameter, in spring. *E. ramosissima* ssp. *prostrata* is a lower-growing shrub with smaller, nodding flowers. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA. **PROPAGATION** From cuttings. **CULTIVATION** Not easy to maintain for long periods in cultivation. Best results have been achieved in built-up sand and full sun. Very attractive and worth persevering with. 🌱🌿

### *Eutaxia*

FABACEAE

*Eutaxia* is a small genus of pea-flowers with 22 species, all Western Australian endemics except *E. microphylla* and *E. diffusa*, which are both widespread. They are mostly small, woody shrubs bearing yellow and red flowers in spring. They require good drainage and a

sunny situation. Propagation is by cuttings or scarified seed.

### *Eutaxia microphylla*

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

Two forms exist, a prostrate, spreading plant forming a tight mat to 1.5m diameter with heath-like leaves to 5mm long, and a much-branched shrub to 1m high by 1m diameter with slightly broader leaves to 1cm long. Flowers of both forms are yellow pea-flowers with red centres and are profuse in spring. Distribution: SA, Vic, Tas, NSW. **PROPAGATION** From cuttings or scarified seed.

**CULTIVATION** Prostrate form is an excellent ground cover or spreading rockery plant for a well-drained, sunny position. Foliage is neat. Upright form is a useful shrub, again requiring good drainage and full sun. 🌱

### *Eutaxia obovata*

Ⓐ Ⓑ Ⓒ Ⓓ

Rounded shrub to 1m high by 60cm across with lanceolate leaves to 2cm in four rows. Flowers are yellow with a red keel and appear in spring. Distribution: WA. **PROPAGATION** Scarified seed preferred.

**CULTIVATION** Performs well in Sydney and Canberra. Hardy in most soils. Good drainage recommended. Accepts a little shade. Neat shrub. *E. cuneata* and *E. epacridoides* are also in cultivation. 🌱🌿

### *Gardenia megasperma*

RUBIACEAE

Ⓕ

Open shrub or small tree to 5m with heavy, often twisted branches. Large leaves obovate to 14cm long. Scented white flowers, 5cm diameter, are followed by large pear-shaped fruits.

Distribution: WA, NT.

**PROPAGATION** From fresh seed (after extraction from hard fruits).

**CULTIVATION** Shrub with great character. Semi-deciduous in the field in the dry season, when leaves redden prior to falling, but probably evergreen in cultivation. Young plants only observed at Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, where germination was very good. Good drainage and full sun suggested for best results. Possibly very cold tender. 🌱🌿🌞🌧️



*Gardenia scabrella*

### *Gardenia scabrella*

Ⓓ Ⓔ Ⓕ

Rounded shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across with oblanceolate, glossy leaves to 8cm. Bears fragrant white flowers, 6cm diameter, in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld.

**PROPAGATION** From cuttings. **CULTIVATION** Growing well in Coffs Harbour in semi-shade. Considerable potential as an ornamental. Frost sensitive.

🌱🌿🌞🌧️



**Gastrolobium**

FABACEAE

Poison Peas

The definition of the genus *Gastrolobium* has been the subject of much debate in recent years, for a while many were transferred to the genus *Nemcia*, but the *Australian Plant Census* treats it in the broad sense with 114 species. All but two are endemic to Western Australia, where the genus forms an interesting part of the flora. The exceptions, *G. grandiflorum* and *G. brevipes* from northern Australia, are not known in cultivation. While the flowers and foliage of many species are attractive, in general they have been avoided in cultivation, probably because of the poisonous components in their foliage (toxic to stock, and probably also to

*Gastrolobium callistachys*

humans). The pea-flowers are yellow and red, orange or all red, and are usually well-displayed. Most species will require good drainage and a warm, sunny position. Propagation by scarified seed.

**Gastrolobium callistachys**

Rock Poison

A G

Erect shrub to 2m with linear leaves to 5cm. Long sprays of pea-flowers, yellow-orange, occur in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Requires well-drained, sunny position. Adapts well to cultivation. ☼

**Gastrolobium celsianum**(Syn. *Brachysema celsianum*, *B. lanceolatum*)

A B C G

Spreading, rounded shrub, 1.5m high and 3m across. Broad-lanceolate leaves are up to 10cm long and silvery grey on the underside. Bears red pea-flowers with prominent keel in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed or cuttings taken mid to late summer.

CULTIVATION Needs sunny position in most well-drained soils. Useful tall ground cover. Responds well to pruning. ☼

**Gastrolobium dilatatum**(Syn. *Nemcia cuneata*, *N. dilatata*, *Oxylobium obovatum*, *O. cuneatum*)

A G

Rounded shrub to 1m high (or less) by 60cm across. Leaves to 2cm have a blunt end. Bears orange-red pea-flowers in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Good drainage and full sun recommended. ☼

**Gastrolobium ebracteolatum**(Syn. *Oxylobium lineare*)

A G

Pendulous shrub to 5m high by 4m across with linear leaves to 6cm. Bears yellow and red pea-flowers in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Well-drained soil in full sun recommended.

Handsome habit. ☼

**Gastrolobium parviflorum**(Syn. *Oxylobium parviflorum*)

A G

Rounded shrub to 1m high by 60cm across with oblong leaves to 5cm. Yellow and red pea-flowers occur in winter and spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

Cuttings also successful.

CULTIVATION Good drainage and full sun recommended. ☼

*Gastrolobium praemorsum***Gastrolobium praemorsum**(Syn. *Brachysema praemorsum*)

A B C D

Spreading shrub to 30cm high by 1.5m diameter with wedge-shaped leaves to 6cm. Large dull red pea-

flowers appear in spring. A prostrate form with smaller purplish leaves is available commercially and appears to flower throughout the year. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Good low shrub or ground cover. Needs well-drained, sunny position. Prostrate form performs well in Coffs Harbour. ☼

**Gastrolobium truncatum**(Syn. *Nemcia truncata*)

A G

Prostrate plant spreading to 50cm. Leaves almost round with undulate margins, 1.5cm long. Yellow and red pea-flowers (not seen by author). Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Has potential as rockery or small ground cover plant. Good drainage and full sun recommended. Good basket specimen. ☼

**Gaultheria**

ERICACEAE

Of this very large pan-Pacific genus, only four species occur in Australia, with one of them, *G. depressa*, extending to NZ. They are low to medium-sized woody shrubs with dark green foliage and white flowers embedded in a succulent white or red calyx, which swells and remains coloured when fruit is mature. They are hardy ornamentals for shady positions in well-composted soil with good drainage, but need plenty of water. Propagation is from cuttings, but some success has been reported from seed with Tasmanian species.

**Gaultheria appressa**

(often wrongly referred to as

*G. hispida*)

Waxberry

A C

Erect, open shrub to 2m high by 1m diameter with green, broad-lanceolate leaves to 6cm. Bears small white flowers followed by showy white fruits in late summer. Distribution: NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Prune from early age to maintain compact shape. Suitable for containers. ☼

☼

**Gaultheria hispida**

Snowberry

A C

Compact shrub to 1m high by 1m diameter with bristly stems, otherwise similar to *G. appressa*. Distribution: alpine areas of Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. Some success also reported from seed.

CULTIVATION As for *G. appressa*. Perhaps less pruning is needed. ☼

☼

*Geleznowia verrucosa***Geleznowia verrucosa**

RUTACEAE

Yellow Bells

A G

Small rounded shrub to 1m by 1m. Obovate leaves are crowded and about 1.2cm long. The terminal yellow flowers, borne in

small clusters, are almost hidden by the yellow leaf-like bracts. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION Difficult from cuttings and seed; smoke treatment of seed (see p. 32) has recently given good results.

CULTIVATION Beautiful species rarely seen in cultivation, although common in florist shops as cut flower from bush harvesting, which has caused it to become rare outside national parks. Perhaps now we will see plantations developed in suitable areas. Well-drained site in full sun or part shade recommended. Makes fine potted plant. ☼

**Gompholobium**

FABACEAE

*Gompholobium* is an endemic Australian genus with more than 50 species. They are mainly small, woody shrubs with sizeable yellow, greenish or pink pea-flowers, mostly borne in spring. They are not easy to cultivate but most are showy enough to warrant further investigation. They seem to demand perfect drainage and reasonably dry conditions with some overhead shade. Propagation is easy from scarified seed, although seed is often difficult to obtain because of insect damage.

**Gompholobium grandiflorum**

B C D

Erect, often spindly shrub to 1m. Narrow, digitate leaves with three leaflets are 2.5cm long. Yellow pea-flowers, with 2.5cm standard, occur in spring.

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Successful in Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane on sandy wallum soil. Very showy in flower. Needs half shade. ☼

**Gompholobium latifolium**

Golden Glory Pea

B C D

Erect shrub to 2m. Digitate leaves, much broader than *G. grandiflorum*, with three leaflets, to 5cm. Largest flowers of the genus. Bears yellow pea-flowers, with 3cm standard, in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Very showy. ☹️ ❄️ 🌧️

*Gompholobium scabrum***Gompholobium scabrum**(Syn. *Burtonia scabra*)

A G

Bushy shrub to 1.5m with linear heath-like leaves. Bears large mauve pea-flowers in leaf axils in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Outstanding, but very difficult to maintain. Well-drained, well-mulched soil is suggested, and part shade. ❄️ 🌧️

**Gompholobium virgatum**

Wallum Wedge-pea

B C D

Low bushy shrub about 1m high. Leaves are digitate with linear to very narrow-oblong leaflets

*Gompholobium virgatum*

to 3cm long. Large bright yellow pea-flowers are seen in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Very showy in flower. Requires excellent drainage and sunny or part-shaded site. *G. huegelii* is also in cultivation and requires similar conditions. ☹️ ❄️

**Goodia**

FABACEAE

*Goodia* is a small genus of six species, all Australian. They are woody shrubs with yellow pea-flowers and are very hardy in cultivation. They seem to adapt to most soils and most aspects. Propagation is from scarified seed and, in the case of *G. lotifolia*, by root suckers.

**Goodia lotifolia**

A B C D

Vigorous suckering plant to 2.5m high by 3m or more wide, with trifoliolate light green leaves. Leaflets ovate, 1.5cm long. Bears yellow pea-flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From scarified seed or by division of root suckers. CULTIVATION Very hardy. Thrives in most situations. May be too vigorous for a small garden. Useful, fast-growing screen plant. ❄️ ❄️ ❄️

**Goodia pubescens**(Syn. *G. lotifolia* var. *pubescens*)

A B C D

Rounded shrub to 1m high by 1m diameter. Leaves are trifoliolate, slightly hairy. Leaflets are ovate, to 1.5cm. Yellow flowers appear in spring and summer. Distribution: Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Much more compact than the previous species. May self-seed in the garden. Useful small shrub accepting most soils and aspects. ❄️

**Gossia fragrantissima**(Syn. *Austromyrtus fragrantissima*)

MYRTACEAE

Sweet Myrtle

D

Compact bushy shrub to 5m high with shiny ovate leaves to 6cm long. Young growth is pinkish brown. White fluffy flowers, borne in axillary clusters, are very fragrant. Fruits are red, globular and about 6mm diameter. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From fresh seed. CULTIVATION Pretty shrub; slow growing. Prefers shaded, well composted situation and reasonable drainage. Birds are attracted to the fruits. 🐦 🐦 🐦 CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

**Gossia inophloia**(Syn. *Austromyrtus inophloia*)

Thread-barked Myrtle

D E F

Compact tall shrub, or small tree, to 5m with ovate leaves to 5cm long. Young growth is deep red to burgundy. White flowers, about 8mm diameter, are seen in spring. The round fruits are about 4mm diameter. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From fresh seed. CULTIVATION Attractive shrub with ornamental young growth. Fine indoor tub plant. *G. i.* 'Aurora' and *G. i.* 'Blushing

Beauty' have particularly colourful tips, the latter having the brightest tip growth. Well-mulched soil in part shade is recommended. Myrtle Rust has caused damage to plants at Coffs Harbour. ☹️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

**Gossypium**

MALVACEAE

*Gossypium* is a tropical and subtropical genus of great economic importance. From its members we obtain cotton and cottonseed oil. The 17 Australian species are of ornamental value only, although scientists are showing interest in them as an additional gene pool. *G. sturtianum* has established itself as a useful garden plant. It requires a warm, well-drained position away from severe frosts. Propagation is from cuttings or seed.

**Gossypium sturtianum**

Sturt's Desert Rose

H

Erect or rounded shrub to 2m, often less. Rounded, glaucous leaves to 6cm diameter. Hibiscus-like flowers, pale bluish purple with red centre, to 12cm diameter, occur in winter and spring. Floral emblem of NT. Distribution: Qld, NSW, SA, WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or seed.

CULTIVATION Occasionally shy to flower. Select from free-flowering clones. Also in cultivation are *G. s.* var. *nandewareuse* (Syn. *G. nandewareuse*), a rare shrub from NSW and Qld, and *G. robinsonii*, a shrub from WA. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

**Graptophyllum excelsum**(Syn. *G. earlii*)

ACANTHACEAE

B D E

Erect shrub to 3m high by 2m diameter with shiny, obovate

*Graptophyllum excelsum*

leaves to 2cm. Tubular red flowers to 3cm long occur in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Performs well in sun or shade, in well-composted soil. Good foliage plant, outstanding in flower. Very good results from Cairns to Sydney. Frost tolerance not tested. ☹️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

**Graptophyllum ilicifolium**

Holly Fuchsia

B D E

Erect shrub to 2.5m with irregularly toothed, stiff, holly-like leaves to 10cm long. The deep purplish-red tubular flowers are 3cm long in axillary clusters. They are seen in spring. Distribution: Qld (rare). PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings. CULTIVATION Rare, but available commercially. Handsome, slow growing, deserving a place in a warm garden with ample shade. Well-drained soil recommended. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

**Graptophyllum spinigerum**

Queensland Holly

B D E

Compact bush to 1m or a little taller. Dark green, ovate leaves to 4cm. Spine sometimes present in leaf axils of older stems. Small white axillary flowers, about 1cm long, seen from time to time throughout year. Distribution: Qld, NT. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Grows well in semi-shade. Pleasant rounded shape. No special soil preparation. 🌧️ 🌧️

**Grevillea**

PROTEACEAE

The genus *Grevillea* has recently been revised by Peter Olde and Neil Marriott, the results being published in a three-volume set entitled *The Grevillea Book* (Kangaroo Press, 1995). Subsequently, Volume 17A of *Flora of Australia* was published in 2000, with 362 species and almost 100 subspecies included in *Grevillea*, making it the third largest genus in the Australian flora. Since then several new species and subspecies have been described. Most species are endemic to Australia, although several extend outside the country, and a few are endemic to New Caledonia (3), Sulawesi (1) and Papua New Guinea (1). With few exceptions they have horticultural potential, with flowers of many different forms and colours, and varying in size from prostrate woody plants to tall trees.

For convenience (but with no sound botanical basis), the flower form can be categorised in several ways, depending on the way the individual flowers are grouped together:

1. The erect cluster, where flowers are borne terminally to form an upright spider-like inflorescence (e.g. *G. buxifolia*—see drawing, p. 345).

- The pendent cluster, where flowers are borne terminally or along the branches but hang down below the branch, again in a spider-like form (e.g. *G. victoriae*—see drawing, p. 368).
  - The toothbrush type, where flowers are borne terminally in a one-sided raceme (e.g. *G. acanthifolia*—see drawing, this page).
  - The cylindrical inflorescence, where flowers are borne terminally all around the stem (*G. stenobotrya*—see photo p. 366).
  - The soft, feathery inflorescence of the *G. manglesii*/*G. triloba* group (see drawing, p. 367).
- Most *Grevillea* spp. are in cultivation, many having proved themselves as reliable garden subjects. Others, mostly species from drier inland habitats, always prove difficult on the humid east coast unless they are grafted onto resistant rootstock. Early work on grafting in the mid-1970s at the Australian National Botanic Gardens was taken up by members of the Grevillea Study Group of the Australian Plants Society. The late Harvey Shaw, Merv Hodge and, more recently, Dave Mason and others developed techniques that have made the grafting of grevilleas standard commercial practice. (See p. 43 for details.) Plants once virtually impossible to grow on the east coast may now be grown with relative ease. The stock plant used for most species is the Silky Oak (*G. robusta*), but work is still proceeding to determine the optimum stock for several others. *G. banksii* and *G. 'Poorinda Royal Mantle'* are favoured for species that have shown incompatibility with Silky Oak.

To see a huge collection of grevilleas in cultivation, The Grevillea Park at Bulli on the

south coast of NSW is worth a visit. The garden is the brainchild of grevillea enthusiast Ray Brown, with community and council assistance a wonderfully landscaped garden has been created almost entirely with grevilleas, with a rainforest backdrop of other native plants. As the garden is not open every day, enquiries should be made from the local council before arranging a visit.

In general, *Grevillea* spp. do best in well-drained, sunny positions. In shade, flowering is usually diminished. Soil type does not appear to be important, provided that it is slightly acid. Excess of phosphorus in fertilisers may prove fatal, but response to balanced fertilisers is excellent. (See Chapter 5.)

Propagation is easy from cuttings taken in mid to late summer. Most species can also be grown from seed but as *Grevillea* spp. hybridise very readily, seed from cultivated plants will rarely come true.

Many species are excellent bird attractors, as they produce huge quantities of nectar.

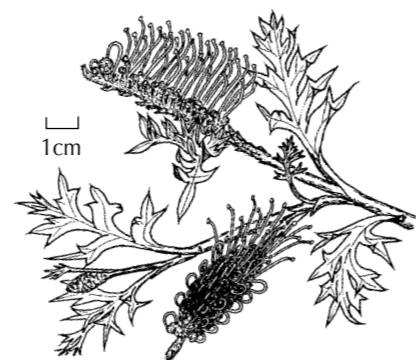
Along with the plethora of natural species, there are almost as many cultivars. Most have occurred accidentally as seedlings in gardens, only a few arising from deliberate manipulation. Some are worthwhile and will remain in our nurseries as excellent horticultural subjects. Others that show little or no improvement on their parents will cease to be grown. In the following treatment, some cultivars included in earlier editions have been omitted and new ones that appear to show promise have been added. Almost all species are worth trying, however, even if they are not included here.

The recommended planting

zones apply to plants on their own roots. Grafted specimens will have a much broader tolerance to weather conditions.

### *Grevillea acanthifolia*

A B C



*Grevillea acanthifolia*

Spreading shrub to 3m high and 4m wide. Leaves are pinnately divided, stiff and prickly, to 12cm. Pink toothbrush-type flowers occur for most of the year. Two rare subspecies occur, one on the southern tablelands and one on the northern tablelands of NSW. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Excellent ornamental with attractive foliage. Good feature plant. Long flowering. Develops interesting shape when pruning kept to a minimum. Hardy in most situations. Accepts wetter and shadier positions than most *Grevillea* spp. ☀️ ❄️ 🌧️ 🐦 🐣

### *Grevillea agrifolia*

F H

Tall, rounded shrub to 5m high with broadly obovate grey-green leaves to about 12cm, often with small marginal teeth. The pendent flower clusters, about 6cm long, are borne in the leaf

axils and terminally from autumn to spring. The flowers are white with a yellow-green style. Two subspecies are recognised.

Distribution: NT, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Grows well in Brisbane and further north.

Foliage is particularly attractive.

Flowers are not showy. Full sun and relatively dry climate recommended. ☀️ 🌧️



*Grevillea alpina*

### *Grevillea alpina*

(Syn. *G. dallachiana*)

Mountain Grevillea

A B C

Very variable shrub, from prostrate to 2m or more. Slightly hairy leaves also variable, from linear to almost round. Flowers are in semi-erect or pendulous terminal clusters. They may be yellow, red, yellow and red,

yellow and white, red and white, pink and white, or pink, and occur most of the year except autumn. Natural hybrids occur with *G. lavandulacea* and *G. lanigera*. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic (rarely alpine).

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very desirable, extremely variable species; most forms are worth cultivating.

Hardy in temperate winter-rainfall climates. Use in rockery or in shrub bed. Long flowering. Many forms are known and sold by their place of origin, such as *G. a.* (Mt Zero), or by a cultivar name, such as *G. a.* 'Grampians Gold'. ☀️ 🌧️

### *Grevillea angustiloba*

(Syn. *G. ilicifolia* var. *angustiloba*)

A B C

Prostrate or procumbent shrub to 1m high spreading to 2m.

Leaves to 11cm long with finely divided segments less than 4mm wide. Red or rarely yellow toothbrush type flowers are seen from late spring to early summer. A second subspecies is recognised. Distribution: Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most soils in temperate areas. Needs sunny position. Prostrate forms make suitable ground covers. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Grevillea annulifera*

Prickly Plume Grevillea

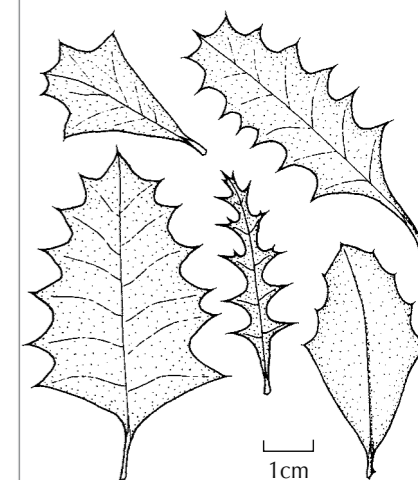
A G

Erect shrub to 4m high by 3m wide. Pinnate leaves with narrow, pointed leaflets to 2.5cm. Large numbers of cylindrical spikes of white flowers are borne on long stems to 4m high in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock (difficult to date).

CULTIVATION Performs well in Perth and some drier regions.

Very difficult on east coast. Not tested for frost tolerance. ❄️ 🌧️



*Grevillea aquifolium* leaf variation

### *Grevillea aquifolium*

Holly Grevillea

A C

Very variable, spreading or upright shrub to 1m high or sometimes much taller, and variable width. Dull green holly-like leaves to 8cm. Toothbrush-type flower spikes of green flowers with red styles occur in late winter to early summer. A yellow-flowered form is known. Distribution: Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very hardy. Grows well in most locations in temperate climates. Tolerates considerable shade. Several varieties available, identified by place of origin. ❄️ 🌧️ 🐦 🐣

### *Grevillea arenaria*

A B C D

Compact, rounded shrub to 2.5m high and 3m diameter with dull green, oblong leaves to 4cm. Flowers are green or red, hairy, with a red or green style, and borne in few-flowered clusters for most of the year. A yellow form is also known. Two sub-species

are recognised. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION One of the hardiest species. Grows in almost any garden situation in subtropical or temperate areas. Good screen plant. Yellow form is less vigorous but much more attractive. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱



*Grevillea asparagoides*

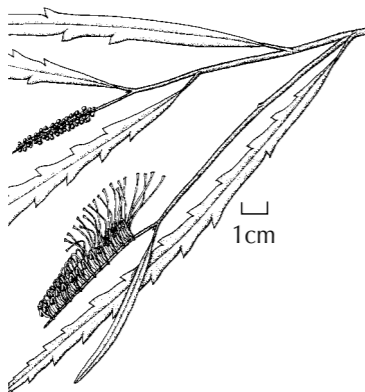
### *Grevillea asparagoides*

**A G**  
Erect, intricately branched shrub to 1m or sometimes taller. Prickly, divided leaves are about 3.5cm long. Bright red flowers are borne in pendulous clusters near ends of branches in spring. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafting onto resistant rootstock.  
CULTIVATION Grows well on sand in Perth. Should be grafted for use on the east coast. Good bird attractor and a prickly screen. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea aspera*

Flinders Range Grevillea

**A C H**  
Compact shrub to 1m (taller forms known in the field). Leaves are oblong, to 8cm. Flowers in a tight pendent cluster, cream and red, occur in spring. Distribution: SA, WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Not common in cultivation, but successful in most temperate areas of the eastern States. Good drainage important. The form from Gawler Ranges, with broader greyish foliage, is more floriferous and flowers for a longer period than other forms. It is said to sucker. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱



*Grevillea asplenifolia*

### *Grevillea asplenifolia*

**A B C D**  
Handsome spreading shrub to 3m high by 4m wide. Linear leaves, rarely toothed, to 25cm. Red toothbrush-type flowers occur for most of the year. Distribution: NSW.  
There was confusion for many years between this species and *G. longifolia*, which has more evenly and deeply toothed leaves, and branchlets angular in cross-section. *G. longifolia* is far more commonly cultivated, but still is frequently incorrectly named as *G. asplenifolia*.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very hardy. Good foliage plant, and useful as cut flower. Fast growing.



*Grevillea asteriscosa*

### *Grevillea asteriscosa*

**A G**  
Upright or spreading, rigid shrub to 2m high. Prickly, star-shaped, sessile leaves to 2cm. Bright red clustered flowers occur in spring. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings, with difficulty, or grafted onto resistant rootstock.  
CULTIVATION Rare in cultivation. Grown in Sydney with limited success. Grafted plants preferred on the east coast. Interesting foliage plant. Some excellent old specimens on their own roots at Myall Park Botanic Garden, Glenmorgan, Qld. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea aurea*

(*G. sp. aff. angulata*)

**F H**  
Tall, open shrub to 4m high by 2m across. Soft holly-shaped leaves to 8cm. Reddish new growth. Drooping racemes of yellow flowers fading to orange-red on aging. This form was included in *G. angulata*. Distribution: NT.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Outstanding shrub. Grown successfully in Darwin, Brisbane, and at the Australian National Botanic Gardens where rooted cuttings flowered in 12 months in the glasshouse. Good drainage and warm situation recommended. Very frost tender. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea banksii*

Banks' Grevillea

**B D E F G**  
Well-branched shrub to 3m high by 2m diameter with dark green, pinnate leaves to 15cm. Cylindrical flower spikes to 18cm are bright red; cream forms also exist. Flowers most of the year. Distribution: Qld.

This description matches the forms in common cultivation, which are of uncertain origin. The red-flowered form is sometimes referred to as *G. banksii* var. *forsteri*, but the name has no botanical status. Other forms known in the field include a low, sprawling, often prostrate shrub, rarely exceeding 1m, and a tall shrub 5–9m high. Both have a more restricted flowering period, concentrated in spring.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings or seed, if known to be of non-hybrid origin.  
CULTIVATION Very hardy and rewarding in frost-free areas. Thrives in a sunny position in most coastal soils. Excellent specimen plant. A mixed planting

of cream and red forms provides interesting contrast. Low-growing forms in both cream and red have been used very effectively in Brisbane gardens as rockery or bank plants. A totally prostrate form with smaller leaves is sold as *G. 'Ruby Red'*. (See p. 110) 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea barklyana*

Gully Grevillea

**A B C**  
Large, tapered shrub or small tree to 8m. Light green, lobed leaves to 20cm. Pink toothbrush-type flower spikes appear in late winter and spring. Distribution: Vic.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Good fast-growing screen plant; accepts reasonably heavy shade. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea baueri* ssp. *asperula*

**A B C**  
Straggling, upright shrub to 1.5m high by 1m across. Leaves are oblong, rough and slightly hairy, to 2.5cm. Red flowers in erect clusters appear in late winter and spring. Distribution: NSW (Budawang Range).  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Hardy for temperate areas. Needs full sun and well-drained soil. Prune regularly in early summer to prevent woody appearance at base. Old flowers tend to blacken on aging. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱

### *Grevillea beadleana*

**A B C D**  
Dense, spreading shrub reaching 1.5m by 2.5m in most situations. Softly textured grey-green leaves are much divided and up to 12cm long. Dark red, almost black, toothbrush-type flowers are seen for a large part of the year. Distribution: NSW (very rare).  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Named only in



*Grevillea beadleana*

1986 after its rediscovery in 1982. Shows great potential as an ornamental and has made its way into nurseries. Foliage is decorative and the dark flowers contrast well. Frost hardy and also does well on humid east coast, where it grows rapidly. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱  
CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

### *Grevillea beardiana*

Red Combs

**A G**  
Spreading shrub to 60cm tall by 80cm across with stiff, pointed, linear leaves to 5cm long. The red flowers are borne in terminal, mostly pendulous clusters. Distribution: WA.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings, or grafted onto *G. robusta* rootstock.  
CULTIVATION Only recently cultivated. Very well displayed flowers; good bird attractor. Grow in full sun in well-drained rockery. 🌞 🌧️ 🌱



Grevillea 'Billy Bonkers'

### Grevillea 'Billy Bonkers'

B D G

Hybrid between *G. nana* ssp. *abbreviata* and *G. 'Sid Cadwell'* forming a spreading shrub about 1.5m high by 2–3m across. It has bright green divided leaves and pendent racemes of pink flowers. Plants available as grafted specimens should be hardy in most areas of temperate and subtropical Australia. A product of the same cross sold as *G. 'Lana Maree'* is taller, reaching 1.5–2m with a spread of 3m, and producing prolific cerise flowers. ?

### Grevillea bipinnatifida

Fuchsia Grevillea

A G

Sprawling or sometimes upright plant to 1m high. Spreading forms may reach 1.5m across. Prickly, bipinnate leaves to 20cm. A form with blue-green leaves is often seen. Large, red, pendulous toothbrush-type flower spikes to 20cm, often less, occur in winter and especially in spring. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto *G. robusta*. CULTIVATION Requires good drainage but otherwise hardy. Long flowering, with very attrac-

tive foliage. Sprawling forms may be used as rockery feature. Used as parent in many well-known hybrids.

### Grevillea 'Bon Accord'

A B C D



Grevillea 'Bon Accord'

This handsome cultivar, a hybrid between *G. wilsonii* and *G. johnsonii*, forms an erect shrub to about 1.5m high by 1.5m across. It has slightly prickly, bright green, divided leaves with linear-terete segments. Brilliant red, spidery flowers are borne in erect racemes in late winter to early summer. Plants available commercially are grafted. Full sun and reasonable drainage suggested. Excellent plant. *G. 'Bonfire'* is probably synonymous.

### Grevillea 'Boongala Spinebill'

A B C

Probably a hybrid between *G. bipinnatifida* and *G. caleyi*, this cultivar forms a spreading shrub to 2m high by 4m across. The toothed leaves are up to 12cm long and the red flowers are borne in toothbrush-like racemes most of the year. PROPAGATION Must be from cuttings. CULTIVATION Hardy, even on humid east coast. Foliage is

attractive; flowers bring honey-eaters, as the name implies.



### Grevillea brachystylis

A G

Sparsely branched, erect or spreading shrub to 60cm. Broadly linear or narrow-oblong leaves vary in length, 5–9cm. Small, slightly pendulous umbel-like racemes of flowers are borne terminally, on short branches, for much of the year. They are bright red and the very short style is tipped with a red or blue stigmatic disc. The form with the blue stigma is *G. b. ssp. australis*. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock. CULTIVATION Brilliant red flowers are showy. Excellent drainage and sunny position are essential, but even when these conditions are met it is short-lived on the humid east coast. Grafted plants are preferred. Rockery conditions or container culture probably suit it best. A prostrate form is also in cultivation. The blue-style form is generally hardier. CONSERVATION STATUS *G. b. ssp. australis* is considered Vulnerable.

### Grevillea bracteosa

A G

Open shrub to 1.5m high by 1.5m across with narrow-linear leaves to 8cm long. Occasionally, divided leaves are found. Terminal pink or rarely white flower clusters are shielded by conspicuous bracts until they open. Flowers are seen for much of the year. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock. CULTIVATION Unusual; best grafted when used on the east coast. Regular pruning improves the shape.



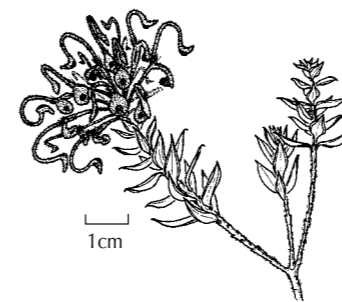
Grevillea bracteosa, showing the bracts at the base of the flower clusters

### Grevillea buxifolia

Grey Spider Flower

A B C D

Open, rounded shrub to 1.5m. Leaves are hairy, oblong, to 2cm. Bears erect clusters of woolly grey flowers for most of the year. Two subspecies recognised, varying in small flower details. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Reliable in well-drained, sunny position. Unique flowers provide interest for long period. Tip-prune from an early age to maintain compact shape. The related *G. sphacelata* is generally smaller in shrub and



Grevillea buxifolia

flower size and differs in minor botanical details. *Grevillea acerata* from Gibraltar Range, NSW is also similar.

### Grevillea caleyi

Caley's Grevillea

A B C D

Broad, spreading shrub to 3m high by 4m across, rarely dense, with hairy, pinnate leaves to 12cm. Young tips are pink. Red toothbrush-type flowers occur in late winter to summer. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Beautiful foliage plant. Prune regularly to maintain more compact shape. Needs well-drained soil. Accepts some shade. CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

### Grevillea 'Caloundra Gem'

D E

A hybrid between the red garden form of *G. banksii* and *G. whiteana*, this shrub reaches 3–4m high and has pink flowers with creamy white styles. Flowers keep well and may have potential for the cut flower trade. Most soils are suitable and full sun is recommended.



Grevillea 'Caloundra Gem'

### Grevillea 'Canberra Gem'

(Syn. *G. 'Pink Pearl'*)

A C

A hybrid between forms of *G. rosmarinifolia* and *G. juniperina*, this hardy plant forms a dense, rounded shrub, 2m by 2m. Registered cultivar. Flowers, in heavy-textured, pendent clusters, are waxy pink and red. *G. 'Glen Sandra'* is probably synonymous.

### Grevillea candelabroides

A G

Rounded shrub to 4m with large, grey, pinnate leaves to 20cm long with terete segments. Profuse branching racemes, to 6cm long, of scented cream flowers held conspicuously above foliage in summer. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings, with difficulty; from seed from wild source or grafted onto resistant rootstock.

CULTIVATION Grafted plants are growing well in the eastern States, but it is also growing well on its own roots in King's Park, Perth, in an open, warm position. Good drainage essential.

### Grevillea capitellata

A B C D

Low spreading plant to 50cm high by 70cm across. Thickly textured, oblong leaves are up 8cm long. Dark red pendent clusters of flowers are borne terminally on short stalks at the end of winter and early spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Hardy. May be used as tall ground cover in full sun in well-drained situation.

### Grevillea chrysophaea

Golden Grevillea

A B C

Rounded, open shrub to 1m high by 1m across (sometimes larger,

*Grevillea chrysophaea*

occasionally even prostrate), and oblong to ovate leaves to 3cm. Leaves are hairy on the underside. Flowers are in semi-erect clusters, very woolly, green to gold, and occur in late winter and spring. Distribution: Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings of best colour forms.

CULTIVATION Golden forms are outstanding. Hardy in well-drained, sunny position in temperate areas. ☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea* 'Clearview David'

A B C

Registered hybrid between *G. rosmarinifolia* and *G. lavandulacea* (Victor Harbour). Erect plant that may reach 2.5m high. Reddish spider flowers are profuse in late winter and spring. ☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea* 'Coastal Glow'

(Syn. *G.* 'Frampton's Hybrid')

A B C D

Hybrid between *G. macleayana* and either *G. longifolia* or *G. aspleniifolia*, forming rounded shrub about 3m high, with oblong leaves and deep pink toothbrush-type flowers.

PROPAGATION Must be from cuttings.

CULTIVATION Reliable in both temperate and tropical areas and resistant to salt winds.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea commutata*

(Syn. *G. hakeoides* ssp. *commutata*)

A G

Spreading shrub to 2m high by 3m across. Leaves to 8cm long are variable, usually entire but occasionally divided. Dense terminal clusters of white flowers occur in late winter and spring. Plants with mainly divided leaves are referred to as *G. c.* ssp. *pinnatisecta*. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. Has been successfully grafted onto *G. robusta*.

CULTIVATION Vigorous, fast growing. Needs full sun or half shade and grows in most soils.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea* 'Copper Rocket'

A B C

Erect shrub that may reach 3m high by 2m across. One parent is probably *G. barklyana*. Leaves are broadly oblong with 5–9 pointed lobes. Young growth is coppery in colour. Pink toothbrush-type flowers are seen in spring and summer. Possibly useful as screen plant. 🌿 🌿

### *Grevillea coriacea*

D H

Tall shrub to 6m but may form small tree. Linear, leathery leaves to 25cm. Terminal branching inflorescences of creamy white flowers appear from June to August. Distribution: Qld (in open woodland).

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Seen growing well in Brisbane and Atherton. Hardy in full sun. No special soil requirement. 🌿 🌿

### *Grevillea crithmifolia*

A G

Compact shrub to 2m high by 2m wide. Low-growing forms also in cultivation. Light green leaves to 2.5cm long are divided at the end into three narrow segments. Dense clusters of white or pink flowers occur in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION In cultivation in Sydney has reached 3m by 3m, but this appears unusual. Useful as screen plant. Very hardy in most conditions. Pink-flowered forms are especially attractive.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea* 'Crosbie Morrison'

A C

Hybrid between *G. lanigera* and *G. lavandulacea* forming low, spreading shrub to 1.5m high by 2m across with arching branches. Grey-green leaves are linear, 1.5cm long. Red and white flowers are borne in spidery clusters from late winter to early summer.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy for temperate areas. Accepts some shade.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea decora*

(Syn. *G. goodii* ssp. *decora*)

D E H

Erect shrub to 5m high, sometimes spreading, with elliptical leaves to 15cm, usually less.

Erect clusters of red flowers in a simple or branched spray occur in winter. A subspecies with smaller flowers and fruits is recognised. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, sunny position. Succeeds in Brisbane and Townsville but may be unreliable further south. Frost tender.

☼ 🌿

*Grevillea decora*

### *Grevillea decurrens*

D E F

Tall, slender shrub to 4m high. Grey-green, pinnate leaves are up to 30cm long with broad linear segments tapering to the mid-rib. Pendulous pink flowers are borne in the upper axils from late summer to autumn. It has large, globular, woody fruits to 3cm diameter. Distribution: WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Has grown and flowered well on its own roots for many years at Coffs Harbour. Prefers warm, well-drained site.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea depauperata*

(Syn. *G. brownii*)

A G

Rounded, spreading shrub to 60cm by 1m across or occasionally prostrate, with ovate leaves to 2cm. Red or orange semi-erect flowers in clusters occur for most of the year. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock.

CULTIVATION Not common in cultivation, but good specimens seen in most east coast centres.

Needs good drainage and full sun. ☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea dielsiana*

A B C G

Erect, much-branched shrub to 1.5m high by 1m wide with divided, terete, prickly foliage. Pendulous clusters of red or orange-yellow flowers occur in spring and early summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock.

CULTIVATION Performs well on its own roots in the eastern States, but not commonly grown. Outstanding shrub with attractive foliage. Orange-yellow form is particularly good. Well-drained, sunny position recommended. ☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea diffusa* ssp. *diffusa*

B C

Spreading or erect, variable shrub to 1m. Leaves are linear to oblong, 3–7cm long. Dark red flowers in pendulous clusters on stalks less than 1.5cm long occur in winter to spring.

Three subspecies are recognised. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Variable in habit and leaf form but always characterised by very deep red, pendulous flower clusters. Selected forms are very floriferous. Good plant for a high rockery where the flowers under the bush are visible. Very hardy and reliable in sunny positions in most soils. *G. d.* ssp. *filipendula* holds its flowers on slender stalks more than 2cm long. ☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea diminuta*

A B C

Spreading shrub to 1m high, usually less, by 1m diameter with elliptical leaves to 2cm. Flowers are in pendulous clusters, rusty red in colour, and appear in spring. Distribution: ACT, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very hardy in Canberra. Useful low shrub with neat foliage. Accepts well-drained sunny or shaded position.

☼ 🌿

### *Grevillea dimorpha*

(Syn. *G. oleoides* ssp. *dimorpha*, *G. speciosa* ssp. *dimorpha*)

Flame Grevillea

A B C

*Grevillea dimorpha*

Rounded shrub to 1m high by 1m diameter. Dark green leaves to 10cm are linear to elliptical. Bright red flower clusters in leaf axils appear in winter and spring. Distribution: Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Reliable, long-flowering for temperate areas in well-drained, sunny or partly shaded position. ☼ 🌧 🌳



*Grevillea* 'Dot Brown'

### *Grevillea* 'Dot Brown'

DE

This cultivar is a hybrid between the red form of *G. banksii* and *G. pteridifolia*, forming a rounded shrub to 2m high with pinnate leaves and long cylindrical racemes of red flowers with gold styles. Flowering peaks in winter and spring. 🌳

### *Grevillea dryandri*

Dryander's Grevillea

DEFGH

Low spreading shrub, 70cm high and 2m across, with finely divided grey-green leaves to 20cm. Pink, red or rarely white toothbrush-type flowers to 30cm on long, branching stems occur in autumn and winter. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld (northern areas).



*Grevillea dryandri*

PROPAGATION From cuttings, seed from wild source or grafted onto resistant rootstock.

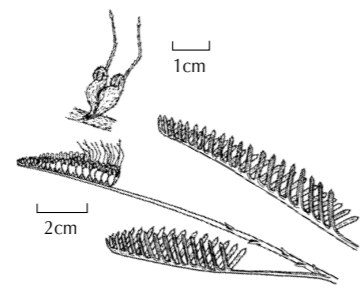
CULTIVATION Grafted plants preferred. Does well on its own roots in inland areas and on sandy soils in tropical areas. Requires dry, warm, well-drained position. Beautiful ground cover or rockery plant. 🌳 🌧 🌳

### *Grevillea dryandroides*

Phalanx Grevillea

AG

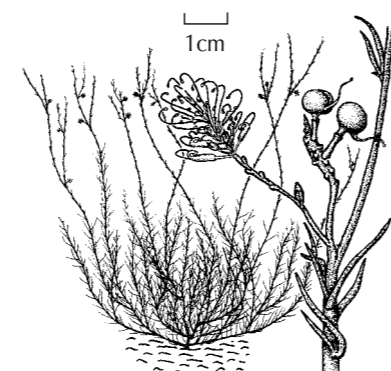
Low-growing, suckering shrub to 30cm high with long prostrate stems bearing the flowers. Leaves are pinnate, grey-green and mostly 10–12cm long. Toothbrush-type flowers, pink or red and quite hairy, are seen from winter to summer. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto *G. robusta*.



*Grevillea dryandroides*

CULTIVATION Grafted plants grow well on the east coast. Unusual plant, worth a spot in a rockery where its long flowering stems can trail over rocks. Full sun recommended.

CONSERVATION STATUS Both subspecies are considered Endangered.



*Grevillea endlicheriana*

### *Grevillea endlicheriana*

Spindly Grevillea

ABCG

Rounded base with flowering canes reaching 2.5m and glaucous, linear leaves to 10cm. Erect clusters of white flowers on extended, leafy stem occur most of the year. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock. CULTIVATION Unusual habit but not particularly showy. Hardy in most soils. Requires sunny position. 🌳

### *Grevillea eriostachya*

Yellow Flame Grevillea

AGH

Straggly shrub to 2m with narrow, divided grey-green leaves to 20cm. Yellow toothbrush-type flowers are produced on sparsely leafy stems above the shrub in spring. Distribution: WA, SA, NT. PROPAGATION From cuttings, with difficulty, seed from wild source or grafted onto *G. 'Moonlight'*.

CULTIVATION Rarely cultivated in the eastern States, where it is best grafted. Does well in King's Park, Perth, in well-drained, sunny site. 🌳

### *Grevillea eryngioides*

AG

Strange suckering plant, with leafy portion rarely exceeding 30cm high and flowering stems to 2m high. Silvery grey leaves are divided and mostly about 15cm long. Branched flower spike is leafless, bearing cylindrical flower heads of purplish brown, about 9cm long. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or suckers.

CULTIVATION Requires excellent drainage and full sun. Foliage and odd growth habit are main features. Grafted plants are in cultivation. 🌳

### *Grevillea evansiana*

(Syn. *G. diffusa* ssp. *evansiana*)

ABC

Low spreading shrub to 1m high by 1.5m across with narrow-elliptical leaves to 3cm. Pendulous clusters of dark red, almost black flowers are produced in late winter and spring. Pale forms are also known. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations but of little ornamental value. 🌳 CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Grevillea* 'Evelyn's Coronet'

ABCD

Registered hybrid between *G. buxifolia* ssp. *buxifolia* and *G. lavandulacea*, an erect plant reaching 2m high by 1.7m across and bearing woolly, pink, terminal spider flowers. It is hardy in both subtropics and temperate areas. 🌳

### *Grevillea excelsior*

(Syn. *G. eriostachya* ssp. *excelsior*)

Orange Flame Grevillea

GH

Erect shrub to 5m with almost conical shape. Finely divided, pinnate leaves are up to 30cm long. Orange toothbrush-type flowers, to 20cm long, are borne prolifically in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings, with difficulty.

CULTIVATION This beautiful shrub has proved very difficult in cultivation and to date grafting has not been successful. A well-drained, sunny site is recommended. 🌳 🌧 🌳

### *Grevillea fililoba*

(Syn. *G. thelemanniana* ssp. *fililoba*, *G. 'Ellendale'*, *G. 'Ellendale Pool'*)

Ellendale Pool Grevillea

ABCDG

Low compact or spreading shrub, rarely exceeding 1m in cultivation. Pinnate leaves are about 4cm long. Bright pink flowers are borne terminally in slightly pendulous clusters in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto resistant rootstock. CULTIVATION Lovely shrub now commonly available. Plants

grafted onto *G. robusta* are successful on the east coast. Usually sold as *G. 'Ellendale'* or *G. 'Ellendale Pool'*. 🌳 🌧 🌳

### *Grevillea* 'Firesprite'

BDE

A hybrid between *G. venusta* and *G. longistyla*, this vigorous shrub reaches 4m by 4m with divided leaves and coppery new growth. Brilliant red erect flowers are borne in cylindrical terminal spikes for much of the year. Very useful, colourful screen plant for warm areas. 🌳 🌧 🌳



*Grevillea fililoba*



*Grevillea* 'Firesprite'

## CHAPTER 13

## TREES

Imagine a world without trees!

They are vital to almost every landscape, natural or contrived. Without them we have concrete jungles, deserts and tundras—none of them pleasant places.

Trees provide shelter from the wind, shade from the sun and a softness that contrasts with the hard lines of buildings. They attract birds and, like shrubs, provide nesting places, but usually for different species. The colourful parrots so well represented in Australia feed on their fruits and often nest in hollows of old eucalypts.

For the purposes of this book, a tree is considered as a woody plant usually taller than 6 metres and usually, although not always, having a single trunk.

## Feature Trees

Trees can be used as features in gardens and parks, visual emphasis usually being placed on form, bark characteristics or foliage type. In some cases flowers or fruits are the focus of attention. Bark is a particularly important consideration in their selection, and many Australian trees have outstanding bark characteristics, noted in the species descriptions.

The Australian flora is rich in trees, with the genus *Eucalyptus* being dominant in most environments. The rainforest trees are not as well known, but form an important group which has great horticultural application in most coastal climates.



## Habitat Creation


There is a tendency to overplant in many new gardens, without fully considering the ultimate size of the tree. This is to be avoided if a tree's full potential is to be realised. On the other hand, if the gardener wants to create a special effect by simulating a particular habitat, then close planting is excusable and, in fact, commendable. In this context, special mention should be made of a private garden near Ipswich, Qld, owned by Lloyd Bird. Here, in a most unlikely environment, a very successful attempt was made to establish a rainforest. His enthusiasm infected neighbouring gardeners and the rainforest

spread. Such specialised gardens require a thorough knowledge of plant material, however; without it they are doomed to failure.

## Street Trees

Many gardeners, often with local council encouragement, are keen to beautify the streetscape by planting trees. All too often, however, insufficient thought goes into their selection.

In the species descriptions below, the symbol  has been given to trees that have been, or have potential to be, used as street trees. A ?  rating indicates that further trials are necessary before their ultimate use can be evaluated.

The criteria for allocating a  rating include:

### 1. Height in Cultivation

This is obviously very important where street trees have to be positioned under powerlines. Taller trees can be considered where powerlines are not a concern, but care is still required to avoid trees that may affect nearby houses and gardens. I do not believe that one can specify an optimum height for a street tree but consideration of height, and thus knowledge of performance of a species in a particular area, is critical.

### 2. Spread

Especially where nature strips are narrow, this factor is critical to avoid blocking either road or footpath. Pruning can be used to correct poor selection in terms of either height or spread, but this is most undesirable from the point of view of plant performance and economics.

### 3. Root Formation

Species with vigorous and spreading surface root systems must be avoided. They will break up footpaths and roads or make home gardens unworkable.

### 4. Resistance to Pests and Diseases

Local councils do not want to be involved in expensive programmes of pest or disease control. Street trees should, therefore, be hardy and resistant.

### 5. Leaf Drop

It is desirable that leaf drop be kept to a minimum or, if it does occur, that it be concentrated into a short period. The value of deciduous exotics has also to be considered here, particularly in cooler climates, where their leaf colour is a feature in autumn and sun can penetrate their branches in winter.

### 6. Fruit Drop

It is generally undesirable for street trees to have succulent fruit that may be trampled underfoot. In a few instances where fruit is particularly attractive I have ignored this factor; where such trees are used, position them so that they not overhang the footpath.

### 7. Branch Strength

Trees known to have a tendency to drop branches in strong winds should be avoided.

## *Abrophyllum ornans*

ROUSSEACEAE  
(ESCALLONIACEAE)







Tall shrub or small tree to 8m. Leaves are elliptical, to 20cm, toothed towards tips and paler below. Sprays of small yellow spring flowers are insignificant. Ovoid black fruits are about 1cm long. Two varieties are recognised.

Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Good foliage plant for shaded, frost-free area.

Useful indoor plant when young.

Keep well pruned. Needs well-composted soil.    

## *Acacia*

FABACEAE (MIMOSACEAE)

See note on genus, p. 233.

## *Acacia aneura*

Mulga



Small tree or large shrub to 7m high by 7m across, often multi-stemmed. Phyllodes are narrow to broad-linear, greyish, to 10cm. Rod-like yellow flowers occur in



*Acacia aneura*

autumn or other times, depending on rain. The mulga-complex is the subject of a joint DNA study at the herbaria in Perth and Canberra, and changes can be expected. Currently ten varieties are recognised. Distribution: Qld, NSW, SA, WA, NT. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Hardy in drier

areas. Attractive foliage. Full sun and good drainage essential. Timber is used extensively for the mulga wood ornaments sold as Australian souvenirs. Seeds are harvested for use in cooking.

## *Acacia auriculiformis*



Ear-pod Wattle



Medium to tall tree to 25m. Phyllodes slightly falcate, to 16cm. Golden flowers in rods in autumn. Distribution: NT, Qld, PNG, Indonesia.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy. Short but spectacular flowering season.

Accepts salt spray.  

## *Acacia baileyana*

Cootamundra Wattle



Small tree or large shrub to 8m high by 8m across. Bipinnate leaves to 4cm are grey, with linear leaflets. Profuse gold ball-shaped flowers occur in late winter. Pods are bluish when young.

A form with purplish leaves that has been known as



*A. b. var. purpurea* is in cultivation; and another with yellowish tips. Distribution: NSW (naturalised in Qld, ACT, Vic, SA, WA).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed or cuttings of fancy foliage types.

CULTIVATION Very hardy in sunny situation. Suited to most soils.

Flowers sporadically in subtropical areas, profusely in southern areas.

Good fast-growing screen plant.

Purple foliage form is useful foliage contrast. Prostrate form also available. 🌱🌱🌱

### *Acacia bakeri*

Marblewood

🌱🌱

Tall tree to 40m. Elliptical phyllodes to 9cm and cream ball flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Probably the tallest of Australia's wattles. In cultivation often slow to move, but fully developed is too large for average garden. Useful park and timber tree. 🌱

### *Acacia binervata*

Two-veined Hickory

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Medium sized, dense tree to 13m,

with phyllodes to 12cm by 1–3cm wide, usually 2-veined. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most well-watered situations. Needs full sun or part shade. Dense shade tree. Used as fast-growing shelter tree in contrived rainforest at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Flowers are insignificant. 🌱🌱

### *Acacia binervia*

(Syn. *A. glaucescens*)

Coastal Myall

🌱🌱

Medium sized tree to 16m with rough, fibrous bark. Grey sickle-shaped phyllodes to 15cm. Golden rod-like flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Handsome and fast growing for coastal plantings. Not tested for frost tolerance. Leaves said to be poisonous to stock.

🌱🌱🌱

### *Acacia caerulescens*

Buchan Blue Wattle,

Limestone Blue Wattle

🌱🌱

Tree to 15m with blue-grey

branches and more or less elliptical phyllodes to 8cm long, blue-grey when young. Racemes of lemon yellow ball-shaped flowers are seen from late spring. Distribution: Vic (rare).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy in temperate areas in full sun. Very cold tolerant. Attractive foliage.

Tolerant of alkaline soils. 🌱🌱

CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Acacia cheelii*

Motherumbah

🌱🌱🌱

Small tree or large shrub to 8m with dense foliage and linear-elliptical phyllodes to 18cm. Bears golden rod-like flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Requires a well-drained, sunny position.

Handsome screen plant. 🌱🌱



*Acacia cheelii*

### *Acacia concurrens*

Curracabah

🌱🌱

Small tree to 10m, usually less. Phyllodes obliquely obovate,

with the lower margin more or less straight, to 16cm long. Rod-shaped bright yellow flowers are borne in pairs in the upper leaf axils from late winter to early spring. Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy and fast growing for coastal districts. May be used as screen or shelter for younger plants. Most soils are satisfactory; full sun recommended. 🌱

### *Acacia dealbata*

Silver Wattle

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Variable, from multi-stemmed shrub-like specimens of 8m to trees 30m high, with greyish green bipinnate leaves. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in spring. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas (naturalised in SA and WA).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy but unspectacular. Most soils and aspects suitable. A prostrate form registered as *A. d.* 'Kambah Karpel' is available. 🌱

### *Acacia decurrens*

Black Wattle

🌱🌱🌱

Erect, medium sized tree to 15m with green trunk and dark green, bipinnate leaves. Very fine leaflets. Bears golden ball-shaped flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW (naturalised in Qld, ACT, Vic, SA, WA, Tas).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations. Very fast growing but short-lived as result of borer attack. 🌱🌱

### *Acacia elata*

Cedar Wattle

🌱🌱🌱

Handsome, straight, tall tree to 20m with dark green, bipinnate leaves to 22cm. Leaflets are



*Acacia fimbriata*



*Acacia elata*

elliptical. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in summer. Distribution: NSW (naturalised in WA, Vic). PROPAGATION Scarified seed. CULTIVATION Hardy in well-watered situations. Fast growing. Used as screen plant in contrived rainforest at the Australian National Botanic Gardens. Also appears to adapt to tropical conditions. 🌱🌱🌱🌱

### *Acacia falciformis*

Mountain Hickory

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Slender tree to 10m. Phyllodes are sickle-shaped, to 20cm. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in spring and early summer. Differs from related *A. falcata* by

having greener phyllodes with a marginal gland 1–2cm from the base; usually taller and flowers later. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy in well-drained, sunny situations. 🌱

### *Acacia fasciculifera*

Rosewood

🌱🌱

Usually reaching about 10m; taller trees have been logged for the hard red timber. Leathery, elliptical phyllodes are to 15cm long and 2–3cm wide. Flowers are yellow balls borne in axillary clusters, followed by flat pods to 15cm long. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy and showy, for subtropical and tropical areas. Flowers said to possess a sweet perfume different from other wattles. 🌱🌱

### *Acacia fimbriata*

(Syn. *A. perangusta*, *A. fimbriata* var. *perangusta*)

Fringed Wattle, Brisbane Golden Wattle

🌱🌱🌱🌱

Small tree or rounded shrub to 7m high by 6m across. Phyllodes are



*Acacia binervia*

narrow-lanceolate, to 4cm, usually with hairs near the base. Profuse yellow ball-shaped flowers occur in early spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From seed. CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations. Adequate water required. Good dense screen plant. Dwarf forms are available. 🌳🌳🌳

### *Acacia flavescens*

Yellow Wattle

🌳🌳🌳🌳

Medium sized tree to 10m. Ovate, slightly falcate phyllodes with several marginal glands. Cream ball flowers from April to June. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Very fast growing for screening. Hardy in most soil conditions. 🌳🌳



*Acacia harpophylla*

### *Acacia harpophylla*

Brigalow

🌳🌳

Erect or spreading tree to 20m, often suckering. Sickle-shaped grey-green phyllodes to 20cm. Ball-shaped flowers are golden

yellow in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From fresh seed. Scarification not necessary. CULTIVATION Useful shade tree for warm climates. Fast growing. 🌳

### *Acacia hylonoma*

🌳🌳

Medium-sized tree to 15m, often less in cultivation. Narrow phyllodes often curved, to 13cm. Yellow ball-shaped flowers August to November with several flushes. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Fast-growing tree for quick cover. Attractive in flower. 🌳🌳

### *Acacia implexa*

Hickory Wattle

🌳🌳🌳🌳

Small to medium sized tree to 12 m, often suckering, with light green sickle-shaped phyllodes to 20cm. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Very hardy; suitable for bank planting due to suckering habit, which may be accelerated if roots are damaged. Needs full sun. Very prone to leaf gall. (See Chapter 6, p. 67.) 🌳🌳

### *Acacia leucoclada* *ssp. argentifolia*

🌳🌳

Medium-sized tree to 20m with glaucous, pinnate leaves. Bears yellow ball-shaped flowers in winter. *A. l. ssp. leucoclada* is smaller and flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Outstanding foliage plant. Good off-season flowerer. Suited to most soils; needs sunny position for best flowering. Fast growing and tends to sucker. 🌳🌳🌳🌳

### *Acacia maidenii*

Maiden's Wattle

🌳🌳🌳

Small, spreading tree to 15m with narrow-lanceolate phyllodes to 16cm. Cream rod-like flowers occur in summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Hardy in most well-watered situations. Accepts some shade. 🌳🌳

### *Acacia mangium*

Mangium

🌳🌳🌳

Tall tree with heavy canopy to 30m. Large broad phyllodes to 25cm long. Flowers in lax rods to 10cm. Distribution: Qld, PNG, Moluccas. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Outstanding for quick shade in tropical areas. Large phyllodes are feature. Good for heavy soils. 🌳🌳🌳

### *Acacia mearnsii*

(Syn. *A. mollissima*)

Black Wattle

🌳🌳🌳

Medium sized tree to 10m with dark green, bipinnate leaves and fine leaflets. Cream ball-shaped flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Very hardy; fast-growing in most situations. Commonly grown overseas. Has become a weed in South Africa, where it was the principal source of tanning bark. Often short lived due to borer attack. 🌳🌳

### *Acacia melanoxylon*

Blackwood

🌳🌳🌳🌳

Variable; tree reaching 30m in deep gullies but may be shrub size in exposed areas. Phyllodes are lanceolate, to 14cm. Cream

ball-shaped flowers occur in spring and other periods. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Hardy shade or shelter tree. Most situations suitable. Good timber tree. Flowers are not obvious. Very prone to borer attack in warmer areas. Tasmanian tree form is generally superior. Has become a weed in South Africa 🌳🌳🌳

### *Acacia obliquinervia*

Mountain Hickory

🌳🌳🌳

Small to medium sized tree to 15m with grey, oblanceolate phyllodes to 17cm. Bears yellow ball-shaped flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Hardy in well-drained soil. Very sensitive to overwatering. Handsome foliage plant. 🌳🌳



*Acacia pendula*

### *Acacia papyrocarpa*

(Syn. *A. sowdenii*)

Western Myall

🌳🌳

Tall shrub or spreading tree to 7m with drooping, linear, grey phyllodes to 8cm. Bears yellow ball-shaped flowers in spring. Distribution: SA, WA, Qld. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Handsome plant for dry areas. Performs well in Canberra. Full sun and good drainage recommended. 🌳🌳

### *Acacia parramattensis*

Sydney Green Wattle

🌳🌳🌳

Very similar to *A. mearnsii* but flowers in summer. Distribution: NSW, ACT. 🌳🌳

### *Acacia pendula*

Weeping Myall

🌳

Usually erect tree to 10m with pendulous branches, occasionally spreading, with narrow grey phyllodes to 8cm. Yellow ball-shaped flowers appear in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA. PROPAGATION From scarified seed.



*Acacia podalyriifolia*

CULTIVATION Handsome foliage plant for dry areas. Needs full sun. Often defoliated by processionary caterpillars (see Chapter 6, p. 69). 🌳🌳

### *Acacia podalyriifolia*

Queensland Silver Wattle

🌳🌳🌳

Tall shrub or small tree to 8m high by 5m across. Silver-grey phyllodes, obliquely elliptical, to 4cm, with felt-like texture. Golden ball-shaped flowers occur in late winter. Distribution: Qld, NSW, (naturalised in WA, SA). PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Commonly cultivated. Hardy in most well-drained, sunny situations. In Canberra flowers open over several weeks. Very subject to leaf miner in Sydney but not in Canberra. (See photograph, p. 72.) 🌳🌳🌳🌳

### *Acacia polystachya*

🌳🌳🌳

Tall tree to 25m in rainforest but considerably less in cultivation. Phyllodes slightly falcate to 17cm. Yellow rod-shaped flowers.

Distribution: Qld.  
 PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Good shade tree.  
 Resistant to salt spray. Similar to *A. auriculiformis* but with longer seed pods. 🌱 🌿

*Acacia prominens**Acacia pycnantha*, the floral emblem of Australia

### *Acacia prominens*

Gosford Wattle

🌱 🌿 🌱

Tall shrub or small tree to 8m, often spreading, with lanceolate phyllodes to 6cm. Yellow ball-shaped flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Fast-growing screen plant. Accepts shade. Requires ample moisture and reasonable drainage. 🌱 🌿

### *Acacia pruinosa*

Frosty Wattle

🌱 🌿

Small tree to 6m high with red to purplish bark and glaucous branches. Bipinnate, greyish leaves are up to 14cm long with 3–5 sets of pinnae. Golden ball flowers are seen in sprays in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Handsome; for semi-arid or sub-tropical areas. Most soils and full sun satisfactory. Frost hardy. 🌱 🌿

### *Acacia pycnantha*

Australian Golden Wattle

🌱 🌿 🌱

Medium shrub to small tree to 10m with bright green, sickle-shaped phyllodes to 14cm. Large golden ball-shaped flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic, SA (naturalised in WA and Tas).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Australia's floral emblem. Very showy. Fast growing in well-drained, sunny position with ample watering. Seeds are harvested for use in cooking. Has become a weed in South Africa. 🌱 🌿 🌱

### *Acacia salicina*

Cooba

🌱

Spreading tree to 10m with pendulous habit and narrow-elliptical phyllodes to 16cm. Bears yellow ball-shaped flowers, mostly in summer and winter. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, NT.

*Aceratium ferrugineum*

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Handsome foliage plant. Hardy in most soils and full sun. Tendency to sucker. Frost tolerance not fully tested. 🌱 🌿

### *Acacia schinoides*

Green Cedar Wattle

🌱 🌿 🌱

Medium sized tree to 16m with bipinnate leaves to 8cm. Bears cream ball-shaped flowers in summer. Distribution: NSW.  
 PROPAGATION From scarified seed.  
 CULTIVATION Fast-growing in well-composted soil. Accepts full sun or heavy shade. 🌱 🌿 🌱

### *Aceratium ferrugineum*

ELAEOCARPACEAE

Rusty Carabeen

🌱 🌿

Small tree to 8m with elliptical leaves to 12cm with rust-coloured hairs on the underside. Rose pink, bell-shaped flowers, about 2.5cm long, are seen in summer and followed by ovoid red fruits, 3cm long. Distribution: Qld.  
 PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
 CULTIVATION Outstanding small tree; deserves more frequent use. Accepts heavy shade or semi-shade. Decorative fruits and flowers produced well as far south as Coffs Harbour. Well composted soil recommended. *A. megalospermum*, with pink buds, cream flowers and red fruits, is also in limited cultivation.. 🌱 🌿 🌱

### *Acmena*

MYRTACEAE

This genus is now included in *Syzygium*.

### *Acradenia euodiiformis*

(Syn. *Bosistoa euodiiformis*)

RUTACEAE

🌱 🌿

*Acronychia acidula*

Small, often suckering, tree to 10m, taller in the field. Three to five elliptical leaflets, to 15cm, are attached at one point on the petiole. Bears sprays of small white flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW.  
 PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
 CULTIVATION Grows well in Brisbane; survives in a protected site in Canberra. 🌱

### *Acronychia acidula*

RUTACEAE

Lemon Aspen

🌱 🌿

Spreading tall tree to 20m. Glossy, dark green, elliptical leaves to 20cm. Fragrant, cream, 4-petalled flowers in summer are followed by edible, aromatic, greenish cream fruits, about 2cm diameter. Distribution: Qld.  
 PROPAGATION From seed.  
 CULTIVATION Forms good shade tree with handsome foliage.

Prominent fruits make pleasant jam. 🌱 🌿 🌱 🌿

### *Acronychia acronychioides*

White Aspen

🌱 🌿

Small to medium-sized tree with trifoliate leaves with elliptical leaflets about 15cm long. Cream flowers about 1cm diameter in summer, followed by globular, yellowish, edible fruits to 1.5cm diameter. Distribution: Qld.  
 PROPAGATION From seed.  
 CULTIVATION Handsome tree; attractive foliage. Well-composted soil; accepts some shade. 🌱 🌿 🌱

### *Acronychia imperforata*

Logan Apple

🌱 🌿

Small, often bushy tree to 9m, usually less. Shiny green leaves are elliptical, to 12cm long. Small, cream, star-shaped flowers

*Acronychia imperforata*

seen in autumn are followed by orange-yellow round fruits, about 1cm diameter.

Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, which take several months to root. Difficult from seed.

CULTIVATION Handsome screen plant for areas where salt winds prevalent. Hardy in tropical and subtropical areas. Fruits are acid but edible. ☀️🌧️🌱🌿🌿

### *Acronychia laevis*

Hard Aspen

DE

From Qld and northern NSW. Similar to *A. oblongifolia* but with leaves shiny on both sides and bluish mauve fruits. Suited to warm climates. ☀️🌧️🌱🌿🌿

### *Acronychia oblongifolia*

White Lilly-pilly

BD

Small to medium sized tree to 14m (often less) with obovate leaves to 10cm. Bears small white flowers followed by white fleshy fruits, about 1cm diameter.

Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic.  
PROPAGATION From cuttings.  
CULTIVATION Prefers well-composted soil and some shade. Ornamental fruits are borne prolifically. Edible but not palatable. Frost tolerance not tested. Plants known to sucker in cultivation. ☀️🌧️🌱🌿🌿

### *Acronychia octandra*

(Syn. *Melicope octandra*)

Doughwood

DE

Small to medium sized tree to 15m in cultivation with good spreading crown. Large trifoliate leaves with elliptical to ovate leaflets, to 20cm. Small white flowers appear in autumn. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Good park tree; handsome leaves. Good specimen in Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. ☀️🌧️

### *Acronychia pubescens*

Hairy Acronychia

DEF

Small tree to 15m. Dark green, trifoliate leaves are hairy on the underside, leaflets mostly oblong to 20cm long. Creamy green, star-shaped flowers borne on the previous season's wood are followed by creamy white fragrant fruits about 2cm diameter. Flowers appear in late summer at Coffs Harbour, but said to be seen at other seasons. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed and possibly cuttings.

CULTIVATION Useful small tree for well-drained site. Accepts full sun. May be of value as street tree in frost-free areas. ☀️🌧️?🌱🌿🌿

### *Acronychia wilcoxiana*

Silver Aspen

DE

*Acronychia oblongifolia*

Small tree to 9m with shiny, obovate leaves to 20cm. Leaf tip is rounded or sometimes notched. White summer flowers are followed by deeply furrowed white fruits to 2cm diameter. Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Handsome small tree; ornamental foliage. Prefers well-composted soil. Accepts full sun or part shade. ☀️🌧️

### *Adansonia gregorii*

MALVACEAE (BOMBACACEAE)

Baobab, Boab

FH

Tree to 14m with huge, swollen, bottle-like trunk on aging. Deciduous palmate leaves, each leaflet to 13cm. Bears large white flowers with fluffy prominent anthers and large ball-like fruits to 10cm diameter. Distribution: WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From seed or from cuttings. Place cuttings of mature branches up to 30cm diameter in

*Adansonia gregorii* seen as a street tree, Derby WA

final position; do not allow to dry out until established.

CULTIVATION Grows well in northern areas, quickly at first, then slower. Fine specimen in Darwin Botanic Gardens. Worth trying in Brisbane and other frost free subtropical areas. In recent years mature trees have been transported from northern Australia and transplanted successfully in Perth, WA. Large fruits often carved and sold as tourist novelties; flesh has sherbet-like tang. ☀️🌧️🌱🌿🌿

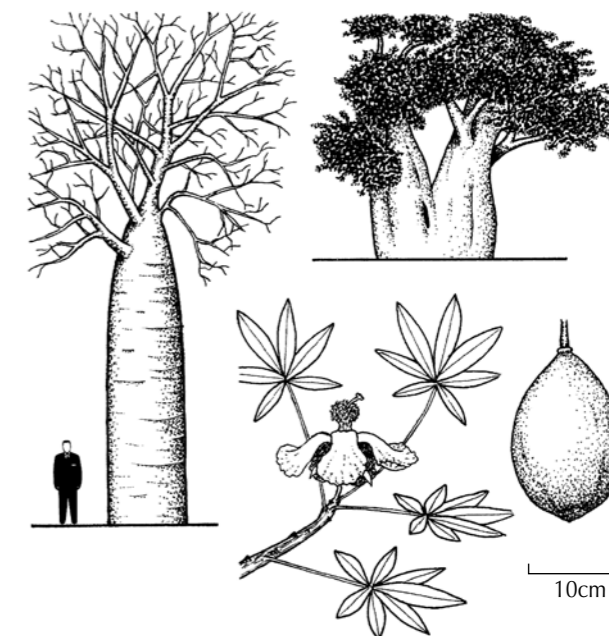
### *Adenanthera pavonina*

FABACEAE (MIMOSACEAE)

Red Sandalwood

EFGH

Spreading tree to 15m with semi-deciduous bipinnate leaves to 25cm. Cream flowers are

*Adansonia gregorii*, showing two different growth forms, flower and fruit

hardy and when pruned make neat shrubs. They will grow in most soils and enjoy some shade. Propagation is from cuttings.

### *Phyllanthus cuscutiflorus*



Pink Phyllanthus

**D E**

Tall shrub or small tree reaching 5–6m high with shiny pink new growth. Leaves are ovate, to 5cm long. Small pink flowers are borne in axillary clusters on slender stems in spring and summer. (Photo previous page.)

Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Readily grown in frost-free areas in well-composted soil. Sun or part shade are suitable. Flowers and young growth are features.  



### *Phyllanthus gunnii*

(Syn. *P. gasstroemii*)

**B D**

Erect slender shrub to 2m. Leaves are obovate, to 2cm, in two opposite rows. Flowers are small, green, pendent from horizontal branches, and appear in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Attractive foliage plant.  




### *Phyllanthus lamprophyllus*

(Syn. *P. sp.* 'Pascoe River')

Ferny Phyllanthus

**D E F**

Open shrub to 2m with small, glossy leaves, obliquely elliptical, to about 7mm long. They are arranged on short lateral branches, about 15cm long, giving the appearance of pinnate leaves. Flowers and fruits are insignificant. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Growing well at



Coffs Harbour in heavy shade. Full sun tends to yellow the foliage. Well-composted soil recommended. Outstanding foliage plant.   

### *Phyllanthus microcladus*

(Syn. *P. albiflorus*, *Sauropus albiflorus*)

**B D**

Low open shrub to 40cm high by 40cm across. Leaves ovate-oblong to 8mm. White or rarely pink flowers, 6mm diameter, on slender stalks about 1.5cm long, occur in summer. Distribution: NSW, Qld. PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Excellent small undershrub for shady position. Flowers for extended period. Well-composted soil recommended. A pink variety also available.  

### *Phymatocarpus*

MYRTACEAE



This small genus of only three species is superficially like *Melaleuca*, differing mainly in anther structure.

### *Phymatocarpus maxwellii*

**A C G**

Erect or spreading shrub to 2.5m high by 1.5m across. Thickly textured leaves are narrow-elliptical to 6mm. Bears flowers in pinkish mauve globular heads, about 1cm in diameter, in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained soil. Tolerates considerable shade. Mainly for the collector.  

### *Phymatocarpus porphyrocephalus*

**A G**


Rounded shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Small, almost round leaves to 4mm diameter. Globular heads of pinkish mauve flowers, 1.3cm diameter, occur in spring.



*Phymatocarpus porphyrocephalus*

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, sunny position. Withstands salt spray. Frost tolerance not fully tested. 

### *Pileanthus*

MYRTACEAE

Coppercups

Eight woody shrubs from Western Australia constitute this small genus. The common name is often generally applied to the genus but should particularly refer to *P. peduncularis*. They are rarely seen in cultivation outside Perth, where they are grown very successfully on the sandy soils of King's Park. They are very showy, with vividly coloured, open flowers to 2cm diameter. Propagating material is rarely available in the

east, perhaps the main reason for their absence there. If Perth is any gauge of cultivation requirements, excellent drainage and full sun would be essential. Grafting onto a related genus, such as the reliable *Calytrix tetragona*, may be one way of overcoming difficulties in cultivation. At King's Park success with propagation from seed and cuttings has been achieved.

### *Pileanthus filifolius*

Summer Coppercups

**G**

Slender erect shrub to 1m high by 60cm across with terete leaves to 1cm. Magenta flowers, 2cm diameter, occur in late spring and summer. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very spectacular in flower. Frost tolerance not tested.

### *Pileanthus limacis*

Coastal Coppercups

**G**

Spreading shrub to 1.5m high by 2m across with linear leaves to 7mm. White or pink flowers, 2cm diameter, occur in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.


CULTIVATION Less colourful than the other species described. Frost tolerance not tested.

### *Pileanthus peduncularis*

Coppercups

**A G**

Rounded or spreading shrub to 1m high by 1m across with crowded, linear leaves to 4mm. Profuse orange-red flowers, 2cm diameter, appear in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Outstanding plant that should be in general cultivation. Frost tolerance not tested. 



*Pileanthus peduncularis*



*Pileanthus glabrum*

### *Pileanthus glabrum*




MYRTACEAE

Plum Myrtle

**B D E**

Bushy shrub or small tree to 5m high. Glossy elliptical leaves are up to 10cm long. White or pale pink open flowers, about 1.5cm diameter, are seen in spring or summer. Purplish black ellipsoid fruits are about 12mm long. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Handsome plant; grows well in semi-shade and makes good display in flower. Well-composted soil recommended.   




### *Pileanthus rhytispermum*

**D E**

Open shrub or small tree to 5m high by 3m across with elliptical leaves to 3.5cm. New growth is red. White flowers borne in leaf axils in late winter and spring are followed by succulent purple fruits, 1cm diameter. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs shaded situation in rich, well-composted

soil. New growth particularly attractive. Suitable for areas of low frost risk.   

### *Pimelea*

THYMELAEACEAE

Rice Flowers

There are about 96 species of *Pimelea* in Australia with some extending to NZ and islands to the north of the continent. Most are small to medium sized woody shrubs; some tropical species are annuals or perennial herbs and rarely seen in cultivation. The species with the most horticultural value have terminal heads of flowers, often surrounded by prominent coloured bracts. Flower colour varies from white and pink to cream. Requirements for cultivation also vary, with one or two species offering great resistance to successful cultivation. The beautiful Qualup Bell (*P. physodes*) is particularly difficult. Seed of most species is hard to germinate but most are easy to propagate from cuttings.

### *Pimelea clavata*

**A C G**

Erect open shrub to 1.5m high with narrow-elliptical leaves to 4cm. Creamy white flowers in

small terminal clusters occur in spring to early summer. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Needs well-composted soil in part shade. Fast growing in good conditions. Not of great horticultural merit. ❄️



*Pimelea ferruginea* 'Magenta Mist'

### *Pimelea ferruginea*

(Syn. *P. decussata*)

A B C G

Neat rounded shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Leaves are oval, glossy green, to 1.2cm, in two pairs of opposite rows. Profuse pink flowers are borne in terminal heads in spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Well known in cultivation. Needs well-drained, sunny or partly shaded position. Attractive foliage and compact habit make suitable feature plant. Deep pink colour forms are often sold as *P.* 'Bonne Petite' or *P.* 'Magenta Mist'.

❄️ 🌞 🌧️ 🌱 🌿

### *Pimelea imbricata* var. *imbricata*

(Syn. *P. imbricata* var. *baxteri*)

A C G

Erect shrub to 50cm high by 30cm across. Leaves are narrow-ovate, to 1cm. Heads of pale to deep pink flowers occur in spring. Five subspecies are recognised,

differing in the hairiness of the flowers and leaves.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Has been cultivated at Australian National Botanic Gardens. Good drainage and full sun seem to be preferred. Useful as rockery plant or for between shrubs. The deep pink form is outstanding. ❄️

### *Pimelea imbricata* var. *petraea*

(Syn. *P. octophylla* ssp. *petraea*, *P. petraea*)

A C G

Erect shrub to 50cm high by 30cm across with hairy, narrow-ovate leaves to 1.2cm. Bears heads of pale cream flowers, some for most of the year.

Distribution: SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Needs well-drained, sunny position. Not as showy as other species. ❄️

### *Pimelea ligustrina* ssp. *ligustrina*

Tall Rice Flower

A B C D

Open shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across. Leaves elliptical to lanceolate, to 8cm. Heads of white flowers surrounded by 8–10 bracts appear in summer. Three subspecies are recognised. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most soils and enjoys heavy shade. Reasonably fast growing in well-composted soil. *P. l.* ssp. *hypericina*, also in cultivation, has smaller flower heads surrounded by four bracts. 🌱 ❄️

### *Pimelea linifolia*

Slender Rice Flower

A B C D G

Variable shrub; prostrate on coastal

headlands, or slender, erect plant to 60cm high by 30cm across in forests or heaths. Leaves are variable, linear to obovate, to 2.5cm. Terminal heads of white or rarely pink flowers occur most of the year. Four subspecies are recognised. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas, SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Probably the most common *Pimelea* sp. but not so often cultivated. Likes well-drained soil and full sun or part shade. Keep well pruned to encourage branching. Prostrate headland form is available and makes excellent rockery plant. Suckering form found at the Australian National Botanic Gardens may have considerable potential. ❄️ 🌱



*Pimelea nivea*

### *Pimelea nivea*

Snowy Pimelea

A B C

Erect open plant to 1.5m high by 1m across. Rounded leaves to 1.5cm are dark green above and silvery below. Stems are covered with white hairs. Terminal heads of white flowers occur in summer. Distribution: Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most soils and partial shade. Attractive foliage. Prune to encourage compact growth. Foliage and flowers are used in the cut flower trade. 🌱 ❄️ 🌿

### *Pimelea physodes*

Qualup Bell

A G

Stiff erect plant to 80cm high, often sparsely branched. Leaves are elliptical, to 3cm. Bears pendent flower heads enclosed in large oval bracts to 5cm long. Bracts are cream, streaked with red or purple, and occur in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or grafted onto hardier species, possibly *P. ferruginea*.

CULTIVATION Outstanding shrub, but very difficult to maintain. Good drainage essential. Has flowered in Sydney but died after 3–4 years. Has also flowered in Canberra. Grafted plants available from specialist nurseries. ❄️ 🌱

### *Pimelea rosea*

Rose Banjine

A B C G

Open slender shrub to 60cm high by 30cm. Leaves are lanceolate, to 1.5cm, hooked at the end. Flowers in pink (occasionally white) terminal heads occur in spring. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Reasonably common in cultivation in Sydney and Melbourne. Good drainage and full sun to part shade required. Handsome little rockery plant or for among shrubs. ❄️

### *Pimelea sericea*

Silky Pimelea

A C

Low branching shrub to 70cm. Dark green, broad-elliptical leaves to 1cm, shiny on top, silvery hairs on underside. Terminal heads of white or pink flowers occur in late spring and summer. Distribution: Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.



*Pimelea physodes* looking up into the flowers.

CULTIVATION Very attractive for rockery or shrub bed. Needs well-composted soil and semi-shade. ❄️ 🌱

### *Pimelea spectabilis*

Banjine

A G

Erect slender plant to 80cm high by 50cm across. Leaves are oblong to lanceolate, to 3cm. Flowers in large heads, 5cm diameter, white to pink and occasionally cream, occur in spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Not often seen in cultivation. Largest flower heads of any *Pimelea* sp. Good

drainage and partial shade suggested. Performs well in Perth. Frost tolerance not tested. 🌱

### *Pimelea stricta*

(Syn. *P. colorans*)

A B C

Low shrub to 1m high by 60cm across. Leaves are linear-lanceolate, to 3.5cm. Flowers in large heads, white or pale yellow, occur in spring.

Distribution: SA, Vic, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very attractive. Good drainage essential; needs full sun or part shade. Often short lived in cultivation. ❄️ 🌱



*Pimelea spectabilis*

***Pimelea suaveolens***

Scented Banjine

A G

Erect slender plant to 70cm high by 50cm across. Leaves are mostly elliptical, to 3cm. Large pendent heads of yellow flowers occur in spring. *P. s. ssp. flava* has smaller grey leaves.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very dainty. Good drainage and partial shade important. Not easy to maintain in cultivation. Frost tolerance not tested. ☀️ 🌧️

***Pimelea sylvestris***

A G

Erect shrub, variable in height, 30cm–2m, with elliptical leaves to 4cm long. Terminal heads of white or occasionally pink flowers are seen in spring.

Distribution: WA.

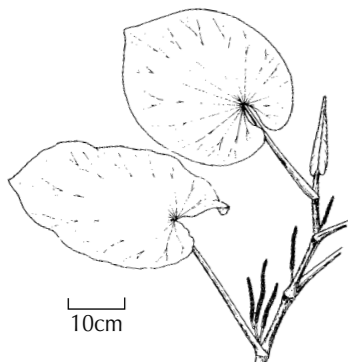
PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Excellent drainage in full sun or part shade recommended. Not easy on the humid east coast, where it is probably best grown in a container. 🌧️

***Piper umbellatum***(Syn. *P. subpeltatum*)

PIPERACEAE

D E F

*Piper umbellatum*

Erect shrub to 1.5m with several stems. Heart-shaped leaves are

soft in texture and to 30cm diameter. Fingers of minute flowers are borne prolifically from the leaf axils in late winter and spring. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From fresh seed, which should be barely covered and kept moist.

CULTIVATION Spectacular in shady spot in well-composted soil.

Will not tolerate drying out or low temperatures. Possible indoor plant, but soil moisture level must remain high. Satisfactory as far south as Coffs Harbour. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

***Pittosporum***

PITTIOSPORACEAE

See note on genus, p. 598.

***Pittosporum lancifolium***(Syn. *Citriobatus lancifolius*)

B D

Dense, rounded, spiny shrub or small tree to 4m high by 3m across with dark green, glossy, lanceolate leaves to 2.5cm.

Branches often end in a spine. Flowers are cream, about 1cm long, in axils. Fruits are orange, about 1cm diameter. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very handsome foliage plant, fast growing, good screen plant. Prefers some shade and well-composted soil. Frost tolerance not tested. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

***Pittosporum multiflorum***(Syn. *Citriobatus multiflorus*)

Orange Thorn

B D E

Stiff, much-branched, spiny shrub to 1.5m high by 1.5m diameter. Small, round, toothed leaves to 1.2cm. Bears tubular white flowers, 4mm long, followed by edible orange berries to 1cm diameter, in spring and summer. Fruits extend into autumn.

Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed or

*Pittosporum multiflorum*

soft-tip cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very hardy in well-shaded situation. Most soils are suitable; rich, well-composted soil gives better growth. Frost hardy. Apparently a food plant of the Wonga Pigeon. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

***Pittosporum oreillyanum***

B C D

Rounded, much-branched, spiny shrub to 4m high by 2m across with narrow-ovate leaves to 3cm. Bears small cream flowers in spring, followed by attractive yellow-brown fruits with red seeds. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Appears hardy in cultivation at Canberra. Enjoys shade and rich, well-composted soil. Useful prickly hedge.

Relatively slow growing; faster in subtropical areas. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

***Pittosporum revolutum***

Rough-fruited Pittosporum

A B D

Rounded shrub to 3m high by 2.5m across with elliptical leaves to 10cm, forming suckers if roots are damaged. Bears yellow flowers in terminal clusters in spring. Fruits are ellipsoid, to 2cm long, orange with red seeds, and occur in summer.

*Pittosporum revolutum*

Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Handsome. Hardy in most soils but prefers well-composted soil and full sun to half shade. Canberra is about its limit for frost tolerance. Keep well pruned. Some forms appear to produce larger and more prolific fruits. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

***Pityrodia***

LAMIACEAE (CHLOANTHACEAE)

In 2011, *Pityrodia* was revised and several new genera were assigned to cover the variation in the genus. The genera, *Dasymalla*, *Hemiphora*, *Muniria* and *Quoya* are now recognised with *Pityrodia*. *Pityrodia* now consists of 21 Western Australian, Northern Territory and Queensland species with horticultural potential but rarely seen in cultivation. They are soft-foliaged, semi-herbaceous plants with colourful foxglove-like flowers borne along the stems.

All require excellent drainage and may best be treated as rockery plants. Propagation is from cuttings, avoiding mist as the hairy leaves tend to rot. King's Park, Perth, has reported limited success from seed.

***Pityrodia jamesii***

F H

Erect, stiff shrub to 2m, with stems and leaves covered with small hairs. Lanceolate leaves sessile, very rough, often sticky, to 3.5cm long. Flowers white, tubular, axillary towards end of branches, appear at beginning of dry season. Distribution: NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Only young plants seen in cultivation. Excellent drainage and full sun recommended. Food plant of the rare and colourful Leichhardt's Grasshopper (*Petasida ephippigera*) 🌧️ 🌧️

*Planchonia careya****Planchonia careya***

LECYTHIDACEAE (BARRINGTONIACEAE)

Cocky Apple

E F H

Large shrub or small tree to 15m.

Large, broadly ovate leaves to 10cm often redden before falling. Flowers are large, opening in early morning and falling by midday. Petals are white, but prominent feature is long stamens to 4cm that are pink at base. Flowers appear from winter to early summer. Succulent ellipsoid fruit, giving rise to common name, is edible and about 9cm long. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld. PROPAGATION From cuttings and reportedly from seed, which may require scarification. CULTIVATION Very common plant, but neglected in cultivation. Potential street tree. Adaptable to most soils. 🌧️ 🌧️ 🌧️

*Platylobium formosum****Platylobium***

FABACEAE

Flat Peas

*Platylobium* is a small genus, related to *Bossiaea*, of nine species of pea-flower all occurring in eastern Australia. They are small to medium sized shrubs with good-sized yellow and red flowers. Only two are known to be in cultivation, both are

hardy in most soils and aspects, provided that they are not too wet. Propagation is by scarified seed.

### *Platylobium formosum*

Handsome Flat Pea

A B C

Spreading or upright shrub to 1m high (occasionally taller) with heart-shaped leaves to 5cm. Yellow and red pea-flowers occur in spring. The form *P. f. ssp. parviflorum* has narrow-ovate leaves, and intermediates also occur. (Photo previous page.)

Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy. Common in cultivation. Some low-growing, spreading forms are known and should be encouraged. ☼ ☼

### *Platylobium obtusangulum*

Common Flat Pea

A B C

Slender shrub, spreading or erect, to 1m high. Leaves are variable, more or less triangular or arrow-shaped, with 1 or 3 sharp points. Yellow and red pea-flowers occur in spring.

Distribution: Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Keep reasonably dry. Interesting foliage. ☼ ☼

### *Platysace*

APIACEAE

About 25 species of *Platysace* are recognised, all endemic to Australia. They are small to medium woody shrubs with umbels of small white flowers. They are not commonly cultivated and, although generally hardy, have little to offer the gardener. They may be propagated easily from cuttings.

### *Platysace lanceolata*

A B C

Variable shrub, usually about



*Platysace lanceolata*

60cm high. Leaves vary from round to lanceolate, 1–4cm long. White flowers, sometimes with a pink tinge, in umbels to 3cm diameter occur in summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations. Sometimes self-seeds in garden. The cultivar

'Robyn's Bush Posy' is promoted as a potted plant.

☼ ☼

### *Platysace linearifolia*

A B C

Slender branching shrub to 1m high by 80cm across. Leaves are narrow-linear, to 2.5cm. White flowers in slender umbels occur in summer.

Distribution: NSW, Qld.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations. Very fine leaves and slender habit are unusual and quite appealing. ☼ ☼

### *Pleomele angustifolia*

(Syn. *Dracaena angustifolia*)

ASPARAGACEAE (AGAVACEAE)

Native Dracaena

E F

Slender, sparsely branched shrub with long stems to 8m, often sprawling among other shrubs or trees of the rainforest. Narrow leaves are up to 40cm long. Terminal, branching flower sprays, pale green, to 40cm long, appear in spring and summer. Globular fruits are red.



*Plumbago zeylanica*

Distribution: Qld, NT, PNG, south-east Asia.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Useful for shaded situation. Very intolerant of cold conditions. Well-composted loam recommended.

☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼

### *Plumbago zeylanica*

PLUMBAGINACEAE

D E F G H

Straggling shrub to 1m high, usually resting on surrounding shrubs. Leaves are ovate, to 8cm. Flowers to 1.5cm diameter are white or pale blue. Calyx is covered with stiff, sticky hairs. Flowers occur in autumn and winter. Distribution: WA, NT, Qld, NSW, Africa, Asia, Pacific Is.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, and probably seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy for frost-free areas. Tolerates shade or full sun. Will trail over rocks. Good off-season flowerer. ☼ ☼

### *Podocarpus*

PODOCARPACEAE

Plum Pines

*Podocarpus* is a large genus of conifers with about 94 members, largely distributed over the Southern Hemisphere but with some extending to Japan and the Himalayas. In Australia eight species are recognised, seven of them being endemic. They are shrubs or trees with handsome foliage and fleshy fruits. Male cones and showy female fruits occur on separate plants. The timber of the tree species is a useful softwood. Hardy in cultivation, they appreciate a well-composted soil and full sun or part shade, depending on species. Propagation is easy from cuttings. Four of the shrubby species are dealt with here, tree species in Chapter 13, p. 599.



*Podocarpus lawrencei* showing its male cones

### *Podocarpus dispermus*

D E F

Shapely small conifer to 4m in open situation (small tree in rainforest). Broad-linear to oblong leaves to 14cm long by 3cm wide. Red fruits to 3cm long. Distribution: Qld.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Grows well at Atherton and Coffs Harbour. Little known of long-term performance. Handsome foliage plant. ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼

### *Podocarpus drouynianus*

Wild Plum, Emu Bush

A B D G

Rounded shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are greyish green, linear, to 8cm. Fruits are fleshy, plum-coloured, to 2cm diameter, edible but with little flavour. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Slow growing and shy to fruit, but a good foliage plant. Appreciates considerable shade. Harvested from the field for its decorative, long-lasting foliage, sold as Emu Bush.

☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼

### *Podocarpus lawrencei*

(Syn. *P. alpinus*)

Mountain Plum Pine

A B C D

Very variable in size, depending on habitat. Low scrambling shrub above the tree-line, or tree to 8m in forests. Grey-green leaves, oblong, to 1.5cm. Fruit is succulent, red, 5mm long. Male cones are also attractive. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in most situations. Forms vary but most commonly shrubs to 3m high. Handsome foliage plants. Suitable tub plant.

☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼



*Podocarpus spinulosus*

### *Podocarpus spinulosus*

A B C D

Dense rounded shrub to 2m high by 1m across, or sometimes a small tree. Leaves are light green, rigid, broad-linear, to 6cm, with pointed ends. Blue-black fruits are about 1cm diameter. Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Hardy; withstands salt spray. Good foliage plant. Needs full sun or part shade. Also suitable as tub plant.

☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼ ☼



***Podolobium ilicifolium***(Syn. *Oxylobium ilicifolium*)

FABACEAE

Holly-leaf Shaggy Pea

A B C D

*Podolobium ilicifolium*

Erect, often straggly shrub to 2m high by 1m across. Rigid holly-like leaves to 4cm. Bears yellow-orange pea-flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic.

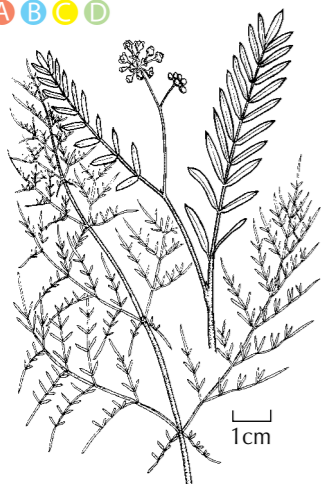
PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Grow in well-drained situation with some shade. Often difficult to maintain. Interesting foliage. ☼ ☹

***Polyscias sambucifolius***(Syn. *Tieghemopanax sambucifolius*)

ARALIACEAE

Elderberry Panax

A B C D



*Polyscias sambucifolius* form from alpine areas (top), fine-leaved form from coastal ranges (below)

Erect shrub to 3m high by 2m across, producing frequent suckers. Leaves are pinnate, bipinnate or tripinnate. Leaflets variable, depending on geographic location of original; toothed or entire, linear to ovate, 2–10cm long. Bears insignificant green flowers in large sprays. Fruits are succulent, blue, showy, and occur in summer. Various leaf forms will eventually be given subspecies status. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Very hardy; good foliage plant with attractive fruits. Needs well-composted soil; do not allow to dry out. Enjoys shade. Ferny-leaved forms favoured for garden use. Useful container plant. ☼ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

***Pomaderris***

RHAMNACEAE

About 70 species of *Pomaderris* are endemic to Australia, with several occurring in NZ. They are small to large woody shrubs, often with large heads of bright yellow or creamy white flowers. Generally hardy in cultivation, they appreciate good drainage and full sun to part shade. Some species are attractive in flower, while others are of interest mainly to the collector. Propagation is mainly from cuttings.

***Pomaderris aspera***(Syn. *P. apetala* in part)

Hazel Pomaderris

A B C

Erect, open, hairy shrub to 3m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are ovate and prominently veined, to 13cm. Open plume-like inflorescence of small, insignificant greenish flowers occurs in spring. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic. This species was referred to as *P. apetala*, which now applies to a very similar

species occurring in Vic, Tas and New Zealand.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Hardy in shaded situations and well-composted soil. Keep pruned to maintain shape. ☹ ☼

***Pomaderris aurea***(Syn. *P. humilis*)

Golden Pomaderris

A B C

Variable shrub to 3m high, but often much smaller spreading plant. Hairy leaves are narrowly ovate to 6cm long and greyish on the underside. Golden yellow flowers are borne in terminal clusters in spring.

Distribution: Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Low forms make excellent tall ground covers. Reasonable drainage and a little shade are preferred. Spectacular in flower but flowering period comparatively short. ☼

***Pomaderris elliptica***

A B C

Erect shrub to 3m high (sometimes more in the field) to 2m across. Leaves are elliptical, blunt at the tip, to 10cm. Yellow flowers in large heads occur in spring.

Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Prefers good drainage and full sun. Very showy in flower; pleasing foliage. ☼ ☹

***Pomaderris ferruginea***

Rusty Pomaderris

A B C

Erect shrub to 3m high by 1m across. Leaves are lanceolate to elliptical, to 10cm long, with rust-coloured hairs on underside. Large heads, to 10cm diameter, of yellow flowers, occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Prefers good drainage and full sun. Very showy in flower; pleasing foliage. ☼ ☹

*Pomaderris obcordata****Pomaderris obcordata***

Wedge-leaf Pomaderris

A G

Compact, low shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Tiny leaves are obcordate, to 1.5cm long. Terminal clusters of flowers are pink in bud opening to white or pale yellow in spring. Distribution: SA, thought to be extinct in Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

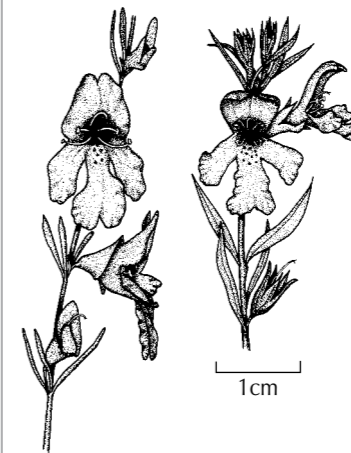
CULTIVATION Neat foliage. Partly opened flower heads give showy two-toned effect. Good drainage and full or part sun recommended. ☹

Other species of *Pomaderris* may be treated similarly to *P. elliptica* in cultivation: *P. andromedifolia* (small), *P. angustifolia* (medium), *P. discolor* (medium), *P. elachophylla* (medium), *P. eriocephala* (medium), *P. lanigera* (medium), *P. ligustrina* (medium) and *P. intermedia* (medium).

*Prostanthera aspalathoides****Prostanthera***

LAMIACEAE

Mint Bushes



*Prostanthera nivea* (left) and *Westringia blakeana* (right), showing the 2-lobed calyx of *Prostanthera* and the 5-lobed calyx of *Westringia*

A large genus of endemic Australian plants, *Prostanthera* includes about 112 species. They are all small to large woody shrubs, mostly with aromatic foliage and a wealth of flowers in spring. The calyx of *Prostanthera* is characterised by two lobes, an

easy way of distinguishing it from its close relations *Westringia*, *Hemigenia* and *Hemiandra*, all of which have five lobes (see illustration). The flower is more or less trumpet-shaped with a prominent lip characteristic of the family. Flower colour varies from white through blues to purple, and the occasional red-, yellow- and green-flowered species is also known.

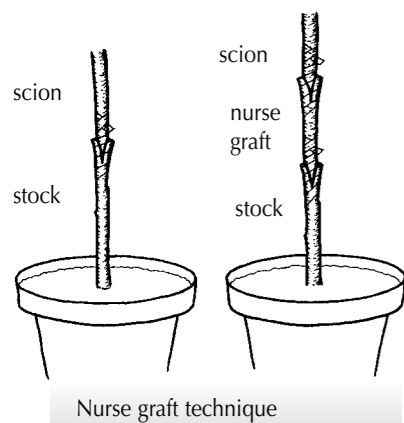
Some mint bushes, particularly *P. ovalifolia*, have been common garden plants for many years. Although they make a fine display, they are rarely considered reliable. In general, they need perfect drainage and near to full sun, but even under these conditions cannot be considered long lived. Grafting onto *Westringia fruticosa* rootstock (see p. 43) enables the genus to be grown in less favourable conditions and increases life span. Ungrafted *Prostanthera* must be repropagated regularly. This is not difficult, as they strike very readily from cuttings. Pruning should be carried out after flowering, throughout the life of the plant.

### *Prostanthera aspalathoides*

Scarlet Mint Bush

A C G H

Rounded shrub to 70cm high by 70cm across with linear leaves to 6mm. Red tubular flowers (rarely yellow) occur in spring to summer. (Photo previous page.) Distribution: NSW, Vic, SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. One of the few species not readily compatible with *Westringia fruticosa*, a problem which can be overcome with the nurse graft technique using an intermediate of *P. nivea*. (See diagram.)



Nurse graft technique

CULTIVATION Desirable but more difficult than most to maintain. Grafting is strongly recommended. Yellow and red forms look well together in a rockery. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera baxteri*

A C G

Erect shrub to 1.3m high by 80cm across. Leaves are narrowly ovate to linear, to 1.5cm. White flowers with a tinge of blue, and brownish spots on the inside, are axillary and occur in spring and early summer. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION As for genus.

### *Prostanthera behriana*

Behr's Mint Bush

A C H

Erect shrub to 2.5m high. Obovate to narrowly ovate leaves to 2.5cm long. Flowers in leafy sprays appear in spring, each flower about 2cm long, white to pale violet with purple streaks inside and some brownish spots on the throat. Distribution: SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️ 🌧️



*Prostanthera caerulea*

### *Prostanthera caerulea*

A B C D

Erect, dense shrub to 2.5m high by 1m across. Narrow-ovate leaves, to 5cm, have a serrated edge. Blue flowers, in terminal sprays to 10cm, occur in spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very showy. Appreciates some shade. 🌧️ ❄️

### *Prostanthera calycina*

A C G H

Low open shrub to 50cm high by 50cm across. Leaves are rounded to oblong, to 1cm. Tubular dull red flowers occur in spring. Distribution: SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very difficult to maintain. Not particularly showy. ❄️ 🌧️ CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera chlorantha*

Green Mint Bush

A C G H

Slender open shrub to 60cm high by 50cm across. Leaves are ovate, 1–4mm long. Tubular greenish flowers occur in spring to summer. Distribution: SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Of interest mainly to collectors. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera cineolifera*

A B C

Erect shrub to 3m high with narrow-ovate leaves to 5cm. Mauve flowers in terminal sprays appear in spring. Status of this species is uncertain as it is close to *P. ovalifolia* and *P. lanceolata*. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very aromatic. 🌧️ ❄️ CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera cruciflora*

C H

Rounded compact shrub to 2m high by 60cm across with pale greyish green, ovate leaves to 1.5cm with undulate margins. Large pale mauve flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Spectacular.

Prefers relatively dry conditions.

❄️ 🌧️



*Prostanthera cryptandroides*

### *Prostanthera cryptandroides*

(Syn. *P. cryptandroides* ssp. *euphrasioides*)

A C

Bushy shrub to 1m high by 70cm across with lobed leaves to 1cm. Mauve flowers appear in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very strongly aromatic foliage. ❄️ 🌧️ CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera cuneata*

Alpine Mint Bush

A B C

Rounded compact bush to 1m high by 1.5m across. Leaves rounded, to 6mm. White flowers with purple and yellow spots in throat occur in summer. Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very showy; white flowers contrast with dark green leaves. Grows outside on the west coast of England. *P. c.* 'Alpine Gold' has distinct golden

marginal leaf coloration, with some leaves 90 per cent golden. Registered cultivar.

❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera denticulata*

Rough Mint Bush

A B C

Spreading straggling shrub to 1m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are variable, narrow to almost ovate, 5–15mm, with a rough surface. Flowers in purple sprays occur in spring and summer. Distribution: NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very unreliable on own roots in Canberra but performs well on the east coast. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera discolor*

A B C

Open shrub from NSW with pale violet flowers. ❄️ 🌧️ CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera eurybioides*

Monarto Mint Bush

A C

Erect open shrub to 1m high by 60cm across with very small leaves, variable in shape, to 2mm. Bears mauve flowers at ends of branches in spring. Distribution: SA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️ 🌧️ CONSERVATION STATUS Endangered.

### *Prostanthera grylloana*

A C G H

Erect shrub to 80cm high by 50cm across. Leaves are more or less spatulate with curved, uneven edges, to 1cm. Flowers are tubular, dull red, in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION Very difficult to maintain on own roots. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera hirtula*

A B C

Erect shrub to 2m high by 1m across. Leaves are narrow-ovate, to 2cm, with rough, slightly hairy surface. Bears mauve flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera incana*

Velvet Mint Bush

A B C

Erect or spreading shrub to 1.5m high. Leaves, 9–18mm, are rounded or ovate, hairy with scalloped margin. Flowers in terminal spikes, mauve or occasionally white, occur in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Fairly common in cultivation. Hardier than most species. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera incisa*

(Syn. *P. sieberi*)

Cut-leaf Mint Bush

A B C

Rounded shrub to 1.5m high by 1.5m across. Highly aromatic leaves are ovate, toothed, to 3cm. Bears violet flowers in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Reasonably hardy. Strong leaf fragrance is not to everyone's liking. ❄️ 🌧️

### *Prostanthera lasianthos*

Victorian Christmas Bush

A B C G



*Prostanthera magnifica*, showing its prominent calyces

Variable shrub or small tree, 2–10m high. Shrub form often has compact habit. Leaves are lanceolate to ovate, to 10cm. Flowers in terminal sprays, white, pink or mauve, occur in summer. Two subspecies are recognised in NSW. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From cuttings. CULTIVATION Probably most adaptable species. Tolerates heavy shade or full sun. Fast growing. Useful as screen plant. *P. l.* 'Mint Ice' has variegated leaves. A pink form is sold as *P. l.* 'Kallista Pink'. 🌿🌞🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera linearis*

Narrow-leaved Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱  
Rounded shrub to 1.5m high by 1m across. Leaves are linear, to 4cm. Bears violet flowers in leafy sprays in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Relatively hardy. Enjoys shade from the hottest part of the day. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera magnifica*

Magnificent Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱  
Erect shrub to 1.5m high by 1m across. Leaves lanceolate to 2cm. Pale mauve flowers, subtended by large persistent purple calyx, occur in spring. Distribution: WA. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Outstanding, but very difficult to maintain on its own roots. Slightly frost tender. Makes good pot plant. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera marifolia*

🌿🌞🌱

Shrub to 60cm high by 40cm across. Leaves are ovate, roughly hairy, to 1cm. Bluish axillary flowers appear throughout the year. This species is very similar to *P. densa*, which has slightly broader, softly hairy leaves. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION It may be *P. densa* that has been noted in cultivation. 🌿🌧️🌱  
CONSERVATION STATUS Both *P. marifolia* and *P. densa* are rare; the latter is listed as Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera megacalyx*

🌿🌞🌱

Erect, slender shrub to 1m high by 50cm across with small, slightly lobed leaves. Very large pale violet flowers occur in spring. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Outstanding, but one of the most difficult to maintain on its own roots. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera melissifolia*

🌿🌞🌱

Spreading shrub to 3m high by 3m across. Toothed, ovate leaves

to 3cm. Sprays of purple flowers occur in spring and early summer. A plant from Gibraltar Range, NSW, previously thought to be this species, is now considered to be *P. caerulea*. Distribution: NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Reasonably hardy. Very colourful in flower. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera nivea* var. *induta*

🌿🌞🌱

Erect compact shrub to 2m high by 1m across with silvery grey, linear leaves, to 3cm. Bears blue flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Outstanding foliage and feature shrub. Reasonably hardy. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera nivea* var. *nivea*

Snowy Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱

Open shrub to 3m high by 3m across. Leaves are light green, linear, to 4cm. Flowers, usually white, occasionally blue, occur in spring. (See illustration, p. 462.) Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. Good species for the novice grafter. CULTIVATION Fast growing; regular pruning is vital. Reasonably hardy. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera ovalifolia*

Common Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱

Erect or spreading shrub to 2.5m high. Leaves are very variable, lanceolate to broadly ovate. Profuse purple flowers in sprays occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or



*Prostanthera ovalifolia*

by grafting. CULTIVATION Most common mint bush in cultivation. Grafting seems to increase life span. Outstanding in flower. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera phyllicifolia*

🌿🌞🌱

Erect shrub to 1.5m high by 1m across. Leaves are broad-linear, to 1.5cm. Axillary flowers, white or pale violet with yellow spots on the lip, occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Very popular in cultivation. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera* 'Poorinda Ballerina'

🌿🌞🌱

Said to be a hybrid between *P. phyllicifolia* and *P. lasianthos*, this erect shrub to 2m has white flowers tinged with lilac, in spring. Said to be relatively hardy. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera prunelloides*

🌿🌞🌱

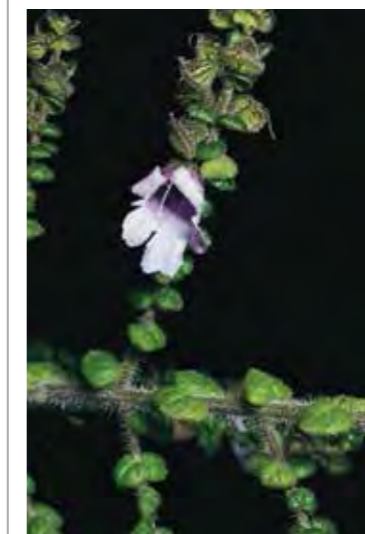
Erect shrub to 2m high by 1m across with ovate to almost

round leaves to 5cm, often finely toothed. Large blue flowers in terminal sprays occur in spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Enjoys considerable shade. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera* 'Ragged Robin'

🌿🌞🌱

Said to be a hybrid between *P. staurophylla* and *P. ovalifolia*, this cultivar develops into a shrub to 3m high. The blue flowers are produced in spring. 🌿🌧️🌱



*Prostanthera rhombea*

### *Prostanthera rhombea*

🌿🌞🌱

Slender wiry shrub to 1m high by 50cm across. Leaves round, 6mm diameter, and covered with stiff hairs. Margins are strongly recurved, giving leaf a rhomboid appearance. Bears purple flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Dainty, with attractive foliage. Reasonably hardy in good conditions. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera ringens*

(Syn. *P. leichhardtii*)

Gaping Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱

Erect bushy shrub to 1.5m high. Leaves are oblong, obovate or ovate, to 1.5cm. Axillary flowers vary from pale blue, green to yellow and occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Relatively hardy. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera rotundifolia*

Round-leaf Mint Bush

🌿🌞🌱

Rounded compact shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are rounded, often toothed, to 1cm. Bears profuse purple, or occasionally pink, flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION Outstanding in flower. Reasonably hardy. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera rugosa*

🌿🌞🌱

Hairy shrub to 1m high (occasionally taller) with ovate leaves to 9mm with toothed margins. Violet flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting. CULTIVATION As for genus. 🌿🌧️🌱

### *Prostanthera saxicola* var. *montana*

🌿🌞🌱

Spreading shrub to 30cm high by 1m across with dark green, elliptical leaves to 1.2cm. Bears large white flowers with purple stripes in throat in spring. Three other varieties are recognised. Distribution: NSW. PROPAGATION From cuttings or



*Prostanthera saxicola*  
var. *montana*

by grafting.

CULTIVATION Useful ground cover. More reliable than many other mint bushes. ☼ ☾

*Prostanthera saxicola* var. *bracteolata*, also in cultivation, may be erect to prostrate with usually mauve flowers and narrower leaves.

### *Prostanthera scutellarioides*

(Syn. *P. empetrifolia*)

☼ ☾ ☿

Erect shrub to 2m high by 1m across. Leaves are linear, to 2cm. Bears purple flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ☼ ☾

### *Prostanthera sericea*

(Syn. *P. baxteri* var. *sericea*)

☼ ☾

Erect shrub to 1.5m, occasionally a small tree to 4m. Linear to terete, grey-green leaves are up to 5cm long. White flowers with purplish streaks inside the tube appear from late winter to summer.

Distribution: WA, NT, SA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.



*Prostanthera striatiflora*

CULTIVATION Suited to semi-arid areas. Good drainage and full sun recommended.

☼ ☾

### *Prostanthera spinosa*

Spiny Mint Bush

☼ ☾ ☿

Low, much-branched, spiny shrub to 60cm high by 1m across. Leaves are narrowly ovate, to 6mm. Bears blue or white flowers in spring. Distribution: Vic, SA. The species from northern NSW, previously given this name is now known as *P. sejuncta*.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION Pretty; useful for well-drained rockery. ☼ ☾

### *Prostanthera staurophylla*

(Syn. *P. teretifolia*)

☼ ☾ ☿

Compact shrub to 1m or a little more with greyish green, terete leaves, occasionally with 2–5 lobes, to 1.4cm. Bears blue axillary flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION Pruning is vital to maintain shape. ☼ ☾ ☿

CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera striatiflora*

Streaked Mint Bush

☼ ☾ ☿

Rounded shrub to 1.5m high by 1.5m across. Leaves narrow-ovate to elliptical, to 2.5cm. Bears large flowers, white with striped throat, in spring.

Distribution: NSW, SA, WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION Outstanding; suitable for dry areas.

☼ ☾ ☿

### *Prostanthera stricta*

Mount Vincent Mint Bush

☼ ☾ ☿

Erect or sprawling shrub to 1.3m high. Densely hairy, ovate leaves to 1.3cm. Bears deep violet flowers in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ☼ ☾

CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

### *Prostanthera violacea*

☼ ☾ ☿

Branching shrub to 1m high by 1m across. Leaves are rounded or lobed, to 6mm, with variously recurved edges. Bears purple flowers in spring.

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION As for genus.

☼ ☾

### *Prostanthera walteri*

Blotchy Mint Bush

☼ ☾ ☿

Rounded shrub to 1m high or slightly taller. Leaves are ovate, to 3cm. Bears greenish tubular flowers with purple streaks in summer. Distribution: NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From cuttings or by grafting.

CULTIVATION Mainly of interest to the collector.

☼ ☾

### *Pseudanthus pimeleoides*

PICRODENDRACEAE

(EUPHORBIACEAE)

☼ ☾ ☿

Rounded shrub to 1m. Linear to narrowly ovate leaves, 4–15mm long. Male and female flowers on the one plant. Male flowers with conspicuous white, linear segments are crowded towards the ends of branches in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Pretty little plant available commercially. Sandy soil, ample moisture and a little shade recommended. ☼



*Psychotria daphnoides*

### *Psychotria daphnoides*

RUBIACEAE

☼ ☾ ☿

Rounded but open shrub to 3m high by 2m across with smooth, narrow-obovate leaves to 8cm, often less. Small white star-shaped flowers in late spring and summer are followed by small, succulent, creamy white fruits. Distribution: NSW, Qld, NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings and probably fresh seed.

CULTIVATION Accepts full sun; also grows well in shady location. Neat foliage; small flowers are well displayed. ☼ ☾

### *Psydrax latifolia*

(Syn. *Canthium latifolium*)

RUBIACEAE

Native Currant

☼ ☾ ☿

Rounded, open shrub to 3m. Leaves ovate to 10cm. Small, fragrant white flowers followed by globular, edible black fruit, 1cm in diameter. Distribution: dry areas of NSW, Qld, SA, WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Unusual foliage for arid area plant. Useful screen for dry areas. ☼ ☾ ☿



*Psydrax odorata*

### *Psydrax odorata*

(Syn. *Canthium odoratum*)

Lamboto

☼ ☾ ☿

Shrub or small tree to 8m high, with leathery, shiny leaves, narrow-elliptical to 8cm, paler on the underside. Fragrant white flowers, about 1cm diameter, are borne in axillary clusters throughout the year. Fruits are black, about 7mm diameter. Distribution: Qld, NSW, WA, NT.

PROPAGATION From seed or cuttings.

CULTIVATION Useful shrub often

developing a layered habit, with the flowers facing upwards along the horizontal branches. Not common in cultivation but well worth growing. Needs well-drained soil and partial shade or full sun. Floral perfume is appealing. ☼ ☾ ☿

### *Psydrax oleifolia*

(Syn. *Canthium oleifolium*)

☼ ☾

Large shrub with strongly perfumed flowers in summer; large thick leaves to 10cm long. Ideal for dry areas. ☼

### *Pultenaea*

FABACEAE

Bacon and Eggs, Bush Peas

*Pultenaea*, with about 140 species, is one of the largest genera of the Australian endemic pea-flowers. Its members vary from prostrate to tall, woody shrubs with diverse foliage types. Flowers are usually yellow or yellow and red and in many species are crowded into dense terminal heads.

They mostly make handsome horticultural subjects but are not grown as much as they deserve. Good drainage is important and a soil rich in leaf litter is an advantage. Most will accept full sun or partial shade. Flowering usually lasts for a month or six weeks in spring, and in many species the foliage provides year-round interest. Propagation is by scarified seed.

### *Pultenaea acerosa*

(Syn. *P. rigida*)

☼ ☾

Erect, stiff shrub to 1m high. Leaves are lanceolate, to 1cm. Bears axillary yellow and red pea-flowers in spring. Distribution: SA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ☼

*Pultenaea altissima****Pultenaea altissima***(Syn. *P. obovata*)

A B C

Erect shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are narrow-obovate, to 1cm. Bears yellow pea-flowers, mainly towards ends of branches, from late winter to summer. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic. PROPAGATION From scarified seed. CULTIVATION Likes some shade. Neat foliage. ☹️❄️🌧️

***Pultenaea baeuerlenii***

Budawang Bush Pea

A B C

Low woolly shrub to 60cm, with terete leaves to 1.5cm with a rough surface. Yellow and red pea-flowers crowded at ends of branches occur in late spring.

*Pultenaea empetrifolia*

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Rarely seen in cultivation. ❄️

CONSERVATION STATUS Vulnerable.

***Pultenaea blakelyi***

A B C

Slender shrub to 2m high. Leaves oblong, to 3cm. Bears yellow pea-flowers in spring.

Distribution: NSW, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Prune annually after flowering. ❄️

***Pultenaea daphnoides***

Large-leaf Bush Pea

A B C D

Erect shrub to 3m high by 1.5m across with dark green leaves, obovate, with a flattened end. Yellow and red pea-flowers in terminal heads appear in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, Tas, SA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION One of the most common bush peas. Accepts reasonable shade. ☹️❄️

***Pultenaea empetrifolia***

A G

Low spreading shrub to 40cm high by 50cm across with terete leaves to 1cm. Yellow and red pea-flowers in heads occur in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

***Pultenaea euchila***

A B C D

Erect shrub to 3m high by 1.5m across. Leaves are narrow-obovate, to 2cm, with a rounded tip. Yellow pea-flowers about 1.5cm long occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Reasonably hardy.

❄️

***Pultenaea ferruginea***

A B C

Erect shrub to 1m high by 60cm across. Leaves are obovate, 3–15mm long. Yellow pea-flowers are borne near the branch ends in spring.

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

***Pultenaea flexilis***

A B C

Erect shrub to 4m high by 2m across. Leaves are narrow-oblong, to 2cm. Profuse yellow and red pea-flowers occur in spring.

Distribution: Qld, NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Good background shrub. Likes some shade. ☹️❄️

***Pultenaea glabra***(Syn. *P. weindorferi*)

Swamp Bush Pea

A C

Slender erect shrub to 1.5m with broad linear leaves to 1cm. Yellow pea-flowers are borne in crowded heads near the branch ends in spring. Large dark stipules found at base of floral leaves.

Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Accepts damper situations than most *Pultenaea* spp. Well-mulched soil in full sun is ideal. ❄️

***Pultenaea gunnii***

Golden Bush Pea

A C

Open, sometimes spreading shrub, to 1.5m high by 1.5m across, often smaller. Leaves vary in shape from ovate to narrow-oblong, and 3–8mm long. Golden yellow pea-flowers cover the shrub in spring. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed and probably cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very colourful in flower. Withstands frost. Good drainage but ample moisture recommended. Tolerates some shade. ☹️❄️

***Pultenaea humilis***

A C

Low spreading shrub to 60cm high by 1m across. Crowded, hairy leaves are narrow-elliptical, to 1.5cm long. Orange and apricot pea-flowers are borne in the leaf axils near the branch ends in spring. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas (rare in NSW and Tas).

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Very showy in flower; foliage is also interesting. Well-drained site in full sun or part shade suitable. Good rockery plant. ❄️🌧️

***Pultenaea largiflorens***

Twiggy Bush Pea

A C

Stiff sprawling plant to 1m high by 1.5m across. Light green leaves, narrow, wedge-shaped, 3–10mm. Bears yellow and red pea-flowers in axillary clusters in spring.

Distribution: NSW, Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

***Pultenaea microphylla***

A B C D

Prostrate or erect plant to 1m high. Leaves are narrow-obovate, 2–9mm, with a blunt end. Bears yellow and red pea-flowers in upper axils in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Perfectly drained situations. Prostrate forms make useful ground covers. ❄️

***Pultenaea polifolia***

Dusky Bush Pea

A B C

Weak, spreading, open shrub to 30cm high by 1m across, occasionally prostrate. Leaves are linear to obovate, 2–30mm. Bears yellow and red pea-flowers in spring.

Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Best suited for a rockery or wall where branches can hang down. Long-lived in cultivation. Full sun is satisfactory. ❄️

*Pultenaea scabra****Pultenaea scabra***

Rough Bush Pea

A B C

Erect shrub to 2m high by 1.5m across, with hairy young branches and leaves. Leaves are wedge-shaped, to 1cm long, either blunt or 2-lobed at the tip. Yellow and brown pea-flowers are seen in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, Vic, SA.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Frost-hardy. Good spring display. Neat foliage. Good drainage and sunny site suggested. ❄️🌧️

***Pultenaea spinosa***(Syn. *Pultenaea cunninghamii*)

Grey Bush Pea

A B C

Erect or rarely prostrate plant. Upright form, with open habit, rarely exceeds 1m in cultivation, often taller in the field. Leaves are light green, rounded, with a pointed tip, 1.2cm long.

Orange-red pea-flowers occur in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Prostrate form available commercially.

Attractive shrub. ❄️🌧️

*Pultenaea stipularis****Pultenaea stipularis***

A B C

Erect, sparsely branched shrub to 1m high by 60cm across. Soft pine-like leaves to 4cm. Dense terminal heads of yellow pea-flowers occur in spring. Distribution: NSW.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION One of the best *Pultenaea* spp. Attractive foliage. Hardy in well-drained, semi-shaded locations.

☹️❄️🌧️

*Quoya dilatata****Pultenaea subalpina***

Rosy Bush Pea

A C

Erect shrub to 1m high by 70cm across. Leaves terete, to 2cm. Pink pea-flowers occur in spring. Distribution: Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

Has been grown from cuttings.

CULTIVATION Rare; difficult to maintain in cultivation. Pink flowers are spectacular. ❄️

***Pultenaea subspicata***

A C

Low spreading shrub to 80cm high by 1m across. Leaves are linear, to 1cm. Bears yellow and red pea-flowers in terminal heads in spring.

Distribution: NSW, ACT, Vic.

PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION As for genus. ❄️

***Pultenaea villosa***

A B C D

Pendulous, spreading shrub to 1.3m high by 2m across. Leaves hairy, narrow-oblong, to 6mm. Bears yellow pea-flowers towards ends of branches in spring. Distribution: Qld, NSW. PROPAGATION From scarified seed.

CULTIVATION Hardy. Very attractive habit. Looks well in well-drained soil at pool

edge. Compact form with very dense foliage, collected by the author at Anna Bay near Port Stephens, NSW, retains its form in cultivation and makes a fine specimen plant.

❄️ 🌧️ 🌞

***Quoya dilatata***(Syn. *Pityrodia dilatata*)VERBENACEAE  
(CHLOANTHACEAE)

A C G

Spreading shrub to 30cm by 60cm. Leaves are ovate, grey-green, to 2cm, with a rough surface. Tubular orange flowers are borne in spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings, without mist.

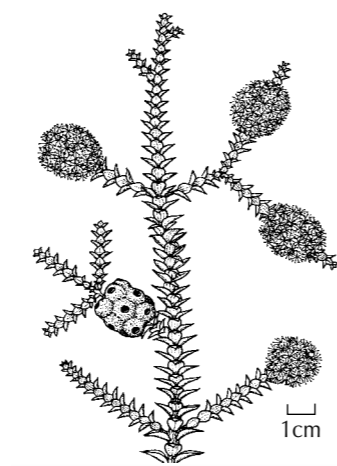
CULTIVATION Grown in Canberra for some years. Unusual shrub, mainly for collectors. Slightly frost tender.

***Regelia***

MYRTACEAE

Endemic to Australia, this small genus consists of five showy, woody shrubs, all from Western Australia. In cultivation they have proved moderately hardy in well-drained soil. Flowers, superficially similar to *Melaleuca* but differing in their floral structure, are colourful

and well displayed. Foliage is also neat, with leaves arranged in two pairs of opposite rows. Propagation is easy from seed and most have also been grown from cuttings.

*Regelia ciliata****Regelia ciliata***

A B C G

Spreading shrub to 1.3m high by 2m across. Hairy leaves are ovate, to 1cm. Mauve flowers, about 1.5cm diameter, are dotted among foliage for most of the year in mild climates. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Accepts full sun or a little shade. Long flowering.

❄️ 🌧️ 🌞

***Regelia inops***

A G

Erect stiff shrub, to 1m high or a little more, sparsely branched. Leaves are small, ovate, held close to stem. Flowers are mauve, in terminal clusters, and occur mainly in spring.

Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Prune to encourage branching. ❄️

***Regelia velutina***(Syn. *R. grandiflora*)

Barrens Regelia

A C G

*Regelia velutina*

Erect, almost pyramidal shrub to 3m high by 1.5m across.

Soft, greyish, ovate to lanceolate leaves, to 1.3cm. Bears brilliant red flowers in terminal spikes to 4cm long in spring and summer. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From seed.

CULTIVATION Most striking.

Suitable for feature planting. Often shy to flower in the eastern States.

Possibly 7–8 years from seed before flowers appear.

❄️ 🌧️ 🌞

***Rhadinothamnus euphemiae***(Syn. *Nematolepis euphemiae*)

RUTACEAE

A G

Low shrub to 50cm high by 30cm across with grey-green leaves

*Rhododendron viriosum*

to 2cm, crowded and 2-lobed. Flowers are small, 4-petaled, greenish, and occur in spring. Distribution: WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Most unusual, grown purely for its foliage. Requires well-drained, semi-shaded position. ❄️ 🌧️

***Rhagodia candolleana***(often incorrectly referred to as *R. baccata*)

CHENOPODIACEAE

Coastal Saltbush

A B G H

Erect shrub to 2.5m high by 2.5m across. Leaves are broad-lanceolate to ovate, to 3cm. Terminal flower spikes are followed by red berries most of the year in mild climates. Two subspecies are recognised. Distribution: NSW, Vic, Tas, SA, WA.

PROPAGATION From cuttings.

CULTIVATION Very hardy on the coast and inland. Good screen plant. Resistant to salt spray. May be suitable for sand-dune stabilisation.

❄️ 🌧️ 🌞

***Rhododendron viriosum***

ERICACEAE

A B D E

Low, often spreading shrub to 80cm high by 80cm across. Ovate, dark green, thick-textured leaves, to 7cm. Brilliant red trumpet-like flowers, about 5cm across the mouth, occur in spring and summer. Distribution: Qld. PROPAGATION From cuttings or seed.

CULTIVATION It was long believed that Australia had only one native rhododendron, however a second species was described in 1996 and given the name *R. notiale*. Further research showed that this species was the one described originally by Mueller in 1886 as *R. lochiaie*. This necessitated giving a new name to the species in common cultivation. *R. viriosum* was thus described in 2002 and applies to the one commonly grown. Both species are easy to grow, either in a shaded corner of the garden in well-composted, acid soil or as a pot plant in a peaty mix, which may be brought indoors when in flower. Striking shrub for mild climates. Canberra's winters are just too cold. It will tolerate temperatures to  $-3^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

❄️ 🌧️ 🌞

***Richea***

ERICACEAE (EPACRIDACEAE)

There are 10 species of *Richea*, nine of them endemic to Tasmania, the other occurring in the alps of New South Wales and Victoria. They are stiff, woody shrubs or small trees with tapering, stem-clasping leaves, which vary from 1cm to over 1m long. The larger species look more like palms than dicotyledons. The taller species are rarely branched. Flowers are usually pink or white and mostly borne in terminal spikes. As foliage plants they are outstanding. Rarely seen in cultivation, even in their native Tasmania, these interesting plants have great potential.