

The Palatability of Central Australian Plant Species to Camels

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BACKGROUND

About 600,000 camels (*Camelus dromedarius*) are believed to inhabit the arid centre of Australia, mainly in South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Most of these camels are feral. A small camel industry has developed, which harvests selected animals for domestic and export markets, primarily for meat. Camels can eat more than 80% of the common plant species found in Central Australia. Some plant species are actively sought by camels and may need to be protected.

METHOD

Observations of grazing preferences by camels were made periodically for up to 12 years on five cattle stations in Central Australia. Where camels were accustomed to the presence of humans, it was possible to observe their grazing preferences from a few metres. Radio transmitters were fitted on some camels for easy detection and observation at any time. These evaluations were used to establish a diet preference or palatability index for observed food plants.

Table 1. Palatability index for camels

Index	Interpretation
1	only eaten when nothing else is available
2	rarely eaten
3	common food plant
4	main food plant at times
5	preferred food plant
6	highly preferred food plant
7	could be killed by camel browsing

More information can be obtained from the web site of the Central Australian Camel Industry Association <http://www.camelsaust.com.au>

RESULTS

Table 2. Palatability of various plant species to camels

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Abutilon fraseri</i>	Malvaceae	4	Dwarf lantern flower
<i>Abutilon macrum</i>	Malvaceae	3	Slender lantern bush
<i>Abutilon otocarpum</i>	Malvaceae	3	Desert Chinese lantern
<i>Acacia adsurgens</i>	Mimosaceae	3	Sugar brother
<i>Acacia aneura</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Mulga
<i>Acacia cambagei</i>	Mimosaceae	4	Gidgee
<i>Acacia coriacea</i>	Mimosaceae	3	Dogwood
<i>Acacia dictyophleba</i>	Mimosaceae	3	Sandhill wattle
<i>Acacia estrophiolata</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Ironwood
<i>Acacia farnesiana</i>	Mimosaceae	6	Mimosa bush
<i>Acacia georginae</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Georgina gidgee
<i>Acacia inaequilatera</i>	Mimosaceae	4	Fire wattle
<i>Acacia jennerae</i>	Mimosaceae	4	Coonavittra wattle
<i>Acacia kempeana</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Witchetty bush
<i>Acacia ligulata</i>	Mimosaceae	6	Umbrella bush
<i>Acacia maitlandii</i>	Mimosaceae	4	Maitland's wattle
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	* Mimosaceae	6	Prickly acacia
<i>Acacia peuce</i>	Mimosaceae	3	Waddy wood
<i>Acacia pruniocarpa</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Black gidgee
<i>Acacia ramulosa</i>	Mimosaceae	3	Horse mulga
<i>Acacia salicina</i>	Mimosaceae	5	Cooba, native willow
<i>Acacia sessiliceps</i>	Mimosaceae	7	Curly-pod wattle
<i>Acacia tetragonophylla</i>	Mimosaceae	6	Dead finish
<i>Acacia victoriae</i>	Mimosaceae	6	Acacia bush
<i>Acetosa vesicaria</i>	* Polygonaceae	4	Ruby dock
<i>Allocasuarina decaisneana</i>	Casuarinaceae	2	Desert oak
<i>Alternanthera angustifolia</i>	Amaranthaceae	3	Narrow-leaf joy weed
<i>Amaranthus interruptus</i>	Amaranthaceae	2	Native amaranth
<i>Amyema maidenii</i>	Loranthaceae	5	Pale-leaf mistletoe
<i>Amyema preissii</i>	Loranthaceae	5	Wire-leaf mistletoe
<i>Anthobolus leptomerioides</i>	Santalaceae	6	Desert broom bush
<i>Aristida biglandulosa</i>	Poaceae	2	Two gland three awn
<i>Aristida contorta</i>	Poaceae	2	Bunched kerosene grass
<i>Aristida holathera</i>	Poaceae	2	Erect kerosene grass
<i>Aristida inaequiglumis</i>	Poaceae	2	Unequal three awn
<i>Astrebla pectinata</i>	Poaceae	2	Barley Mitchell grass
<i>Atalaya hemiglauca</i>	Sapindaceae	6	Whitewood
<i>Atriplex holocarpa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Pop saltbush
<i>Atriplex elachnophylla</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Annual saltbush
<i>Atriplex humifusa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Spreading saltbush
<i>Atriplex limbata</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Spreading saltbush
<i>Atriplex nummularia</i>	Chenopodiaceae	6	Old Man saltbush
<i>Atriplex vesicaria</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Bladder saltbush
<i>Blennodia canescens</i>	Brassicaceae	2	Native stock
<i>Boerhavia coccinea</i>	Nyctaginaceae	6	Tar vine
<i>Boerhavia diffusa</i>	Nyctaginaceae	6	
<i>Boerhavia dominii</i>	Nyctaginaceae	6	
<i>Boerhavia repleta</i>	Nyctaginaceae	6	
<i>Boerhavia schomburgkiana</i>	Nyctaginaceae	6	Yipa
<i>Brachiaria gilesii</i>	Poaceae	2	Hairy-edged arm grass

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Brachychiton gregorii</i>	Sterculiaceae	5	Desert kurrajong
<i>Brachycome ciliaris</i>	Asteraceae	3	Variable daisy
<i>Brassica turnefortii</i>	* Brassicaceae	3	Wild turnip
<i>Bulbostylis barbata</i>	Cyperaceae	2	Short-leaved rush
<i>Calandrinia balonensis</i>	Portulacaceae	5	Broad-leaf parakeelya
<i>Calandrinia pleiopetala</i>	Portulacaceae	4	
<i>Calandrinia pumila</i>	Portulacaceae	3	Tiny parakeelya
<i>Calandrinia stagnensis</i>	Portulacaceae	4	
<i>Calocephalus platycephalus</i>	Asteraceae	3	Yellow billy buttons
<i>Calotis hispidula</i>	Asteraceae	5	Bogan flea
<i>Calotis kempei</i>	Asteraceae	3	
<i>Calotis latiuscula</i>	Asteraceae	3	Leafy burr-daisy
<i>Calotis plumulifera</i>	Asteraceae	3	Woolly-headed burr-daisy
<i>Calotis porphyroglossa</i>	Asteraceae	3	Channel burr-daisy
<i>Canthium latifolium</i>	Rubiaceae	5	Native currant
<i>Capparis mitchelli</i>	Capparaceae	6	Wild orange
<i>Capparis spinosa</i>	Capparaceae	6	Caper bush
<i>Carissa lanceolata</i>	Apocynaceae	6	Conker berry
<i>Cassytha filiformis</i>	Lauraceae	5	Love vine
<i>Cenchrus ciliaris</i>	* Poaceae	3	Buffel grass
<i>Centipeda minima</i>	Asteraceae	2	Spreading sneeze weed
<i>Chenopodium auricomum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Northern bluebush
<i>Chenopodium cristatum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Crested goosefoot
<i>Chenopodium melanocarpum</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Black-fruited goosefoot
<i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i>	Asteraceae	3	Common everlasting
<i>Chrysocephalum eremaeum</i>	Asteraceae	3	Sandhill everlasting
<i>Chrysocephalum semicalvum</i>	Asteraceae	3	Hill everlasting
<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	* Cucurbitaceae	3	Wild melon
<i>Cleome viscosa</i>	Capparaceae	6	Tickweed
<i>Clerodendrum floribundum</i>	Verbenaceae	2	Smooth spider bush
<i>Codonocarpus continiifolius</i>	Gyrostemonaceae	6	Desert poplar
<i>Convolvulus erubescens</i>	Convolvulaceae	3	Australian bindweed
<i>Corymbia aparrerinja</i>	Myrtaceae	4	Ghost gum
<i>Corymbia chippendalei</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Sandhill bloodwood
<i>Corymbia deserticola</i>	Myrtaceae	4	Desert bloodwood
<i>Corymbia eremaea</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Hill bloodwood
<i>Corymbia opaca</i>	Myrtaceae	4	Bloodwood
<i>Crotalaria cunninghamii</i>	Fabaceae	6	Bird flower
<i>Crotalaria eremaea</i>	Fabaceae	5	Desert rattlepod
<i>Crotalaria smithiana</i>	Fabaceae	5	Yellow rattlepod
<i>Cuscuta victoriana</i>	Convolvulaceae	5	
<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	* Poaceae	2	Couch grass
<i>Cyperus bulbosus</i>	Cyperaceae	3	Yalka
<i>Dactyloctenium radulans</i>	Poaceae	3	Button grass
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	* Fabaceae	2	Himalayan raintree
<i>Dampiera candidans</i>	Goodeniaceae	4	
<i>Dampiera cinerea</i>	Goodeniaceae	2	
<i>Dichanthium sericeum</i>	Poaceae	2	Silky bluegrass
<i>Digitaria ammophila</i>	Poaceae	2	Silky umbrella grass
<i>Digitaria coenicola</i>	Poaceae	3	Umbrella grass
<i>Diplachne fusca</i>	Poaceae	2	Brown beetle grass
<i>Dipteracanthus australasicus</i>	Acanthaceae	2	
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Sapindaceae	1	Sticky hopbush
<i>Dysphania kalpari</i>	Chenopodiaceae	2	Rat-tailed goosefoot
<i>Dysphania plantaginella</i>	Chenopodiaceae	3	Crumbweed

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Dysphania radinostachya</i>	Chenopodiaceae	2	Rat tails
<i>Einadia nutans</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Climbing saltbush
<i>Enchylaena tomentosa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Ruby saltbush
<i>Enneapogon avenaceus</i>	Poaceae	2	Native oat-grass
<i>Enneapogon cylindricus</i>	Poaceae	2	Limestone oat-grass
<i>Enneapogon polyphyllus</i>	Poaceae	2	Woolly oat-grass
<i>Enteropogon acicularis</i>	Poaceae	2	Curly windmill grass
<i>Enteropogon minutus</i>	Poaceae	2	
<i>Eragrostis cumingii</i>	Poaceae	2	Cumings lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis dielsii</i>	Poaceae	2	Mallee lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis eriopoda</i>	Poaceae	2	Woollybut grass
<i>Eragrostis falcata</i>	Poaceae	3	Sickle lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis lacunaria</i>	Poaceae	2	Purple lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis leptocarpa</i>	Poaceae	2	Drooping lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis setifolia</i>	Poaceae	2	Neverfail
<i>Eremophea spinosa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	4	
<i>Eremophila duttonii</i>	Myoporaceae	3	Harlequin fuchsia-bush
<i>Eremophila elderi</i>	Myoporaceae	2	Sticky fuchsia-bush
<i>Eremophila freelingii</i>	Myoporaceae	2	Rock fuchsia-bush
<i>Eremophila gilesii</i>	Myoporaceae	1	Mulga fuchsia
<i>Eremophila latrobei</i>	Myoporaceae	3	Native fuchsia
<i>Eremophila longifolia</i>	Myoporaceae	6	Long-leaved desert fuchsia
<i>Eremophila macdonnelli</i>	Myoporaceae	2	Splendid fuchsia
<i>Eremophila maculata</i>	Myoporaceae	2	Spotted fuchsia
<i>Eremophila sturtii</i>	Myoporaceae	1	Turpentine bush
<i>Eremophila willsii</i>	Myoporaceae	1	Sandhill native fuchsia
<i>Eriachne aristidea</i>	Poaceae	2	Three-awn wanderrie
<i>Erythrina vespertilio</i>	Fabaceae	7	Bean tree
<i>Eucalyptus camadulensis</i>	Myrtaceae	3	River red gum
<i>Eucalyptus coolabah</i> ssp. <i>arida</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Coolabah
<i>Eucalyptus gammophylla</i>	Myrtaceae	5	Blue mallee
<i>Eucalyptus intertexta</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Bastard coolabah
<i>Eucalyptus pachyphylla</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Red-bud mallee
<i>Euphorbia australis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	3	Hairy caustic weed
<i>Euphorbia biconvexa</i>	Euphorbiaceae	4	
<i>Euphorbia drummondii</i>	Euphorbiaceae	2	Caustic weed
<i>Euphorbia tannensis</i>	Euphorbiaceae	3	Caustic bush
<i>Euphorbia wheeleri</i>	Euphorbiaceae	2	Wheelers spurge
<i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i>	Convolvulaceae	3	Blue periwinkle
<i>Fimbristylis dichotoma</i>	Cyperaceae	4	Eight day grass
<i>Frankenia cordata</i>	Frankeniaceae	2	Salty heath
<i>Galactia tenuiflora</i>	Fabaceae	4	Poison pea
<i>Glycine canescens</i>	Fabaceae	3	Silky glycine
<i>Glycine falcata</i>	Fabaceae	5	
<i>Goodenia armitiana</i>	Goodeniaceae	3	Narrow-leaved goodenia
<i>Goodenia lunata</i>	Goodeniaceae	2	Heavy-soil hand-flower
<i>Goodenia virgata</i>	Goodeniaceae	2	
<i>Gossypium australe</i>	Malvaceae	1	Native cotton
<i>Grevillea eriostachya</i>	Proteaceae	5	Honey grevillea
<i>Grevillea juncifolia</i>	Proteaceae	6	Desert grevillea
<i>Grevillea stenobotrya</i>	Proteaceae	3	Sandhill grevillea
<i>Grevillea striata</i>	Proteaceae	4	Beefwood
<i>Grevillea wickhammii</i>	Proteaceae	3	Holy-leaf grevillea
<i>Gunniopsis zygophylloides</i>	Aizoaceae	2	Twin-leaf pigface

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Hakea divaricata</i>	Proteaceae	4	Fork-leaved corkwood
<i>Hakea eyreana</i>	Proteaceae	4	Simpson desert corkwood
<i>Hakea leucoptera</i>	Proteaceae	2	Needlewood
<i>Hakea macrocarpa</i>	Proteaceae	3	Flat-leaved hakea
<i>Hakea suberea</i>	Proteaceae	4	Long-leaf corkwood
<i>Halosarcia halocneimoides</i>	Chenopodiaceae	4	Grey glasswort
<i>Halosarcia indica</i>	Chenopodiaceae	4	Brown-head glasswort
<i>Heliotropium aspernum</i>	Boraginaceae	4	Rough heliotropium
<i>Heliotropium diversifolium</i>	Boraginaceae	4	
<i>Heliotropium glabellum</i>	Boraginaceae	3	
<i>Heliotropium ovalifolium</i>	Boraginaceae	3	
<i>Heliotropium pleiopterum</i>	Boraginaceae	3	
<i>Heliotropium tenuifolium</i>	Boraginaceae	3	Devil's son
<i>Hibiscus krichauffianus</i>	Malvaceae	1	Velvet-leaf hibiscus
<i>Hibiscus sturtii</i> ssp. <i>platyklamys</i>	Malvaceae	1	Sturt's hibiscus
<i>Hybanthus aurantiacus</i>	Violaceae	2	Orange spade flower
<i>Hybanthus enneaspermus</i>	Violaceae	2	Blue spade flower
<i>Indigofera basedowii</i>	Fabaceae	5	Showy indigo
<i>Indigofera colutea</i>	Fabaceae	4	Sticky indigo
<i>Indigofera georgei</i>	Fabaceae	4	Georges indigo
<i>Indigofera helmsii</i>	Fabaceae	4	
<i>Indigofera hirsuta</i>	Fabaceae	4	Hairy indigo
<i>Indigofera linnaei</i>	Fabaceae	5	Nine-leaved indigo
<i>Ipomoea costata</i>	Convolvulaceae	6	Bush potato
<i>Ipomoea muelleri</i>	Convolvulaceae	2	Native morning glory
<i>Iseilema macrantherum</i>	Poaceae	2	Bull Flinders grass
<i>Iseilema vaginiflorum</i>	Poaceae	2	Red Flinders grass
<i>Jasminum lineare</i>	Oleaceae	6	Native jasmine
<i>Keraudrenia integrifolia</i>	Sterculiaceae	2	
<i>Lawrencia glomerata</i>	Malvaceae	6	Clustered lawrencia
<i>Lawrencia squamata</i>	Malvaceae	6	
<i>Lawrencia viridi-grisea</i>	Malvaceae	6	
<i>Lechenaultia divaricata</i>	Goodeniaceae	5	Wire bush
<i>Lepidium muellerifernandi</i>	Brassicaceae	5	Muellers peppergrass
<i>Lepidium phlebopetalum</i>	Brassicaceae	5	Veined peppergrass
<i>Leucochrysum stipitatum</i>	Asteraceae	3	Spinifex everlasting
<i>Lysiana exocarpi</i>	Loranthaceae	6	Harlequin mistletoe
<i>Maireana astrotricha</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Southern bluebush
<i>Maireana georgei</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Golden bluebush
<i>Maireana luehmannii</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Maireana planifolia</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Maireana scleroptera</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Maireana triptera</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Three-wing bluebush
<i>Malvastrum americanum</i>	Malvaceae	4	Spiked malvastrum
<i>Marsdenia australis</i>	Asclepiaceae	6	Bush banana
<i>Marsilea exarata</i>	Marsileaceae	3	Little nardoo
<i>Melaleuca glomerata</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Inland tea tree
<i>Melaleuca lasiandra</i>	Myrtaceae	3	Sandhill teatree
<i>Melhantha oblongifolia</i>	Sterculiaceae	3	Velvet hibiscus
<i>Minuria denticulata</i>	Asteraceae	2	Woolly minuria
<i>Muehlenbeckia florulenta</i>	Polygonaceae	4	Lignum
<i>Neobassia astrocarpa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	4	
<i>Neurachne munroi</i>	Poaceae	2	Dwarf mulga grass
<i>Newcastelia spodioptricha</i>	Verbenaceae	1	Sandhill sage

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Nicotiana benthamiana</i>	Solanaceae	2	Wild tobacco
<i>Nicotiana occidentalis</i>	Solanaceae	2	Native tobacco
<i>Nicotiana rosulata</i>	Solanaceae	2	Sandhill pituri
<i>Othonna gregorii</i>	Asteraceae	5	Annual yellow top
<i>Panicum decompositum</i>	Poaceae	2	Native millet
<i>Panicum effusum</i>	Poaceae	2	Hairy panic
<i>Paractaenum novae-hollandiae</i>	Poaceae	2	Reverse grass
<i>Paractaenum refractum</i>	Poaceae	2	Bristle-brush grass
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	* Caesalpinaceae	6	Parkinsonia
<i>Paspalidium reflexum</i>	Poaceae	2	
<i>Phyllanthus fuernrohrii</i>	Euphorbiaceae	3	Sand spurge
<i>Pimela trichostachya</i>	Thymelaceae	3	Spiked rice flower
<i>Pittosporum phylliraeoides</i>	Pittosporaceae	6	Native apricot
<i>Pluchea dunlopii</i>	Asteraceae	2	
<i>Pluchea rubelliflora</i>	Asteraceae	2	
<i>Pluchea tetranthera</i>	Asteraceae	2	Pink plains bush
<i>Podolepis canescens</i>	Asteraceae	3	Grey podolepis
<i>Podolepis cappillaris</i>	Asteraceae	2	Wiry podolepis
<i>Portulaca intraterranea</i>	Portulacaceae	5	Buttercup pigweed
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Portulacaceae	6	Munjeroo
<i>Portulaca pilosa</i>	Portulacaceae	5	
<i>Pterocaulon serrulatum</i>	Asteraceae	6	Apple bush
<i>Pterocaulon sphacelatum</i>	Asteraceae	6	Apple bush
<i>Ptilotus astrolasius</i>	Amaranthaceae	2	
<i>Ptilotus calostachyus</i>	Amaranthaceae	4	Weeping mulla mulla
<i>Ptilotus clementii</i>	Amaranthaceae	2	Limestone pussycat's tail
<i>Ptilotus helipteroides</i>	Amaranthaceae	3	Hairy mulla mulla
<i>Ptilotus latifolius</i>	Amaranthaceae	3	Tangled mulla mulla
<i>Ptilotus macrocephalus</i>	Amaranthaceae	5	Large green pussy-tails
<i>Ptilotus obovatus</i>	Amaranthaceae	4	Silver bush
<i>Ptilotus polystachyus</i>	Amaranthaceae	5	Long pussy-tails
<i>Ptilotus sessilifolius</i>	Amaranthaceae	4	Crimson foxtail
<i>Ptychosema anomalum</i>	Fabaceae	4	
<i>Rhagodia eremaea</i>	Chenopodiaceae	6	Tall saltbush
<i>Rhagodia spinescens</i>	Chenopodiaceae	6	Spiny saltbush
<i>Rhodanthe charsleyae</i>	Asteraceae	3	Small yellow daisy
<i>Rhodanthe floribunda</i>	Asteraceae	5	White paper daisy
<i>Rhodanthe moschata</i>	Asteraceae	4	Musk daisy
<i>Rhynchosia minima</i>	Fabaceae	6	Native pea
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	* Euphorbiaceae	5	Castor oil plant
<i>Salsola kali</i>	Chenopodiaceae	6	Buckbush
<i>Santalum acuminatum</i>	Santalaceae	7	Quandong
<i>Santalum lanceolatum</i>	Santalaceae	6	Plum bush
<i>Sauropus trachyspermus</i>	Euphorbiaceae	2	Slender spurge
<i>Scaevola collaris</i>	Goodeniaceae	3	
<i>Scaevola collina</i>	Goodeniaceae	4	
<i>Scaevola ovalifolia</i>	Goodeniaceae	3	Bushy fan-flower
<i>Scaevola parvibarbata</i>	Goodeniaceae	3	
<i>Scaevola parvifolia</i>	Goodeniaceae	5	Fan-flower
<i>Scaevola spinescens</i>	Goodeniaceae	4	Spiny fan-flower
<i>Schoenia ayersii</i>	Asteraceae	4	
<i>Schoenia cassiniana</i>	Asteraceae	3	Pink everlasting
<i>Sclerolaena bicornis</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Goathead burr
<i>Sclerolaena birchii</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Galvanised burr

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Sclerolaena clelandii</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Sclerolaena cornishiana</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Cartwheel burr
<i>Sclerolaena costata</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Sclerolaena cuneata</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Succulent copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena deserticola</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Sclerolaena diacantha</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Grey copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena eriacantha</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Silky copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena glabra</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Sclerolaena johnsonii</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Johnsons copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena lanicuspis</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Woolly copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena muricata</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	
<i>Sclerolaena parviflora</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Malley copper burr
<i>Sclerolaena patenticuspis</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Spear-fruit copper burr
<i>Sclerostegia tenuis</i>	Chenopodiaceae	4	Slender Glaswort
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>alicia</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>artemisioides</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Silver cassia
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>filifolia</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Desert cassia
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>helmsii</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Blunt-leaf cassia
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>oligophylla</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Oval-leaf cassia
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> ssp. <i>quadrifolia</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	
<i>Senna artemisioides</i> nssp. <i>sturtii</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Dense cassia
<i>Senna pleurocarpa</i>	Caesalpinaceae	1	Chocolate bush
<i>Sida cunninghamii</i>	Malvaceae	3	
<i>Sida everistiana</i>	Malvaceae	3	
<i>Sida fibuliformis</i>	Malvaceae	5	Silver sida
<i>Sida platycalyx</i>	Malvaceae	4	Lifesaver burr
<i>Solanum centrale</i>	Solanaceae	4	Desert raisin
<i>Solanum coactiliferum</i>	Solanaceae	3	Western nightshade
<i>Solanum ellipticum</i>	Solanaceae	4	Native tomato
<i>Solanum quadriloculatum</i>	Solanaceae	4	Wild tomato
<i>Solanum sturtianum</i>	Solanaceae	3	Thargomindah nightshade
<i>Sporobolus caroli</i>	Poaceae	2	Fairy grass
<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>	Poaceae	2	Salt couch
<i>Stenopetalum anfractum</i>	Brassicaceae	3	Zig-zag plant
<i>Stenopetalum decipiens</i>	Brassicaceae	4	Hill thread-petal
<i>Stenopetalum nutans</i>	Brassicaceae	4	Nodding thread-petal
<i>Stylobasium spathulatum</i>	Surianaceae	5	
<i>Swainsona burkei</i>	Fabaceae	6	
<i>Swainsona cyclocarpa</i>	Fabaceae	6	
<i>Swainsona flavicarinata</i>	Fabaceae	6	Yellow-keeled swainsona
<i>Swainsona laciniata</i>	Fabaceae	6	
<i>Swainsona microphylla</i>	Fabaceae	6	Small-leaf swainsona
<i>Swainsona phacoides</i>	Fabaceae	6	Dwarf swainsona
<i>Swainsona unifoliata</i>	Fabaceae	6	
<i>Synaptantha tillaeacea</i>	Rubiaceae	2	Synaptantha
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	* Tamaricaceae	5	Athel pine
<i>Tecticornia verrucosa</i>	Chenopodiaceae	5	Mungilpa
<i>Tephrosia supina</i>	Fabaceae	2	
<i>Tetragonia eremaea</i>	Aizoaceae	2	

Species	Family	Palatability index	Common name
<i>Threlkeldia inchoata</i>	Chenopodiaceae	2	Tall bonefruit
<i>Tragus australianus</i>	Poaceae	2	Small burr-grass
<i>Trianthema triquetra</i>	Aizoaceae	2	Red spinach
<i>Tribulopsis angustifolia</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	
<i>Tribulus astrocarpus</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	Mulga caltrop
<i>Tribulus eichlerianus</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	Bindi eye
<i>Tribulus hirsutus</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	
<i>Tribulus hystrix</i>	Zygophyllaceae	6	Sandhill puncture vine
<i>Tribulus occidentalis</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	* Zygophyllaceae	6	Caltrop
<i>Trichodesma zeylanicum</i>	Boraginaceae	6	Camel bush
<i>Triodia basedowii</i>	Poaceae	2	Hard spinifex
<i>Triodia pungens</i>	Poaceae	2	Soft spinifex
<i>Triodia salina</i>	Poaceae	2	
<i>Triodia schinzii</i>	Poaceae	1	Feathertop spinifex
<i>Tripogon loliiformis</i>	Poaceae	5	Five-minute grass
<i>Triraphis mollis</i>	Poaceae	3	Purple plume grass
<i>Ventilago viminalis</i>	Rhamnaceae	6	Supplejack
<i>Vittadinia arida</i>	Asteraceae	2	
<i>Vittadinia eremaea</i>	Asteraceae	2	Plains fuss weed
<i>Vittadinia pustulata</i>	Asteraceae	2	
<i>Yakirra australiensis</i>	Poaceae	2	Desert Flinders grass
<i>Zygophyllum aurantiacum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	Shrubby twinleaf
<i>Zygophyllum compressum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	6	Rabbit-ear twinleaf
<i>Zygophyllum emarginatum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	5	
<i>Zygophyllum idiocarpum</i>	Zygophyllaceae	6	Violet twin leaf

The observations on *Parkinsonia aculeata* and *Acacia nilotica* were made by Peter Seidel in Queensland. The former species is rare in Central Australia, and the latter is not known to occur.

* = Introduced species

Species nomenclature is according to Albrecht, D.E.; Duguid, A.W.; Latz, P.K.; Coulson, H. and Barrit, M.J. (1997). *Vascular Plant Checklist for the Southern Bioregions of the Northern Territory: Nomenclature, Distribution and Conservation Status*. Parks and Wildlife Commission of the Northern Territory, ISBN 0 7245 27621, and unpublished updates.

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