

GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE

What's this seedling?

Wondering what the 'green thing' growing around your garden after the recent rains is? Here are some of the common species you might stumble across. The introduced species, which should be removed immediately, are marked with an asterisk*...



Top Left: Desert Chinese Lantern *Abutilon otocarpum*

Top Right: Tar Vine *Boerhavia coccinea* **Bottom Left:** Pigweed *Portulaca oleracea*

Bottom Middle: Caltrop, Bindieye *Tribulus eichlerianus*. This is the native *Tribulus*. The introduced species *Tribulus terrestris**, has slightly smaller flowers, smaller, less hairy fruit and is commonly found around human habitation but is also wide spread out bush.

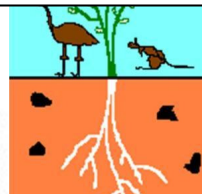
Bottom Right: Fruit Salad Bush *Pterocaulon sphacelatum*



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Top Left: Native Oat-grass *Enneapogon avenaceus*

Top Right: Button Grass *Dactyloctenium radulans*

Bottom Left: Fairy Grass *Sporobolus caroli*

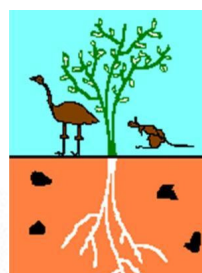
Bottom Right: Woolly Oat-Grass *Enneapogon polyphyllus*



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Top left: *Zaleya galericulata*

Top right: Ruby Saltbush
Enchylaena tomentosa

Bottom left: *Nicotiana* sp.

Bottom middle: Ruby Dock
*Acetosa vesicaria**

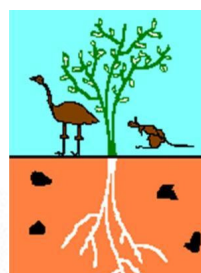
Bottom right: Australian
Bindweed *Convolvulus*
clementii



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And of course, introduced Buffel Grass *Cenchrus ciliaris* has germinated profusely. Buffel Grass seedlings can be recognised by the reddish tinge around the lower stems. The stem joints have distinct fine hairs.

It is also inevitable that any Couch Grass on your block will be growing and producing seed at an exceptionally rapid rate. Now is the perfect time to spray Couch and buffel, as Glyphosate is most effective on young, actively growing plants.

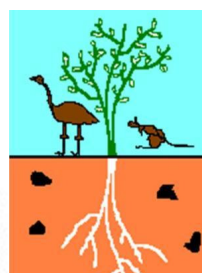
Enjoy the Christmas period, whether you're staying in Alice, or escaping the heat for awhile. Just remember to make sure any irrigation you have is functioning properly, the timer is working, and the pipes aren't leaking, so your plants survive the summer! Ensure your garden mulch is topped up to retain moisture and repress weeds.



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