

Sutherland Shire Plants

A Guide to
Indigenous Plant Species
Suitable for Landscape &
Revegetation Projects



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Introduction

The Sutherland Shire is endowed with unique and extremely diverse vegetation. Species rich heathlands stretch across the exposed coastal headlands of Kurnell and the Royal National Park. Large fragments of remnant Eucalyptus and Angophora forests, with their dark leafy foliage, are woven through, and dominate our suburbs. Subtropical and temperate rainforests shroud the valleys of the upper Hacking River, while rare littoral rainforests are scattered among our sheltered bays. On some urban ridgetops relic shale forests, now considered endangered, provide green open spaces for conservation and recreation. Important freshwater wetlands provide crucial habitat for several rare and endangered flora and fauna species. Extensive mangroves and saltmarshes extend across the southern shores of Botany Bay and colonise the sediment deposits within our estuaries. Over 900 indigenous plants, several nationally rare or threatened, contribute to the Shire's biodiversity, providing habitat for native fauna, and an irreplaceable natural resource to the community.

The natural ecosystems in the Shire are under increasing threat from the effects of urban expansion. Continued clearing of bushland and remnant canopy trees for residential development, the effects of stormwater run off, and the invasion of weed species all contribute to a reduction in the quality of our natural environment. The NSW State of The Environment Report (1996) suggests that "the loss of biological diversity is perhaps our most serious environmental problem." "Australia has lost nearly 70% of all native vegetation." "Whether we look at wetlands, mangroves, bushland, creeks and estuaries, the loss is continuing at an alarming rate."

The intrinsic character of the Shire relies largely on maintaining the distinctive indigenous tree canopy. The long term protection and preservation of the tree canopy, and its associated understorey vegetation, is best achieved through retention of species where ever possible. However revegetation or even individual tree planting, using appropriate plants, still has the ability to enhance the ecological and aesthetic quality of the landscape. Vegetation links, increased fauna habitat and the integration of urban development into the natural landscape can be achieved through the use of indigenous plants.

Purpose of this guide

This booklet aims to assist planners, landscape architects, landscape gardeners, and home gardeners in the selection of appropriate indigenous plants for landscape and revegetation projects in the Sutherland Shire, with the purpose of :

- creating an awareness of the diversity, and promoting the use of, the Shire's indigenous plants;
- encouraging the selection and use of species from each strata in local plant communities, including common understorey plants, climbers, grasses and herbs;
- preserving rare and threatened plants through community awareness and cultivation;

- increasing the potential for native fauna habitat by designing and integrating public and private open spaces into adjoining bushland;
- creating buffer zones and vegetation links around existing bushland and
- discouraging the cultivation of environmental weeds that threaten the survival of indigenous plant communities and native habitat. (see table “Common Weeds of Sutherland Shire”).

Indigenous plants have evolved with the local climate and soils enabling them to survive even the most extreme environmental conditions. When used in cultivation they have a high establishment success rate and require minimum maintenance. Imported soils, fertilisers and irrigation are not necessary if suitable species are selected.

Traditional horticulture in Australia has predominantly attempted to modify the environment to suit our needs, rather than adapting our practices to suit the environment. It is still common for residential blocks with a diversity of at least 100 species of flowering plants, to be cleared for a home and a simplified garden vegetation of lawn and palms. Introducing tonnes of top soil, “improving” it through the use of fertilisers and conditioners and installing a complex irrigation system is quite typical. These practices not only result in an incremental loss of indigenous vegetation, but also require a high establishment and maintenance cost. A landscape of non-indigenous plants also looks incongruous with the natural environment and diminished potential habitat for the native fauna.

There are subtle variations in the genetic make up of plant populations of the same species, enabling them to survive in specific microclimates. To protect the Shires’ biodiversity it is essential to maintain the genetic integrity of indigenous species. Seeds and cutting material for propagation should be taken from local provenances to maintain the genetic diversity of local populations and ensure a greater success rate in landscape plantings.

The utilisation of indigenous plants into landscape and revegetation projects is a sound environmental management practice, endorsed by many local, state and national policies and strategies. Documents include: SSC Tree and Vegetation Planting Policy (2001); SSC Greenweb Strategy (2001), Sutherland Shire Biodiversity Strategy (2000), the SSC Landscape DCP (2001); and the Green Web- Sydney Vegetation Management Plan (1997). The concept is also in accord with the principles of The National Strategy for Environmental Sustainable Development (ESD) (1992).

Scope of this guide

The selection of plants covered in this booklet is not a complete species list of the Shire. Many indigenous plants, such as most members of the Epacridaceae family, are difficult to propagate and have not been included. This booklet contains 400 plants indigenous to the Sutherland Shire. The list is made up of those plants currently available in local nurseries, or with the potential to be propagated in commercial quantities. Many will not be readily available, but as customers request new species, and nursery personnel discover effective techniques for their propagation, the number of species brought into cultivation will increase.

Even rare or uncommon species can become familiar garden specimens as nurseries discover them and build up a supply of stock plants. Both the Chefs’ Cap Correa (*Correa baeuerlenii*)

and *Grevillea shiresii*, are nationally rare plants that have now become very common landscape plants and available at most nurseries.

In addition to the indigenous plants described, a supplementary list of 46 “native” plants has been included. These plants have proven to be reliable and readily available in the Shire. In the Special Uses category- Deciduous Trees, a selection of exotic plants has been incorporated in recognition of the need for deciduous trees in the urban landscape. First priority should always be to select from the indigenous list unless the specific landscape requirements cannot be met.

For convenience the Shire has been divided into four broad urban environmental zones. The divisions will be sufficient for selection in most cases, however if a more site-specific list of indigenous plant species is required, then consultation with Council staff can be arranged.

For the planting and selection of street trees the Sutherland Shire Urban Tree Policy (1991) should be consulted.

Many suggested species have not been tested in cultivation. As plants are trialed and more detailed information is gathered this document will be updated. Feedback and suggestions from plant users are welcomed

Explanation of plant terms

Indigenous-	Species that occur naturally to a given area, but may not be restricted to only that area. <i>Banksia integrifolia</i> is indigenous to the Shire, however it also occurs along the east coast of Australia
Endemic-	Species that occur naturally, and are restricted to a given area. Scribbly Gum <i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i> is endemic to Australia as it only occurs here. Many plants indigenous to the Shire are endemic to Sydney eg. Shining Guinea Flower <i>Hibbertia nitida</i>
Native-	A general term referring to any plant indigenous to Australia including cultivars.
Cultivar-	A registered native plant that is a result of a hybridisation, selection or plant breeding. The cultivar is written in inverted commas, eg. <i>Grevillea ‘Robyn Gordon’</i> .
Exotic-	An introduced plant from outside Australia.

Plant Selection Criteria

Landscape Uses

1. Shade tolerant

Very few plants can tolerate full shade except for some ferns. Most plants are capable of growing in a wide range of light levels, but generally flower less, grow taller and have foliage that is more open when grown in shade. Shade beneath trees is usually dappled and many understorey species have been recommended suitable for these conditions. Some trees marked for shade tolerance are rainforest plants that are adapted to shade when young, but at maturity will grow in full sun.

2. Wet areas

Shallow poorly drained soils, ponds, creek banks, and seasonally wet sites all require plant species adapted to soils with periodic high moisture levels. If the site also experiences dry periods, heavy mulching will be beneficial to retain soil moisture. A selection of species suitable for stormwater detention and retention ponds and constructed wetlands has been included in the Special Uses section.

3. Screening

Good screening qualities in plants is usually an essential ingredient in urban landscaping. It is often difficult to attain this with a single row of plants. A staggered double row, if space permits, is more effective. Some trees or large shrubs are suitable for screening once they reach a particular height, however as they mature and the lower foliage drops they become less effective. Careful planning incorporating a mixture of appropriate trees, shrubs and understorey plants will provide a long term screen. Pruning encourages dense branching and the best screening plants should tolerate some pruning. Consideration of sight lines from elevated living areas or multistorey buildings is often overlooked and can require larger trees strategically placed to give privacy instead of using only shrubs.

Climbers can be incorporated into screening design by growing them over lattice, wire fences or pergolas. Narrow spaces can be treated successfully in this way.

4. Bird attracting

Birds utilise vegetation for food, shelter, and nesting materials. Plants provide food in the form of nectar, fruit and seeds. Insects are associated with most plants and are an important food source for birds. Insects should be regarded as a positive aspect in the garden rather than pests. Some birds prefer dense prickly shrubs for protection or nesting sites, while others require hollows in old trees. Existing old trees with hollows are invaluable and worth preserving, providing they are safe. Consider pruning existing dead trees and retaining them.

Potential habitat for a variety of birds can be created on site by selecting a diversity of plant species. Creating plantings with structural diversity, ie a range of vegetation levels, texture

and densities is just as important in attracting birds as selecting plants for a food source. Choose seed and nectar producing plants, utilise plants that flower at different times and underplant with prickly species to create a dense cover from predators and encourage insects.

5. Bush tucker/ Aboriginal use

The Aborigines were intimately aware of their environment and nurtured a precise knowledge and understanding of the local flora. Except for a few shreds of superficial information, knowledge of the skilful use of plants that was learnt and passed on for hundreds of generations is now lost to the people of the Shire

Berries, stems, roots, gum, nectar and seeds were a large part of the aborigines diet. Bark was fashioned into canoes and used to wrap food prior to cooking, while timber was made into tools and utensils. The fibre of many local plants was an important resource in the manufacture of hand woven nets and bags.

The regular onset of flowering by specific plants was read like a calendar, indicating the appropriate time for the collection of molluscs, crabs, fruits and other events.

Many people find it fascinating knowing the traditional uses of indigenous plants. Incorporating them into a landscape design adds special interest while promoting an appreciation of Aboriginal skills and culture.

- Before tasting any bush tucker further advice should be sought from experts or relevant literature.

6. Rainforest garden

The Sutherland Shire contains small littoral rainforest communities along sheltered bays near the coast, in the national parks at Towra Point and Palm Jungle. Small remnants are located in urban areas including Darook Park, Marina Crescent Reserve, Lilli Pilli Point and Grays Point reserves. The northern limit of the Illawarra subtropical rainforests occur in the Shire on the banks of the upper Hacking River in the Royal National Park.

Rainforest trees in the Shire don't grow as tall as the same species growing in northern NSW or QLD because of limiting local environmental conditions such as cooler temperatures, poorer soils and less rainfall. Garden specimens mostly only reach a fraction of the potential size they attain in the local rain forests.

The dense leafy foliage, interesting fruits and their longevity make rainforest plants excellent specimens when cultivated in sheltered gardens with adequate soil moisture. Native rainforest birds such as the Brown Pigeon, White Headed Pigeon and Satin Bowerbirds can be attracted to rainforest fruits in urban gardens. Creating a rainforest garden should only be attempted where moist sheltered conditions exist.

Selecting plants for shaded south facing slopes or sites between buildings can be difficult. If space permits, rainforest trees and shrubs can be utilised in these situations. As they grow beyond the shaded area they are mostly capable of tolerating the exposure to full sun.

Rainforest gardens benefit from heavy mulching. Soil fertility and structure is improved, moisture is retained and weeds are suppressed.

7. Feature plant

Feature plants need to possess strong aesthetic qualities, which allow them to be used independently, and not necessarily part of a mass planting. They need to be long lived, have a strong predictable form and usually display attributes such as attractive flowers, fruits and/ or bark. Often they are used as specimen plants to provide shade in lawns and courtyards or as a focal point in the landscape.

Urban Environment Zones in the Shire

The urban areas in the Shire can be divided into four major environment zones based broadly on topography and geology (see adjoining map).

The ability of a landscape project to integrate into the surrounding environment depends partly on selecting plant species that occur naturally nearby. Coastal Banksias *Banksia integrifolia* for example, not only perform well on the coast but also help to create a sense of place. You expect to see them around the coastal zone and they look right. Grown at Menai, Coastal Banksias would look out of place. To maintain species integrity plants should be selected from the recommended Urban Zone, even though they may still be able to grow in other zones. If “native” plants and “cultivars” are used this is not critical.

Coastal and estuarine

The ancient sand dunes of Kurnell, Cronulla and parts of Woollooware are among the harshest environments in the shire. Plants have to tolerate salt laden winds and soil that are well-drained and extremely low in nutrients. Species grown under these conditions are much smaller and compact than if they are grown in protected environments. Plants should be spaced at higher than average densities to reduce the effects of exposure to strong winds.

The Sutherland Shire drains into 3 main river systems, the Woronora, Hacking and Georges Rivers. Their tidal foreshores often provide a saline environment with conditions similar to the coast. Many coastal plant species have a range that extends along the edges of bays and into the saltmarshes of our major estuarine systems.

In protected coastal locations and sheltered bays with adequate soil moisture, many species typical of littoral rainforest can be successfully cultivated.

Sandstone slopes & gullies

The majority of the Shire is situated on sandstone slopes. Outcrops of sandstone and open Eucalypt forests are typical natural features of these urban landscapes. The characteristic grey sandy soils are derived from Hawkesbury Sandstone and are low in nutrients and organic matter. Frequently encountered are pockets of clay sub-soil derived from shale lenses.

A variety of microclimates exist depending on slope, aspect, available moisture, soil depth and other features of the site. A diverse range of plants are adapted and can be cultivated in these habitats. Many rainforest species are particularly useful in shady gullies.

Exposed ridges

This zone is usually exposed to drying winds, full sun, and receives little surface run-off. The soils are shallow, low in nutrients and consist of weathered sandstone, gravely ironstone or pockets of clay. It is a harsh environment supporting low woodland vegetation with similar species to sandstone slopes, though not growing as tall. Scribbly Gums, Bloodwoods and Stringybarks dominate the natural vegetation. Higher areas in Engadine, Loftus, Gynea, Woronora Heights and Jannali are some suburbs in this zone.

Heavy clay/ shale plateaus

The uppermost geological stratum in the Shire is the Wianamatta Shale group. It exists as isolated clay and shale capping over the predominant Hawkesbury Sandstone layer. Suburbs in this zone include areas of Menai, East Heathcote, Kirrawee and Caringbah. The soils are higher in nutrients, have a high water holding capacity and are relatively deep. The indigenous vegetation is characterised by open forests dominated by Turpentine, Grey Ironbark and occasionally Sydney Blue Gums.

Plant Characteristics

Showy flowers

Some of our indigenous flora is quite spectacular and well known like the Waratah, Gynea Lily, Bottle Brush and Christmas Bush. Other species have more modest and unusual flowers and go largely unnoticed such as the Trigger Plants, Guinea Flowers, Pomax and Rusty Petals. Plant breeders and nursery persons have developed several groups of plants to produce large showy flowers including many Grevilleas, Bottle Brushes and Melaleucas. Plant breeding has also increased the flowering period of some species. While some species are selected for their showy flowers, the over use of prolific flowering cultivars with rich nectar has however raised issues among scientists of the resulting changes to bird populations in urban areas.

Interesting fruit/ seed pods

Our local vegetation not only possesses unique and interesting flowers but also produces unusual and sometimes bizarre fruits (a structure produced after flowering that contains seed is called a “fruit”). The familiar Gum nuts, Wattle pods, Banksia cones and the fleshy Lillypilly add an interesting dimension to the garden. Children can collect, decorate and propagate new plants from these and other fruits and seeds. Floral arrangements can be enhanced by the addition of interesting fruit and seedpods.

Rare/ uncommon

Many nationally registered rare or threatened plants occur in the Shire within national parks, crown land and bushland reserves. Several plants are considered threatened under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995) and are indicated as such. Other species have a limited distribution in the Shire and are considered locally uncommon or significant, even though they may be adequately conserved or occur frequently in other parts of NSW or Australia.

Propagating and introducing rare or uncommon plants into cultivation, can help preserve and bring to the attention of the community species that may otherwise be endangered or unknown.

The Rare Or Threatened Australian Plant database (ROTAP) by Hartley & Leigh (1996) uses a coding system to indicate the degree of risk rare plants are exposed to. This national system has been used in this booklet and is summarised below.

Rare Or Threatened Australian Plant Coding System

Distribution code:

- 1 Known only from original specimen collected
- 2. Geographic range < 100km
- 3 Geographic range > 100km.

Conservation status:

- X Presumed extinct.
- E Endangered. Serious risk of disappearing in the next few decades.
- V Vulnerable. Not presently endangered but at risk by incremental losses through changed land use.
- R Rare. Represented by a large population in a restricted area or a small population spread over a large area.
- K Poorly known species, suspected of being in one of the above categories.
- C Population reserved in national park or reserves

Size- class of all reserved populations:

- a Adequately reserved (> 1000 plants)
- i Inadequately reserved (< 1000 plants)
- t Total population reserved
- + Natural distribution beyond Australia
- Reserved population size not accurately known

Example

Acacia pubescens 2VCa

A rare shrub confined to the Sydney region found in open forests on clay soils. It has a geographic range of less than 100 km; vulnerable due to urban expansion and has over 1000 plants adequately reserved, some within national parks or nature reserves.

Plants may be listed as uncommon. For example Hackberry (*Celtis paniculata*), is a tree considered locally uncommon as it is only recorded in the Shire at isolated occurrences at Grays Point, Lilli Pilli Point and in Royal National Park. However it is found in littoral rainforests from Kiama to Queensland and therefore is not listed on the nationally rare or threatened species list.

Height

The height that a plant will reach in a landscape planting is probably the most difficult characteristic to determine. The heights of plants in the table indicate their expected range under cultivation.

A plant grown on the coast, exposed to harsh environmental conditions, may exhibit a dense low form only a metre tall. The same plant may reach several metres if cultivated in a garden in a sheltered gully. Conversely a tree may reach enormous proportions in the subtropical rainforests of the Royal National Park, however if grown on the poorer sandstone soils in the Shire it will only attain a fraction of its potential height.

The Water Gum (*Tristaniopsis laurina*) for example, occurs along the upper Hacking River as a large 30m tree. Old specimens used as street trees in the Shire often only reach 3-4m. Several species such as the Port Jackson Mallee (*Eucalyptus obstans*) are maintained at a height of 2.5m by the pruning effects of the natural fire regime. In an urban situation the exclusion of fire will allow these and other species to grow taller than they normally do. To maintain many species in a dense low habit, or mallee form, they can be pruned close to the ground (coppiced). The plants will re-shoot from a swollen rootsystem or lignotuber below the soil in the same way they do after fire.

Width

The width of a plant can be greatly affected by the amount of available space and the amount of light it receives. Single trees in an open sunny position often develop a broad spreading crown. When planted in a grove the same tree may only produce a narrow sparse canopy. Shrubs will perform in a similar manner in response to light and this will need to be taken into account when selecting for a specific site. Species in the selection table marked with an “x” usually have long rhizomes (underground stems) or stolons (stems that run above the ground) and are capable of spreading over a wide area.

SPECIAL USES

Constructed wetlands, detention & retention ponds

Stormwater management increasingly involves the construction of devices to control drainage on site. Water, sediment and nutrients are collected in ponds that function to reduce the impacts of stormwater run off on adjoining areas. When integrated into the site, these devices can create an interesting and practical water feature that enhances the landscape project. A wide range of aquatic plants can be selected to develop habitat for amphibians, birds and insects.

If the pond can be constructed with a relatively long edge compared to the surface area, with variable water depths, a more diverse assemblage of vegetation and potential fauna habitat can be created. Remember to incorporate areas around the pond with gentle gradients and a gap in the vegetation to provide easy access for animals.

The stylised pond can be divided into 3 zones according to the depth, flow and permanence of water. The width of zones can be manipulated to accommodate the volume of water being controlled and the space available on site. Some ponds with only small intermittent bodies of water being detained, may not contain a Zone 1 or a Zone 3. Ponds are dynamic and even natural ponds can completely drain in dry periods. The upper parts of water plants may die off, however many have underground structures such as rhizomes that are capable of re-shooting when moisture levels return. For more detailed information about managing urban stormwater and the construction of ponds and wetlands, refer to publications listed in the reference section of this guide.

Stylised stormwater management pond/ wetland



Zone 3

Zone 2

Zone 1

Mostly with some permanent water. Will tolerate drying for short periods. Suitable emergent species:

Baumea articulata
Eleocharis sphacelata
Juncus kraussii
Phragmites australis
Phylidrum lanuginosum
Schoenoplectus littoralis
Schoenoplectus mucronatus
Schoenoplectus validus
Typha domingensis
Typha orientalis

Zone 2

Inundated during rain periods. Boggy soils. Suitable species:

Baumea juncea
Baumea rubiginosa
Carex appressa
Cyperus species
Gahnia species
Isolepis inundatus
Isolepis nodosus
Juncus species
Paspalum distichum
Persicaria decipians
Persicaria lapathifolia
Restio tetraphyllus
Schoenoplectus mucronatus
Sporobolus virginicus
Blechnum species

Zone 3

Transition zone consisting of woody shrubs and trees tolerant of moist conditions, compatible with surrounding vegetation. Suitable species:

Banksia oblongifolia
Banksia robur
Callistemon species
Elaeocarpus reticulatus
Leptospermum species
Lomandra longifolia
Melaleuca species
Viminaria juncea

Deciduous trees

Australia has very few native deciduous trees. The few native plants we have are mostly semi-deciduous and do not necessarily shed their leaves during summer. Often they are tropical plants that lose their leaves in response to dry conditions rather than triggered by short day lengths as is the case with cooler climate plants. The benefits of deciduous trees to the urban landscape are their unique ability to provide heavy shade in the summer, and sunlight in the winter, to outdoor living spaces. Preference should still be for the selection of indigenous plant to provide the appropriate shade. The correct placement of evergreen trees with consideration of summer and winter sun angles can often create the desired effect.

Below is a list of deciduous trees including exotic species that integrate reasonably well into the landscape, perform well in the Shire and are not invasive to bushland.

Recommended deciduous trees for Sutherland Shire

Botanical Name	Common Name	Description
<i>Acer negundo</i> (only plants with male flowers)	Box Elder	Fast growing species 12- 15m tall with a broad spreading crown. Leaves are compound with 3-5 bright green leaflets turning golden in autumn. Only male plants should be grown as the female plants readily self seed in bushland. North American origin.
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Celtis	Hardy fast growing species 12- 15m tall with a rounded canopy. Ovate dark green leaves with toothed margins, turning pale yellow in autumn. Dark foliage blends well with indigenous plants. Popular shade tree for amenity planting. Southern European origin..
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywood'	Claret Ash	Upright small to medium tree 10-15m tall with a narrow canopy. Compound leaves are dark green turning deep red in autumn. Prefers fertile soils. Useful where space does not permit a broad crown. Mediterranean and Southern Europe origin.
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Chinese Tallowwood	Quick growing small tree 6- 8m with a rounded canopy of large heart shaped leaves turning red & golden yellow. Useful small species, though contrasts with indigenous plants. Southern China origin..
<i>Toona australis</i>	Red Cedar	Large indigenous rainforest tree, smaller in cultivation 8- 12m with mid green compound leaves, with pink new growth turning pale yellow in autumn. Prefers moist rich soils & protection from strong winds.
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Small-leaf Elm	Slow growing small tree 8- 10m with a broad dense canopy. Small elliptical leaves with serrated margins turning dull yellow in autumn. Hardy species that blends well with indigenous plants making it the preferred species if a deciduous tree is required. China, Korea & Japan origin.

Bush fire prone areas

Fire is an integral component of the Australian environment and is essential in maintaining our species diversity and a healthy ecosystem. The viability of most of the Shire's plant communities depends on fire to regenerate and its long-term exclusion is detrimental.

The dilemma of living in a bushland environment is that the very thing that usually attracts residents to live there can be a potential threat to life and property. A combination of proximity to bushland, topography and aspect contribute in determining whether a property is considered to be in a bush fire prone area.

Objectives

When designing and landscaping in fire prone areas the aim should be to maintain the aesthetic qualities and ecological integrity of the bushland whilst reducing the risk of bushfires to homes. The primary consideration should be to sensible house design. Further strategies for reducing the risk of bushfire can be achieved through:

- maintaining low fuel levels in fire protection zones;
- altering the structure of the existing vegetation through thinning, pruning and slashing; and
- selecting new plants that are less flammable and placing them in ways to reduce risk..

Fire protection zone

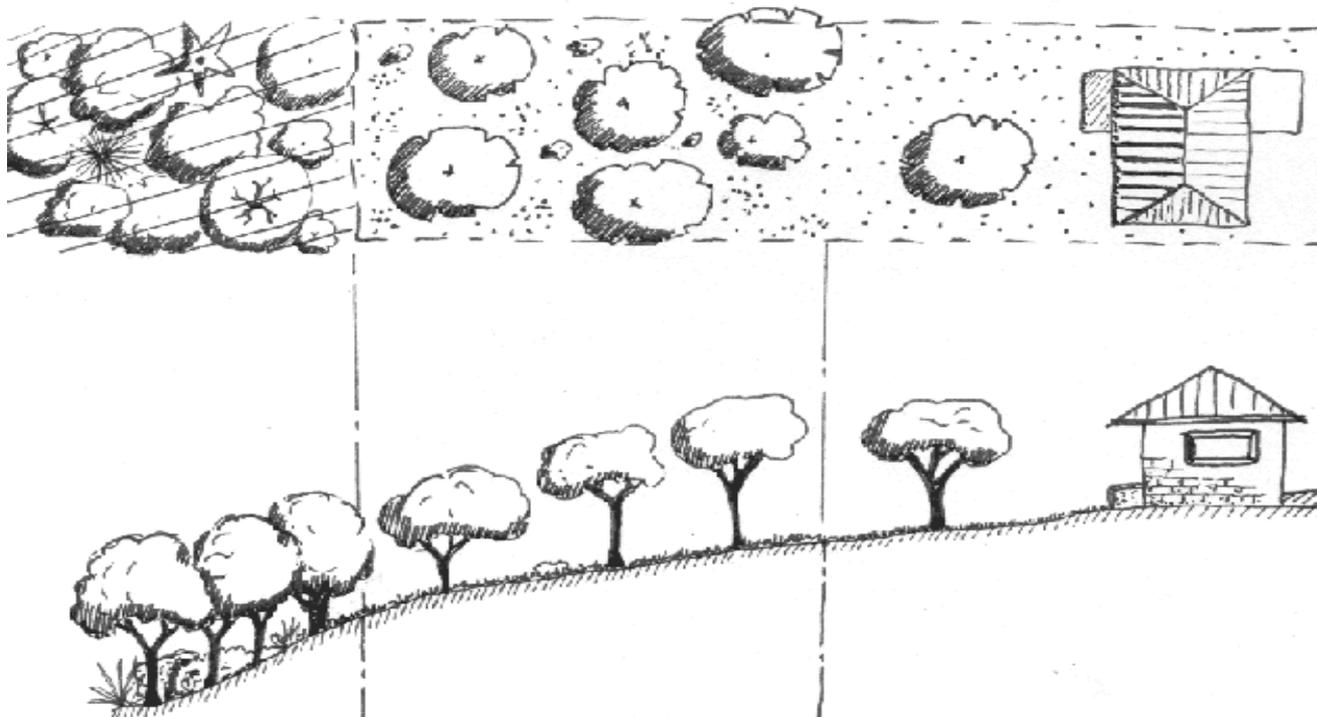
The interface between bushland and residential areas can be referred to as the Fire Protection Zone (FPZ). It is made up of an inner Fuel Free Zone (FFZ) and an outer Fuel Reduced Zone (FRZ). The width of these zones is determined by the Sutherland Shire Council Fire Control Officer and is calculated on the aspect, slope, vegetation type and size of the adjoining reserve.

Species selection

In areas that require planting, species need to be selected that minimise the effects of bushfires. Many publications promote the use of low flammable plants with leaves low in oil and with a high moisture content such as rainforest species. Areas of the highest fire risk are on top of ridges where rainforest plants have difficulty in adapting to the exposed conditions and poor soils. Also rainforest plants do not compliment the typical open forests and woodland of the sandstone ridges. It must be remembered that during intense fires, any vegetation will burn and it is only that some plants are less flammable than others. The use of rainforest plants may be appropriate in some cases, however the modification of the existing vegetation is a better strategy. Indigenous trees with smooth barks such as Smooth-barked Apple *Angophora costata* and Grey Gums *Eucalyptus punctata* have proven to be more fire resistant than rough-barked species. Strategically placed trees can act as a shield against ember attack and radiant heat to an otherwise exposed dwelling.

It is important that exotic species are avoided that potentially invade bushland. Even exotic grasses such as Kikuyu invade bushland and also require high levels of maintenance when used in the Fuel Reduced Zone. Native grasses on the other hand require infrequent mowing to maintain low fuel levels, and their use in the FRZ can also allow smaller native herbs, including terrestrial orchids to survive.

Guidelines for vegetation management of fire prone areas in Sutherland Shire



BUSHLAND

Maintain low fuel levels through hazard reduction burning. (In some cases this may be impractical and fuel may need to be removed mechanically.)

FUEL REDUCED ZONE (FRZ)

The purpose of this zone is to reduce fuel levels & the ability of the fire to spread from the ground into the canopy by the following strategies:

- Thin trees to form a discontinuous canopy
- Use low flammable plants.
- Retain smooth-barked spp & remove stringy or rough-barked trees.
- Remove lower branches of trees to raise the canopy.
- Do not plant understorey shrubs.
- Use groundcover plants, turf or native grasses.
- Maintain low levels of ground fuels by raking leaves & branches.

In some areas the existing native vegetation can be maintained through infrequent slashing.

FUEL FREE ZONE (FFZ)

The purpose of this zone is to prevent fuel & fire from extending up to the building by the following strategies:

- Maintain cleared areas close to the house.
- Position pools, driveways or paved areas between the house and potential threat.
- Do not stack potential fuel against the building.
- Individual trees of low flammability can be utilised in this zone to protect against radiant heat & intercept wind blown embers.
- Do not allow limbs to overhang the house.
- Maintain the ground free of fuel by raking leaves & branches

(Adapted from Ku-ring-gai Council brochure- Landscaping and Planting Guidelines for Fire Prone Areas of Ku-ring-gai.)

Native plants recommended for fire prone areas in Sutherland Shire

TREES	
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth-barked Apple
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia
# <i>Callicoma serratifolia</i>	Black Wattle
# <i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>	Coachwood
# <i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash
<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i>	Broad-leaf Scribbly Gum
<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	Grey Gum
<i>Eucalyptus racemosa</i>	Narrow-leaf Scribbly Gum
<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>	Sydney Blue Gum
<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>	Port Jackson Fig
# <i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheese Tree
# <i>Guioa semiglauc</i>	Guioa
# <i>Rapanea howittiana</i>	Brush Muttonwood
# <i>Rapanea variabilis</i>	Muttonwood
# <i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i>	Water Gum
GROUND COVERS & GRASSES	
<i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>	Native Pig Face
<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	Kangaroo Grape
<i>Danthonia spp</i>	Wallaby Grasses
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsaparilla
<i>Hibbertia scandens</i>	Trailing Guinea Flower
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Meadow Grass
<i>Oplismenus aemulus</i>	Basket Grass
<i>Poa affinis</i>	Poa
<i>Scaevola calendulacea</i>	Dune fan-Flower
<i>Themeda australis</i>	Kangaroo Grass
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Native Violet

Rainforest species

Swimming pool surrounds

When selecting plants for use around pools the qualities that are often sought are:

- Ability to provide screening for privacy
- Only a minimum amount of leaf fall
- Durability in high traffic areas
- Tolerant of some chlorine or salt
- Provide a “lush tropical” look

Designing around pools does not necessarily mean that the area should be reminiscent of a tropical rainforest-swimming hole in Cairns surrounded by palms. Many rainforest plants do well around pools due to their luxuriant foliage that does not readily drop leaves. However there are many other options and the result could just as easily reflect our local swimming holes in National Park framed by Gynea Lilies, Grass Trees and Banksias.

Consideration needs to be given to the existing vegetation when installing a pool. Often large sections of tree roots are severed or covered with fill to enable pool installation and provision of some useable flat space. An alternative to benching on sloping sites is the use of decking which allows the original soil profile to be preserved whilst accommodating the need for level areas. This technique can prevent the detrimental practice of filling around existing trees.

Safety issues need to be addressed when planting around pools. Vegetation must not be placed so children can use it to climb over safety fences. The use of climbing plants over safety fences should be avoided, however separate screens incorporating lattice and climbers can satisfy screening requirements.

There is a large range of plants that can be successfully used around pools depending on the theme of the landscape, existing environmental conditions, site constraints and species availability.

A selection of suitable plants for around swimming pools

TREES	
<i>Acmena smithii</i>	Lilly Pilly
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>	Red Ash
<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i>	Bangalow Palm
<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>	Grey Myrtle
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Old-man Banksia
<i>Celtis paniculata</i>	Hackberry
<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>	Coachwood
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash
<i>Endiandra sieberi</i>	Corkwood
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheese Tree
<i>Livistona australis</i>	Cabbage Palm
<i>Syzygium species</i>	Brush Cherry/ Lilly Pilly
SHRUBS	
<i>Austromyrtus tenuifolia</i>	Narrow-leaf Myrtle
<i>Baekea linifolia</i>	Swamp Baekea
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia
<i>Banksia spinulosa</i>	Hairpin Banksia
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	Dog Rose
<i>Cassine australis</i>	Red-fruited Olive-plum
<i>Correa alba</i>	Coastal Correa
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Native Fuchsia
<i>Eupomatia laurina</i>	Native Guava
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	Large-fruited Pittosporum
<i>Synoum glandulosum</i>	Bastard Rosewood
<i>Tristania nerifolia</i>	Water Gum
GROUND COVER	
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsaparilla
<i>Hibbertia scandens</i>	Snake Vine
CLIMBERS	
<i>Aphanopetalum gummiferum</i>	Gum Vine
<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Apple Berry
<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	Kangaroo Vine
<i>Morinda jasminoides</i>	Jasmine Morinda
TUFTED PLANTS	
<i>Crinum pedunculatum</i>	Crinum Lily
<i>Dianella species</i>	Flax Lilies
<i>Doryanthes excelsa</i>	Gynea Lily
<i>Lomandra fluviatalis</i>	River Lomandra
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Mat Rush
<i>Macrozamia communis</i>	Burrawang
<i>Restio tetraphyllus</i>	Tassel Rush
FERNS (Most species)	

CULTIVATION NOTES

Indigenous plants in cultivation are usually subject to different conditions from their original environment. Soils of higher fertility, more available moisture, less competition and the exclusion of browsing and bushfires is characteristic of the urban landscape. The desire to manipulate the growth habit of plants has often made necessary the need to prune, fertilise or irrigate.

Soil preparation & fertilising

Soils in Sutherland Shire are mostly derived from Hawkesbury sandstone and are shallow in depth, very low in nutrients, poorly structured, and acid by nature. In spite of their impoverished character, they support a rich and fascinating flora. If you are fortunate to have a relatively undisturbed site, soil preparation may only involve ripping, to remedy compacted soils, or the use of herbicide to control weeds prior to planting and mulching. Preserving any remnant vegetation at this stage is extremely worthwhile, not only ecologically, but plants otherwise unattainable, such as orchids, lilies or species from the Epacridaceae family may be present and can be incorporated into the new landscape. Sites with relatively natural or undisturbed soils will not require fertilisers. Don't be concerned about a rocky sandstone soil as this will prove to be an excellent substrate on which to develop an indigenous garden. Perhaps only a few handfuls of soil will be required around the rootball at the planting stage.

Unfortunately most sites have had a history of soil degradation through the addition of fertilisers, lime and organic matter to enable the cultivation of lawns, vegetables and exotic plants. High nutrient soils cause rapid leggy growth in indigenous plants, that become easily dislodged in wet windy conditions, and are prone to insect attack. No added fertilisers should be used in old garden sites or soils that support lush herbaceous weeds indicating high nutrients.

The most detrimental practice is the inversion of the natural soil profile through earthworks. Since the advent of slab construction in housing, with the associated cut and fill, landscapers are usually left with clay subsoil to plant in. Gypsum can assist by improving soil structure in this situation. If a garden mix "soil" has to be used, then it should have a pH of 5-6, contain up to 50% river sand and be low in Phosphorus. A specialist landscape supplier can blend a soil mix appropriate for native plants.

If growth is unusually slow, the foliage yellowing or shows symptoms of nutrient deficiency, then slow release fertiliser with trace elements and low phosphorus levels for native plants can be applied.

Watering

Choosing the most suitable plant for a site will mostly alleviate the need for long-term irrigation and a costly watering system. Good design, appropriate plant selection and the use of mulch in a project may result in the need for watering only during the early establishment stage. Conversely, if a site is inherently wet it may be more appropriate to select plants for moist situations rather than attempting to improve drainage. Our indigenous plants have stood the test of time to survive the climate extremes.

In planter beds, sites with limited soil depth, or narrow sites between buildings that are often sheltered from direct rainfall, the installation of a micro-irrigation system may be necessary.

Mini-sprinklers or drippers can be the most efficient means of watering under these circumstances. Consider using a water tank for this purpose.

Watering at the time of planting is most crucial and great care should be taken to ensure both the planting holes, and containerised plants are well irrigated before removal and placing in the ground.

Pruning

Pruning native plants can simulate what occurs through bushfires or browsing. Indigenous plants have a range of mechanisms to survive fire, and understanding how each species responds to fire relates to how they can be pruned.

Many species have the ability to re-sprout from protected buds, underground stems or lignotubers. These plants tolerate heavy pruning, to maintain their compact shape, produce fresh new growth and stimulate flowering. Native grasses and most other monocotyledons including Lomandra, Dianella, sedges and rushes can tolerate, and usually benefit from, severe pruning (not Grass Trees). Also ferns with underground rhizomes can all likewise be pruned to ground level to rejuvenate the colony. Other plants in this group are most of the Myrtaceae family including the genera Melaleuca, Callistemon, Leptospermum, Baekea, Acmena, Syzygium and the mallee Eucalypts. Most indigenous climbers can also be heavily pruned.

Some species rarely re-sprout from hot fires and have another strategy to survive. Plants in this group produce seeds that store in the soil until a fire stimulates germination, while the parent plant usually dies. The family Fabaceae (pea flowers) is well represented in this group including the genera Acacia, Pultenaea, Dillwynia, Bossiaea and Daviesia. These species generally are only short lived and benefit from only light pruning to maintain a compact shape and increased flowering.

Another strategy is the production of woody fruits to protect seeds from fire. The family Proteaceae including Banksia, Hakea, Petrophile and Grevilleas belong to this category. These species generally do not tolerate very hot fires and likewise heavy pruning. Regular light pruning after flowering is the best recommendation if pruning is seen as necessary.

Plant spacing, container size & planting

Planting density largely depends on the desired finished character of the project. If the creation of a natural landscape is required then closer spacings will give the effect of the local bushland, where plants compete for light and space, and the overall composition is an integrated unit. If a more open well spaced effect is desired, where each plant is allowed to achieve its potential dimensions, then lower planting densities will be necessary.

The amount of maintenance a project will receive, the harshness of the site and the prevailing weather conditions should also influence plant spacings. Expected plant fatalities are better compensated for in the original planting rather than resulting in an underplanted landscape or necessitating subsequent follow up plantings that have to catch up.

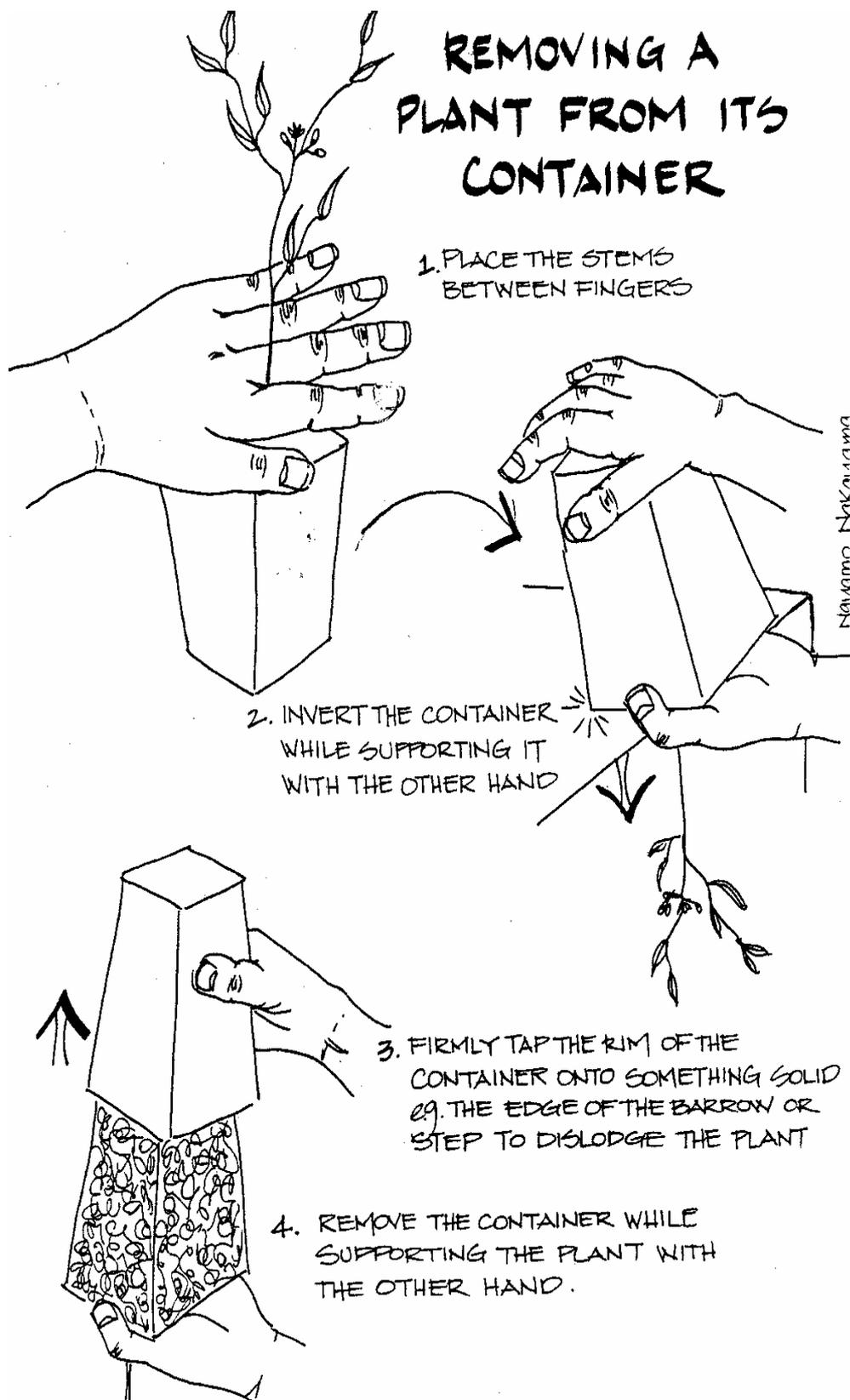
Autumn is regarded as the optimum time to plant, as the demand on plants for water is low. Temperatures are cool and growth rates are slow, while the soil is still warm. Timing is most critical when planting large difficult sites eg. road verges or coastal rehabilitation where there is no irrigation.

Choosing the most appropriate initial plant size can greatly determine the outcome, as well as the process of a project. Smaller containers (forestry tubes ~ 0.24 litre containers) have proven to have many advantages over advanced plants, however on some projects a combination may work best. Shrubs and ground covers in tubes, with some strategically placed advanced specimens (containers 5 litre or more) to give some initial impact, is an effective approach. The following table compares both container sizes.

Comparison of container sizes at planting stage

Tubes (Container size~0.24 litre)	Advanced plants (Container size~5 litre or greater)
Higher establishment success rate	More likely to suffer stress at establishment stage
Low cost per unit	High initial cost per unit
Less on going maintenance required (can be planted with only initial watering in)	Require more on going maintenance especially irrigation till established
Easier to handle and transport	More difficult to handle and transport
Easier to plant. Particularly in natural shallow rocky soil profiles	Require more labour/ cost/ time to plant
Support staking not necessary	Usually require staking
More likely to be planted at higher densities due to low costs and ease of planting	More likely to result in an under planted landscape due to extra costs
Minimum initial impact	Create a greater initial impact

REMOVING A PLANT FROM ITS CONTAINER



PLANTING SPECIFICATIONS

-
- 1 WATER CONTAINERISED PLANTS & HOLES PRIOR TO PLANTING
 - 2 EXCAVATE TO AT LEAST TWICE THE VOLUME OF THE CONTAINER TO ALLOW EASIER ROOT & WATER PENETRATION
 - 3 ASSESS FERTILISER REQUIREMENTS & ONLY USE LOW PHOSPHORUS, SLOW RELEASE FERTILISER IF NECESSARY
 - 4 BACKFILL WITH EXISTING SOIL, ENSURING ROOTBALL REMAINS AT ORIGINAL SOIL LEVEL
 - 5 APPLY MULCH 75mm THICK, KEEPING CLEAR OF STEMS
 - 6 PLACE TIMBER STAKE TO MARK PLANT LOCATIONS ONLY USE HESSIAN TIES FOR LARGER TREES - IF SPECIFIC ENSURE NOT TO PENETRATE ROOTBALL
 - 7 WATER & TAMP PLANT TO SETTLE SOIL

Insects and disease in the garden

Insects are essential to life on earth, our very existence depends on them! Insects play a vital role in all healthy functioning ecosystems. They have evolved intimately with the local flora and other fauna resulting in unique complex partnerships and associations. Many plants rely on specific insects for pollination and seed dispersal to ensure the continuation of their species. Likewise many insects are dependent on a single plant species for their survival. The lifecycle of the endangered beetle *Menippus fugitivus* at Grays Point is completely reliant on the Hackberry Tree *Celtis paniculata* for its survival.

Damage to plants from insects causes concern for many gardeners and horticulturists. The Bangalay *Eucalyptus botryoides* is a common tree around our coastal areas. Every year the leaves are attacked by tiny sucking insects called psyllids or lerps that feed on the foliage and create a sticky sugary covering to protect them. The damaged foliage turns brown and from a distance the trees may look as if they are dying. Expert horticulturists and textbooks often advocate various techniques using insecticides to solve the perceived problem. A better understanding of the local ecology would reveal that many birds including the beautiful tiny Spotted Pardalote feeds extensively on the psyllids. If we managed to exterminate the Eucalyptus lerps we would surely risk losing the pardalotes. The Bangalays always manage to survive and the old damaged leaves are replaced in the spring with new growth. There are an infinite number of examples of relationships between flora and fauna that demonstrate how everything is connected and reinforce the benefits of using indigenous plants in the landscape.

Most serious diseases of native plants relate to pathogenic fungi or nutrient deficiencies and toxicities. The cause of these problems can usually be traced to poor selection of species for the site, altered soil and drainage conditions including excessive organic matter and over-watering. Remember the flora of the Sutherland Shire is mostly adapted to sandstone soils with low nutrients.

In nature only the strongest survive and sometimes we need to adopt this principle in landscape projects. Choosing the most appropriate plant and initially over planting, or removing plants that are prone to continued insect damage or disease is a much more sensible approach than tackling the symptoms of poor selection with insecticides or chemicals.

Most horticulture books portray insects as pests and have chapters devoted to eradicating them. Take a fresh approach and discover and enjoy the diversity of insects in your garden and learn how they interact with the plants and the local ecosystem. Instead of looking at a chewed leaf and wondering what has been eating my plants, be excited about the important habitat your plants are providing for the local fauna!

Environmental weeds

Most of the weeds invading bushland were once or still are plants cultivated in people's gardens. The dumping of garden refuse into bushland is causing enormous environmental degradation with spreading weeds causing loss of biodiversity and changes to fauna habitat. Weed seeds are also inadvertently spread into bushland by wind, water and birds.

To assist in protecting our environment, the following noxious and environmental weeds of the Sutherland Shire should be removed from gardens. The Council can help with the identification of plants and the appropriate control techniques if required.

WEEDS IN SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Noxious Weeds		These are noxious plants in the Sutherland Shire and must be removed or controlled by landowners under the Noxious weeds Act 1993.	
Botanical Name	Common Name	Origin	Category
<i>Acacia karoo</i>	Karoo Thorn	Africa	W1
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Alligator Weed	South America	W1
<i>Cabomba</i> spp.	Cabomba	North America	W4g
<i>Cestrum parqui</i>	Green Cestrum	South America	W2
<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Siam Weed	S/E Asia	W1
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Bitou Bush	South Africa	W3
<i>Centaurea maculosa</i>	Spotted Knappweed	North America	W1
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knappweed	North America	W1
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampas Grass	South America	W2
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth	South America	W1
<i>Equisetum</i> spp.	Horsetail	North America	W1
<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i>	Senegal Tea Plant	South America	W1
<i>Harrisia</i> spp.	Harrisia Cactus	North America	W4f
<i>Hieracium</i> spp.	Hawkweeds	North america	W1
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St. John's Wort	Europe; Western Asia	W2
<i>Kochia scoparia</i>	Kochia	Eurasia	W1
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana Red & Pink Flower	Europe via Sth America	W2
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Ludwigia	South America	W2
<i>Miconia</i> spp.	Miconia	South America	W1
<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	Mexican Feather Grass	Nth & Central America	W1
<i>Opuntia</i> spp.	Prickly Pear	South America	W4f
<i>Orobanche</i> spp. Except <i>O. minor</i> :	Boomrapes, except Common &	Nth America, Europe	W1
<i>O. cerua</i> var. <i>Australiana</i>	Australian Boomrape		
<i>Parietaria judaica</i>	Asthma Weed	Europe	W3
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Parthenium Weed	Central & Sth America	W1
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Water Lettuce	Cosmopolitan	W1
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Oil Plant	Asia; Africa	W2
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	Blackberry	Europe	W2
<i>Salix</i> spp. (excluding <i>S. babylonica</i>)	Willows (not Weeping Willow)	Europe/ Asia/ Nth Africa	W4g
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Salvinia	Brazil	W1
<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>	Rhus Tree	East Asia	W2

Noxious Weed Control Categories

- W1 Notify SSC Council. The weed must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
- W2 The weed must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.
- W3 The weed must be prevented from spreading and its numbers and distribution reduced.
- W4f The weed shall not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.
- W4g The weed must not be sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

WEEDS IN SUTHERLAND SHIRE

Environmental Weeds	(These plants invade bushland and should be removed and not planted)	
<i>Acacia saligna</i>	Golden Wreath Wattle	Western Australia
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder	North America
<i>Acetosa sagittatus</i>	Turkey Rhubarb	South Africa
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>	Crofton Weed	Mexico
<i>Ageratina riparia</i>	Mist Flower	Mexico
<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Madiera Vine	South America
<i>Araujia hortorum</i>	Moth Vine	South America
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	Europe, Asia, India
<i>Bambusa spp.</i>	Bamboo	China
<i>Bryophyllum tubiflora</i>	Mother of Millions	Madagascar
<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i>	Balloon Vine	Asia; Africa; America
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor Laurel	China; Japan
<i>Coprosma repens</i>	Mirror Bush	New Zealand
<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Coreopsis	North America
<i>Cotoneaster spp.</i>	Cotoneaster	Europe, Asia
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom	Europe
<i>Delairia odorata</i>	Cape Ivy	Africa
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i>	Veldt Grass	South Africa
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	African Love Grass	Africa
<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Erigeron Daisy	Central America
<i>Erythrina X sykesii</i>	Coral Tree	Asia
<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	English or Montpellier Broom	Mediterranean
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy	Europe
<i>Hydrocotyle bonariensis</i>	Kurnell Curse	South America
<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	Morning Glory	Asia
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Large Leaf Privet	East Asia
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Small Leaf Privet	East Asia
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	China; Japan
<i>Myrsiphyllum asparagoides</i>	Bridal Creeper	South Africa
<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	Fish Bone Fern	Queensland
<i>Ochna serrulata</i>	Ochna	South Africa
<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	Crested Wattle/ Albizia	Western Australia
<i>Persicaria capitata</i>	Japanese Knot Weed	Asia
<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	Polygala	Africa
<i>Protasparagus aethiopicus</i>	Asparagus Fern	South Africa
<i>Protasparagus plumosus</i>	Climbing Asparagus	South Africa
<i>Psoralea pinnata</i>	African Scurf Pea	South Africa
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Weeping Willow	Asia
<i>Senna pendula var. glabrata</i>	Cassia	South America
<i>Senecio angulatus</i>	Climbing Groundsel	South Africa
<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i>	Cocos Palm	South America
<i>Thunbergia alata</i>	Black-eyed Susan	Africa
<i>Tradescantia albiflora</i>	Wandering Jew	South America
<i>Vinca major</i>	Blue Periwinkle	Mediterranean

PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

(In alphabetical order according to botanical name.)

Abbreviations:

RNP Royal National Park
NSW TSC Act NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995)

Indigenous

***Acacia binervata* (Two- veined Hickory)**

Broad-leaved medium sized tree with yellow globular flower heads in spring. The Aborigines used the bark as a fish poison. Found in rainforest margins eg. Lady Carrington Drive, RNP & occasionally on richer clay ridge tops eg Waterfall. Attractive specimen tree for protected and fertile sites.

***Acacia brownei* (Prickly Moses)**

Low prickly shrub with short needle like leaves & small round bright yellow flower heads in winter/ spring. Scattered across the Shire on well-drained sandstone & clay soils. Similar to the more common *A. ulicifolia* but with brighter flowers.

***Acacia decurrens* (Green Wattle)**

Spectacular fast growing small tree with large feathery compound leaves & bright yellow flowers late winter/ spring. The trunk often exudes gum that is edible. Restricted to shale/ clay plateaus eg. Menai. Outstanding species for winter colour.

***Acacia elongata* (Swamp Wattle)**

Medium dense shrub with long narrow leaves. Spectacular gold globular flowers cover the branchlets in winter/ spring. Striking plant common to sunny watercourses eg. Temptation creek RNP. Suitable as a fill in shrub for moist sunny sites.

***Acacia falcata* (Sickle Wattle)**

Slender open shrub with distinctive broad bluish/ green sickle-shaped leaves. Pale yellow flowers in autumn/ winter followed by long attractive seed pods. The bark was used by Aborigines as a fish poison. Mostly confined to clay/ shale areas eg. Menai & Barden Ridge. Good garden specimen for the area.

***Acacia floribunda* (Sally Wattle)**

Graceful weeping foliage & abundant yellow flower spikes covering the shrub during spring make this a popular plant. Naturally occurring along shady creek banks & eg Woronora Valley & upper Hacking River. Proven fast growing garden species that tolerates dappled shade.

***Acacia hispidula* (Rough Hairy Wattle)**

Interesting low spreading shrub with oblong sandpaper textured leaves. Small pale globular flower heads occur through the year. Occasional through the Shire on exposed ridges or sandstone slopes eg. Woronora Hts, Menai & Jannali. Useful for understorey or low fill in planting.

***Acacia implexa* (Hickory)**

Medium sized broad leaved tree. Pale globular flower heads in late summer followed by unusual twisted seed pods. Aborigines used the bark to poison fish. A long lived species scattered throughout the Shire eg. Carina Bay Reserve, Como.

***Acacia irrorata* (Green Wattle)**

Small tree/shrub with feathery leaves & golden globular flower heads during summer. Parrots are attracted to the long black seed pods. Fast growing, but only short lived. Very common species in shady gullies beside creeks.

***Acacia linifolia* (Flax- leaf Wattle)**

Low arching shrub with slender foliage & pale yellow globular flowers in summer/ autumn. Very common understorey shrub on sandstone slopes eg. Jannali Reserve. Aborigines used the strips of bark for cordage. Hardy plant for mixed plantings on well drained sites.

***Acacia longifolia* (Sydney Golden Wattle)**

Broad spreading shrub with long dark green leaves. Renown for the masses of golden flower spikes in spring. Common to open forests across the Shire. Leaves were used by aborigines as a fish poison. Fast growing ,short lived species for well drained soils.

***Acacia maidenii* (Maiden's Wattle)**

Medium tree with long dark green leaves & pale yellow flower spikes in summer/ Autumn followed by twisted seed pods. Locally restricted to the rainforests in the south of RNP. Useful for rainforest gardens and richer soils.

***Acacia myrtifolia* (Myrtle-leaf Wattle)**

Small compact shrub with broad dark green leaves & red young stems. Bright yellow globular flowers occur through the winter. Common understorey shrub for sunny well drained sites.

***Acacia obtusifolia* (Blunt-leaf Wattle)**

Large spreading shrub with long broad leaves. Showy pale yellow flower spikes during summer. Usually growing close to creeks but in well drained soils eg. Heathcote Creek.

***Acacia parramattensis* (Sydney Green Wattle)**

Small tree/ shrub with feathery foliage & pale yellow globular flower heads in spring/ summer. Parrots are attracted to the bunches of seed pods. Common in the Shire. Fast growing & adaptable to a wide range of conditions.

***Acacia parvipinnula* (Silver-stem Wattle)**

Attractive fast growing shrub/ small tree with fine feathery leaves and striking silver/ grey trunk & branches. Restricted to the shale/ clay plateaus where it is common, eg Menai Park. Ornamental species best for rich moist soils.

***Acacia pubescens* (Downy Wattle)**

Upright open shrub with crowded feathery light green leaves & downy branchlets. Abundant racemes of globular golden yellow flower cover the bush in spring. Nationally **rare (3VCa)** and **vulnerable** on the TSC Act, with a small population on Bishop Rd, Menai. Successful hardy plant for clay/ shale & sandy soils.

***Acacia sophorae* (Coastal Wattle)**

Broad spreading shrub with large leaves & covered in golden yellow flower spikes in early spring. An important sand binding plant of coastal dunes eg. Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell. Aborigines roasted the ripe pods & picked out the seeds.

***Acacia stricta* (Straight Wattle)**

Narrow upright shrub with stiff dark green leaves. Bright yellow globular flower heads scattered along the stems in spring. Similar to *A. suaveolens* but less common & a narrower seed pod. Scattered on ridge tops with ironstone influence eg. Loftus ridge. Hardy garden plant for full sun in sandy soils.

***Acacia suaveolens* (Scented Wattle)**

Slender open shrub with stiff leathery pale green/ blue leaves. The pale yellow globular flowers have a sweet scent followed by distinctive spoon shaped pods. Very common throughout the Shire as an understorey shrub on sandstone. Attractive garden specimen for well drained sandy sites.

***Acacia terminalis* (Sunshine Wattle)**

Compact medium shrub with large glossy compound leaves, large globular yellow flower heads in autumn / winter & beautiful broad flat falcate seed pods. Common throughout the Shire. Attractive shrub for well drained to dry sandy conditions in full sun.

***Acacia ulicifolia* (Prickly Moses)**

Well known small prickly shrub with short needle like leaves & pale yellow globular flower heads in autumn/ winter. Very common on poor sandstone soils. Hardy plant requiring good drainage.

***Acmena smithii* (Lilly Pilly)**

Handsome tree with glossy ovate leaves, spectacular fluffy flowers followed by white to mauve fleshy fruits eaten by Rosellas, Top Knot & Wonga Pigeons and Currawongs. A bush tucker plant but only barely palatable! Moderately common in deep gullies and rainforests where it can become large. A hardy, reliable shade or specimen tree rarely exceeding 12m in cultivation.

***Actinotus helianthi* (Flannel Flower)**

Prized herbaceous species often difficult to maintain in cultivation. Grey/ green felty foliage & soft cream/ green flowers in spring/ summer are a delightful sight in the bush. Common on open sunny well drained sandstone slopes. The plants are fairly short lived & their continuation relies on germination of seed to produce new plants, (usually after fire.) Keeping soil free of mulch can assist in germination.

***Actinotus minor* (Lesser Flannel Flower)**

Miniature relative of the Flannel Flower. Dainty flowers only 1cm diameter present most of the year. Sprawling shrub mingling among the undergrowth of sheltered forests on sandstone throughout the Shire.

***Adiantum aethiopicum* (Maidenhair Fern)**

Delicate low fern with wiry black rhizomes & stipes. Common understorey species forming dense colonies in wet semi-shaded gullies on sandy soils. Easily established even in sheltered sea side areas. Many cultivars are used for indoor plants but the straight species is best for outdoors.

***Adiantum formosum* (Giant Maidenhair)**

Handsome tall fern with black shiny rhizomes & stipes. Restricted to the rainforests in RNP on rich moist soils, forming large colonies. Readily established in shady moist sites with soils high in organic matter.

***Adiantum hispidulum* (Rough Maidenhair)**

Low shortly creeping fern with raspy leaves often found in moist sandstone crevices but not in large colonies. Reported to be a hardy species for semi-shaded position.

***Allocasuarina diminuta* ssp. *diminuta* (She-Oak)**

Low spreading shrub with thin branchlets and attractive cones. This is a rare species only found at west Menai along Heathcote Road and Holsworthy Military Area in ironstone heath. A poorly known species suitable for dry rocky situations. This is a slow long lived species.

***Allocasuarina distyla* (Scrub She-oak)**

Broad shrub forming a dense thicket of needle like branchlets turning rusty with terminal male flowers during winter. Female flowers produce large attractive cones favoured by cockatoos & parrots. Common on sandy ridge tops with ironstone influence eg. Heathcote, Loftus & Waterfall. Tough plant tolerating dry conditions with periods of waterlogged soils.

***Allocasuarina littoralis* (Black She-oak)**

Open small tree with needle like branchlets & quaint woody cones. Most common She-oak in the Shire, but rarely planted. Raindrops turn to jewels & the wind whistles through the foliage. Self mulching tree adaptable to most sunny sites.

***Allocasuarina nana* (Dwarf She-oak)**

Low spreading shrub with dense pine like foliage & attractive woody cones. Uncommon in the shire, growing on exposed gravely ridge tops in RNP eg. Wisers Track. Hardy plant for poor soils periodically waterlogged & preferring full sun.

***Allocasuarina torulosa* (Forest Oak)**

Medium tree with open graceful foliage & a beautiful coarsely textured pale trunk. Similar to *A. littoralis* but less common, confined to richer soils & rainforest margins eg. Bola Creek RNP & Menai Park. Black & white cockatoos eat the cones. Worthy of much greater use in landscape projects.

***Alphitonia excelsa* (Red Ash)**

Large rainforest tree, smaller in cultivation with a leafy canopy. Undersurface of leaves is white. Aborigines rubbed the leaves in water to create a cleansing lather & the inner bark for strong fibre to make fishing lines. Common along Lady Carrington Drive RNP, but otherwise only known from Grays Point Reserve. Effective specimen/ shade tree for protected sites.

***Angophora bakeri* (Narrow-leaf Apple)**

Beautiful small tree with drooping fine leaf foliage & rough bark. An attractive show of cream blossom, sought after by insects & birds during summer. Common exposed ridges eg. Jannali Res & Woronora Hts. On deeper soils in the Woronora Valley may reach 15m. Suitable where a Eucalypt may be too large.

***Angophora hispida* (Dwarf Apple)**

Spectacular shrub with unusual large stiff hairy leaves. New growth & flower buds are red. Huge clusters of cream/ yellow flowers in spring cover the plant, attracting beetles. Common on exposed ridges in RNP. A plant with enormous potential that looks good all year round.

***Angophora costata* ((Smooth-barked Apple)**

Majestic tree with smooth flesh coloured bark & sinuous branches that defy gravity. When flowering in early summer the trees can be readily seen over the valleys. Very characteristic & loved tree of the Shire. Old specimens provide essential habitat for parrots & arboreal mammals.

***Angophora floribunda* (Rough-barked Apple)**

Enchanting spreading tree similar to *A. costata* but with rough bark. Uncommon in the Shire with a few scattered specimens around Cronulla eg. Gunnamatta Park. The last splendid natural stand is located on the alluvial flats of the Woronora River.

***Anisopogon avenaceus* (Oat Spear-grass)**

Tall sparsely clumping grass with long graceful flower stems & large pendulous seed heads. Common on sandstone slopes & ridges eg. Jannali Reserve, creating an attractive display in summer. Rarely seen in cultivation though a pleasant addition to a mixed planting on sandy soils.

***Aotus ericoides* (Common Aotus)**

Small shrub with yellow/ red "pea" flowers densely covering the stems in spring. Common species on sandy soils eg Kurnell, Engadine & throughout RNP. A colourful plant rarely cultivated useful for dry sandy soils to add spring colour.

***Aphanopetalum resinosum* (Gum Vine)**

Twining climber with glossy elliptical leaves with toothed margins & small green flowers in spring. Moderately fast growing rainforest species restricted in the shire to RNP. Prefers rich soils with adequate water & semi shade where it will become quite dense.

***Archontophoenix cunninghamiana* (Bangalow Palm)**

Along with the Cabbage Palm the only palm in the Shire. Tall slender trunk with rings from old leaf scars. Large divided leaves form an open graceful crown. Very rare to the Shire with only a few specimens found along Lady Carrington Drive RNP. Will grow in full sun or shade but requires ample water. Not really characteristic of the Shire, but if a palm has to be grown it is a good choice. Needs wind protection or leaves will brown at the tips. Doesn't drop many leaves but they are 2 metres long. Suitable for around pools in clumps of closely grown specimens.

***Aristida vagans* (Three-awned Spear-grass)**

Small slender clumping grass with dainty flower spikes. Common on sandstone & clay soils in open forests. One of several inconspicuous 3-Awned Spear grasses for mixed plantings.

***Asplenium australasicum* (Birds-nest Fern)**

Tufted large fern with a rosette of broad undivided fronds usually an epiphyte or lithophyte in rainforests eg. Bola Creek, RNP. Hardy species requiring high humidity & good drainage, will grow in the ground but not tolerating waterlogged conditions.

***Astroloma humifusum* (Cranberry Heath)**

Prostrate woody shrub with small blue/ green leaves with minutely toothed margins & attractive tubular deep red flowers in summer followed by globular edible sweet fleshy berries. Scattered in the Shire but not common, found on exposed sandstone or clay ridge tops eg. Kareela Golf Course, Princess Highway. Occasionally available in local nurseries, suitable for sun to semi-shade.

***Austrofestuca littoralis* (Coastal Fescue)**

Dense tufted grass with narrow grey/ green leaves & dense flower spikes. Found only on coastal sand dunes eg. north of Wanda beach. Suitable accent plant for coastal gardens or restoration work.

***Austromyrtus tenuifolia* (Narrow-leaf Myrtle)**

Compact small shrub with narrow, glossy, aromatic foliage. Small white flowers are conspicuous in spring and summer. Rare in the Shire only known from a few locations along the rocky creek bed of the Woronora River. An attractive long lived species for moist soils in full sun to semi-shade.

***Backhousia myrtifolia* (Grey Myrtle)**

Hardy large shrub becoming a small tree in rainforests. Often multi-stemmed or growing in dense thickets. Glossy ovate leaves & yellow/ green terminal flowers in summer. Mostly confined to creek banks & shady gullies. Will tolerate hard pruning to form an effective long lived screen.

***Baekea imbricata* (Heath Myrtle)**

Small dense shrub with crowded leaves neatly arranged along stems & small white flowers almost hidden in the leaf axils in summer/ autumn. Common on sea cliffs or moist heath & woodland eg. Coast Walk, RNP.

***Baekea linifolia* (Swamp Baekea)**

Graceful slender shrub featuring drooping branches, delicate linear scented foliage & small white flowers in summer. Typical along undisturbed creek banks. Requires moist soils & tolerates dappled shade.

***Banksia ericifolia* (Heath-leaf Banksia)**

Sturdy dense shrub with fine foliage. Orange/ red cylindrical flower spikes up to 200mm long decorate the plant in winter, attracting insects, birds and possums. Aborigines rinsed the flowers in water to extract a sweet nutritious drink. Widespread in heath & woodland. Common cultivated shrub for sunny sites tolerating periods of waterlogging.

***Banksia integrifolia* (Coast Banksia)**

Robust tree with dark green foliage that show white when turned to the wind. Large yellow flower spikes during autumn encourage nectar-feeding birds. Most common & useful in sandy exposed conditions on the coast.

***Banksia marginata* (Silver Banksia)**

Rounded bushy shrub, dense dark green foliage with silvery undersurface & small upright yellow flower spikes scattered throughout the plant for an extended period. Attractive shrub common in a variety of habitats. Fast growing species for well drained soils.

***Banksia oblongifolia* (Swamp Banksia)**

Low spreading shrub with stiff dark green leaves, the new growth covered in rusty coloured hairs. Yellow/ green flower spikes are produced in autumn/ winter. Scattered on moist sunny sites eg. Wonga Reserve. Slow growing but hardy & attractive.

***Banksia robur* (Swamp Banksia)**

Unusual low broadly spreading shrub with huge 200mm long stiff leathery leaves. New growth is covered in rusty coloured hairs. Large green/ cream flower spikes are produced in summer through to winter. Confined to swampy heath eg Uloola Swamp RNP. A lignotuber is produced, allowing heavy pruning if necessary. A feature for boggy sites.

***Banksia spinulosa* (Hairpin Banksia)**

Small bushy shrub with fine foliage & stiff angular branches. Large orange flower spikes tinged with black from autumn to spring. Common understory shrub on sandstone sites eg. Jannali Reserve. Slow growing but long lived shrub commonly cultivated.

***Banksia serrata* (Old Man Banksia)**

Sculptured small tree with a beautifully textured & gnarled trunk with serrated leaves creating an open canopy. Bears huge flower spikes in autumn and familiar "Banksia Men" cones. Widespread and suitable for dry sandy soils.

***Bauera microphylla* (White River Rose)**

Petite low growing shrub with white single pendulous flowers in spring/ summer. Uncommon, found in moist heath or creek banks in RNP & Barden Ridge. Useful small plant for wet areas in full sun/ semi-shade.

***Bauera rubioides* (Dog Rose, River Rose)**

Dense scrambling shrub with small leaves. Dainty pink flowers cover the bushes from winter through to summer. Growing in unpolluted watercourses where it forms large thickets. Requires a moist semi-shaded position.

***Baumea articulata* (Jointed Twig Rush)**

Upright sedge spreading by rhizomes, with hollow chambered cylindrical stems 5-10 mm diameter & attractive seed heads. Restricted to freshwater lagoons & swamps eg. Marley Lagoon RNP. Attractive species suitable for constructed ponds & wetlands.

***Baumea rubiginosa* (Soft Twig Rush)**

Slender erect sedge with flattened narrow leaves & dense flower heads. Common along slow moving creeks & swamps eg. Flatrock Creek RNP. Not too vigorous species suitable for ponds & edges of constructed wetlands.

***Baumea teretifolia* (Wrinkle-nut Twig Rush)**

An erect sedge with cylindrical leaves and small dense flower heads. It is moderately common to freshwater wetlands including Gibbon and Bundeena lagoons. It is an important habitat species for many frogs. An attractive species useful for wetland rehabilitation and ponds.

***Bertya brownii* (Bertya)**

Upright attractive shrub with neat oblong leaves. Flowers are obscure & small. Nationally **rare (2RC-)** only recorded in the Shire at one site at Mill Creek, Menai. Grows in sheltered semi-shaded gullies on sandstone. Little known species that should perform well in cultivation.

***Bertya pomaderroides* (Hazel Bertya)**

Medium upright shrub with small glossy oblong leaves & tiny flowers. Found in shady gullies but not common eg. lower Woronora Valley. Little known shrub for sandy protected sites.

***Billardiera scandens* (Apple Berry)**

Slender climber/ ground cover with hairy variable leaves & modest green/ cream bell shaped flowers in spring producing sausage shaped sweet fleshy fruits. Common in open forests on sheltered sandstone slopes. Non-vigorous though hardy species that can be planted among shrubs in most situations.

***Blandfordia nobilis* (Christmas Bells)**

One of the jewels of the bush. Slender upright tufted herb with narrow grass like leaves, vivid orange & yellow bells hang in clusters from tall flower stems in summer. Common on heath & woodland eg Curra Moors RNP. Suitable for low nutrient, poorly drained soils in full sun.

***Blechnum camfieldii* (Water Fern)**

Tall fern with fishbone like fronds forming a small trunk in dry conditions, but a spreading habit in swampy sites. Uncommon to the Shire (its southern limit), found at Botany Bay NP in freshwater swamps with *B. indicum*. Attractive species for full sun to dappled light in poorly drained sites.

***Blechnum cartilagineum* (Gristle Fern)**

Attractive fern with light green fishbone like fronds & red new growth. The most common *Blechnum* species in the Shire, found in sheltered moist sandstone gullies eg. Coonong Creek Reserve. Aborigines roasted the thick rhizome. Hardy slow growing species for filtered light.

***Blechnum indicum* (Swamp Water Fern)**

Tall erect fern with dark green fishbone like fronds. Spreads by long creeping rhizomes forming dense colonies in freshwater swamps with Broad Leaf Paperbarks. Aborigines roasted the thick rhizome as an important food source. Restricted mostly to Botany Bay NP, Kurnell. Uncommon to the shire where it is at its southern limit. Readily cultivated in swampy conditions.

***Blechnum minus* (Soft Water Fern)**

Similar to *B. camfieldii*, forming short trunks, also uncommon though distribution extends to Tasmania.

***Blechnum nudum* (Fishbone Water Fern)**

Small tufted fern with fishbone like fronds & forming a short black scaly trunk not forming dense colonies like other local species. Scattered along shaded creek banks but not common. Suitable for small ornamental ponds.

***Boronia floribunda* (Pale Pink Boronia)**

Upright small shrub with attractive compound aromatic leaves & spectacular pale pink scented flowers in spring. Scattered in the shire in sheltered open forest & woodland eg. lower Beethoven Reserve Engadine & Heathcote Creek. Requires moist but well drained sandy soil in semi-shade. Difficult to maintain in cultivation, mulch is beneficial.

***Boronia ledifolia* (Sydney Boronia)**

Small compact shrub with compound aromatic leaves & a profusion of pink flowers in late winter/ spring. Common across the Shire in heath, woodland & open forests on sandstone. Can be difficult to maintain in cultivation, requires well drained moist soil in full sun / semi shade.

***Boronia serrulata* (Native Rose)**

Small slender shrub of exceptional beauty. Broad leaves with serrated margins pressed against the stems & vivid pink aromatic rose like flowers make this an outstanding specimen. Nationally **rare (2RC-)** restricted to moist heath on sandstone ridges in RNP eg. Wisers track. Can be difficult to maintain in cultivation, requiring moist but well drained sandy soil.

***Bossiaea heterophylla* (Variable Bossiaea)**

Beautiful small open shrub with flattened green stems & masses of yellow/ orange 'pea' flowers in winter/ spring. Very common understorey plant throughout the shire on sandstone slopes eg. Jannali Reserve. Grows well in cultivation on well drained sandy soils.

***Bossiaea stephensonii* (Bossiaea)**

Small slender shrub similar to *B. heterophylla* except leaves are hairy & have large stipules. Grows on sandstone & clay soils eg. Loftus ridge. Useful fill in shrub for full sun / semi shade.

***Bractantha bracteatum* (Golden Everlasting Daisy)**

Upright narrow herbaceous shrub with golden yellow papery flower heads in spring/ summer. Confined to rich soils in sunny openings in tall forests in the southern end of RNP. Useful as cut or dried flower & spring colour to mixed native plantings. Many cultivars are available.

***Bursaria spinosa* (Black Thorn)**

Spiky upright shrub with small white flowers in autumn followed by persistent papery capsules. Confined to clay/ shale locations eg. Menai & Kirrawee. Useful pioneer species for revegetation work in these areas.

***Callicoma serratifolia* (Black Wattle)**

Pretty small tree often with multiple dark slender trunks. Large leaves with serrated margins, bronze new growth & white undersurface. Wattle-like flowers during summer. Typical along creek banks. Especially useful for watercourse restoration work.

***Callistemon citrinus* (Crimson Bottlebrush)**

Familiar stiffly branched shrub with lanceolate leaves & deep red 'bottlebrush' flowers in autumn attractive to nectar feeding birds. Common in rocky watercourses & swamps. Heavy pruning will rejuvenate old specimens. Hardy species preferring moist sunny sites.

***Callistemon linearis* (Narrow-leaf Bottlebrush)**

Open spreading shrub with stiff narrow leaves & bright red 'bottlebrush' flowers in spring & summer attractive to nectar feeding birds. Common in the Shire on poorly drained clay/ shale plateaus & rocky creek beds eg. Bottle & Heathcote Creeks. Useful for creek bank restoration or mixed shrub gardens in wet sunny locations.

***Callistemon pinifolius* (Green Bottlebrush)**

Low spreading to dense upright shrub scattered in the area in coastal wet heath, swamp margins or clay/ shale plateaus eg. Kurnell, Menai & coastal RNP. Unusual yellow/ green flowers & narrow rigid foliage make it an attractive specimen suitable for a variety of moist sunny sites.

***Callistemon subulatus* (Dwarf Bottlebrush)**

Very attractive small shrub with dense weeping foliage & abundant deep red terminal flower spikes in spring & summer. Restricted in the shire to the rocky creek beds of upper Woronora river. Not commonly cultivated but suitable to poorly drained sunny sites.

***Callitris muelleri* (Mueller's Cypress)**

One of two ancient species of conifer trees indigenous to the Shire. Uncommon on dry rocky slopes. Narrow upright form with dense foliage make this a dramatic accent plant or tall narrow screen.

***Callitris rhomboidea* (Port Jackson Pine)**

Similar to *C. muelleri*, with finer drooping foliage. Scattered across the Shire, this spectacular floristic relic can be a practical addition to the landscape in most dry difficult situations.

***Calochlaena dubia* (Soft Bracken)**

Soft tall fern with large much divided fronds, spreading by long rhizomes to form dense colonies in sheltered sandstone gullies. One of the most common ferns, similar to Bracken but softer & paler green. Hardy species for moist soils that periodically dry out. As with most creeping ferns, the fronds can all be pruned to ground level rejuvenating the colony.

***Calytrix tetragona* (Fringe Myrtle)**

Variable shrub depending on habitat. Bright green dainty foliage with spectacular star like white/ pink flowers making a spectacular show in late winter & spring. Reasonably common in coastal & ridge top heath eg. Kurnell Peninsular, Woronora Hts & RNP. Beautiful shrub for moist sunny or deep sandy sites.

***Carex appressa* (Tall Sedge)**

Tall leafy clumping sedge with narrow raspy leaves & slender flower spikes in summer. Fairly common along drainage ditches & rainforests beside creeks. Suitable for an accent plant in moist rich soils or ponds & wetland restoration.

***Carpobrotus glaucescens* (Native Pigface)**

Herbaceous ground cover with thick succulent leaves triangular in section & bright pink daisy like flowers intermittently through the year followed by fleshy edible fruits. Aborigines ate both the leaves & fruits. Common on coastal sand dunes. Excellent dense species for full sun, sandy soils near the coast.

***Cassine australis* (Red-fruited Olive-plum)**

Small tree/ shrub with luxuriant large ovate glossy leaves. The modest flowers are compensated by the vivid marble- sized orange fruits during Autumn & winter that attract rainforest birds. Found locally in rainforests eg. Lilli Pilli Point & Burning Palms RNP. Suitable for protected coastal landscapes, unfortunately not readily available.

***Cassinia aureonitens* (Golden Cassinia)**

Upright dense shrub with narrow dark green leaves. The dense terminal clusters of small vivid yellow flowers are outstanding in spring/ summer. Uncommon to the Shire in sheltered often shady forests eg. Woronora Valley & Lady Carrington Drive RNP. A plant whose potential has just been realised by the horticulture industry as a garden shrub & a long lasting cut flower.

***Cassinia uncata* (Bent Cassinia)**

Upright compact shrub with small narrow leaves. Dense heads of white/ pale yellow flowers in summer. Scattered in the shire as an understorey plant in dry open forests. Mostly overlooked but potentially an attractive shrub for cultivation & cut flowers.

***Casuarina glauca* (Swamp She-oak)**

Large upright tree with needle- like branchlets forming dense foliage when young, though more open with age. Remarkable tree for sandy saline environments near the coast & estuaries where it is common. Widely planted in the Shire. *Allocasuarina littoralis* is a better choice away from the coast.

***Celtis paniculata* (Hackberry, Native Celtis)**

An unusual small tree with large dull dark green leaves & a broad canopy. The smooth grey bark is a special feature of the tree. Small flowers followed by purple/ black berries attractive to rainforest birds. Locally rare with a significant stand at Grays Point Res that is host to the endangered population of beetle *Menippus fugitivus*. Potentially a useful ornamental plant for cultivation.

***Centella asiatica* (Swamp Pennywort)**

Low herbaceous groundcover spreading by rhizomes. Leaves are rounded with serrated margins 1-2cm dia. Looks similar to Native Violet except the flowers are insignificant & not quite as vigorous. Common in moist sheltered sites on sandstone or clay. It is renowned for its healing and medicinal properties in Australia and overseas.

***Ceratopetalum apetalum* (Coachwood)**

Variable sized tree with large glossy leaves & a smooth blotched trunk. Bright red flowers similar to NSW Christmas Bush in summer. Large in the RNP rainforests, however a slender small tree/ shrub in sandstone creek beds. Requires moist soils.

***Ceratopetalum gummiferum* (NSW Christmas Bush)**

Deservedly one of the most popular shrubs in the bush & in cultivation. Dense dark green foliage and masses of terminal white flowers followed by red sepals in summer. Characteristic shrub of the Shire in open forests, reaching a tree in local rainforests. Requires a moist but well drained sunny site.

***Christella dentata* (Binung)**

Slender tall clumping fern with dull green fronds. Common along creek banks in shaded gullies. Easily cultivated for shaded moist sites.

***Cissis antarctica* (Kangaroo Vine, Native Grape)**

Vigorous climber with large glossy toothed leaves climbing by tendrils. Small inconspicuous flowers produce black grape like fruits favoured by rainforest birds & once eaten by aborigines, though astringent unless very ripe. Found in rainforests even by the coast eg. Darook Park Cronulla. Robust species tolerating full sun or shade providing there is adequate moisture. Provides dense shade over a pergola or used as a ground cover for large areas.

***Cissis hypoglauca* (Water Vine, Native Grape)**

Extremely robust tendril climber with glossy leaves with 5 leaflets radiating from the one point & producing thick stems which when cut drip copious amounts of drinkable water. Small flowers produce edible black grape like fruits attractive to rainforest birds. Found in moist gullies & rainforests. Useful for covering large pergolas, requiring moist fertile soil in full sun or dappled light.

***Clematis aristata* (Old Man's Beard)**

Similar to *C. glycinoides* except leaves are fleshy & deeply toothed, less common.

***Clematis glycinoides* (Old Man's Beard)**

Slender though vigorous climber with thin textured trifoliolate leaves with sparsely toothed margins. White star shaped flowers are produced in profusion during spring. Common on sheltered sandstone slopes. Aborigines used the crushed leaves to cure headaches. Hardy, very attractive ornamental species useful for covering fences or lattice work in most situations.

***Clerodendrum tomentosum* (Hairy Clerodendron)**

Tall shrub with large hairy, strongly veined leaves. White terminal flowers in spring are followed by persistent red sepals & black shiny berries. Common understorey shrub in sheltered gullies & rainforest margins eg. Thompson's Bay Reserve, Illawong & RNP rainforests. An unusual species rarely seen in cultivation.

***Commelina cyanea* (Scurvy Weed)**

Low spreading vigorous ground cover with fleshy lanceolate leaves & blue flowers. Very common in moist shaded sites. Can spread over large areas, its vigour relating to available moisture.

***Correa alba* (Coastal Correa)**

Rounded small shrub with grey/ green round leaves paler below & white star shaped flowers in winter. Restricted to the exposed coastal zone in moist heath or hind dunes eg. Botany Bay NP, Kurnell. Proven landscape plant for exposed coastal situations.

***Correa reflexa* (Native Fuchsia)**

Variable attractive small shrub with many forms. Dark green heart shaped hairy leaves & red, green or cream tubular pendulous flowers in winter. Common plant in sheltered forests in semi-shade. Many cultivars are available.

***Crinum pedunculatum* (Crinum Lily)**

Large stout herbaceous clumping plant with fleshy broad strap leaves. Large loose white flowers are produced on thick fleshy stems in summer. Uncommon around the coast & estuaries eg Bonnet Bay. Aborigines crushed the leaves as to cure marine stings. Suitable as bold accent plant near the coast with adequate water.

***Crowea exalata* (Crowea)**

Small open shrub with soft light green foliage & bright pink bell shaped flowers in winter. Scattered through the Shire in shady protected valleys eg. Mill Creek, Menai. Appropriate fill in shrub for dappled light in moist sandy soils.

***Crowea saligna* (Crowea)**

Small upright shrub with large lanceolate leaves & prominent large waxy pink flowers through winter. Occasional in the area on well drained sandy slopes in open forests eg. Rutherford Reserve, Cronulla. Attractive species for winter flowering & semi shaded position.

***Cupaniopsis anacardioides* (Tuckeroo)**

Handsome long lived small/ medium tree with glossy large leaves & interesting clusters of yellow/ orange fruits in When grown in the open, forms a magnificent broad canopy. Restricted to the protected coastal zone in littoral rainforest and Kurnell Dune forest.eg Jibbon, Kurnell & Darook Park.

***Cyathea australis* (Rough Tree Fern)**

Tree fern with a stout trunk & a dense canopy formed from large fronds. Uncommon naturally in the Shire occurring in rainforests in RNP. Popular in cultivation tolerating full sun if provided with sufficient moisture.

***Cyathea cooperi* (Straw Tree Fern)**

Fast growing tree fern with slightly narrower trunk diameter than *C. australis*, scattered in rainforests in RNP. Widely cultivated & becoming naturalised in some urban bushland. Tolerates full sun if given ample water & mulched.

***Cymbopogon refractus* (Barbed-wire Grass)**

Dense tufted grass with unusual flower spikes on slender wiry stems in summer. Similar to Kangaroo Grass but different flowers. Scattered in open forests on dry sandy soils & clay in full sun to partial shade. Hardy species for mass planting that can be cut back close to the ground occasionally to rejuvenate.

***Dampiera purpurea* (Dampiera)**

Upright small shrub with rounded dark green hairy leaves & purple flowers in spring. Scattered in sheltered open forests on sandstone eg. Prince Edward Park.

***Dampiera stricta* (Blue Dampiera)**

Small open shrub inconspicuous when not in flower. Deep purple flowers spring/ summer. Common in the Shire on moist heath & open forest. Fill in shrub for moist sunny sites.

***Danthonia species* (Wallaby Grasses)**

Dense tufted grasses with narrow leaves & fluffy seed heads on slender stems in spring/ summer. Common plants suitable for a wide range of conditions. Plants tend to wither & brown off over winter. Suitable for fill in plants or rehabilitation work.

***Darwinia diminuta* (Darwinia)**

Small prostrate/ to upright woody shrub with tiny narrow leaves & unusual red & white flowers. Nationally **rare (2RCi)**, restricted to exposed ridges mostly already developed in the Shire eg. Woronora Hts, Engadine & Heathcote NP. Worthy of growing for protection of the species.

***Darwinia grandiflora* (Darwinia)**

Small prostrate woody shrub similar to *D. diminuta* except slightly larger flowers & always prostrate in habit. Nationally **rare (2RCi)**.

***Davallia pyxidata* (Hare's Foot Fern)**

Creeping fern with stiff rhizomes covered in soft brown scales & leathery light green fronds. Mostly a lithophyte scattered in the area in sheltered forests. Slow growing species for small gardens.

***Daviesia corymbosa* (Bitter Pea)**

Attractive small open shrub with broad leathery leaves. Yellow/ red "pea" flowers appearing in spring. Moderately common shrub on sandstone slopes eg. Prince Edward Park. Colourful shrub for dry sandy locations.

***Daviesia mimosoides* (Bitter Pea)**

Medium shrub with weeping foliage reminiscent of an Acacia. Sprays of pale yellow/ brown "pea" flowers in early spring. Uncommon in the Shire on deep sand only recorded at Botany Bay NP, Kurnell.

***Dennstaedia davallioides* (Lacy Ground Fern)**

Tall creeping fern with large delicately divided dark green fronds forming dense colonies on moist sandy creek flats. Common in rainforests in RNP. Easily cultivated in cool shaded sites.

***Deyeuxia quadriseta* (Reed Bent Grass)**

Loosely tufted grass with grey/ green leaves & attractive dense seed heads in summer. Scattered on moist soils in dappled light. Suitably mass planted or mixed among ground cover vegetation.

***Dianella caerulea* (Blue Flax Lily)**

Tufted herbaceous plant with glossy strap leaves, slightly toothed margins. Beautiful bright blue flowers with yellow stamens on tall slender spikes in summer. Small decorative rich blue berries are edible, though full of seeds. Being widespread it would have been an important food for the local Aborigines. Very common species with 2 varieties in the Shire, *D.var. producta* has a more elongated form. They prefer sandy soils. Proven to be an attractive species adaptable to a wide range of conditions.

***Dianella prunina* (Flax Lily)**

Robust tufted herb with glossy strap leaves strongly tinged purple/ crimson & bright blue flowers on tall stems in spring followed by bright blue berries. Similar to *D. caerulea* but larger & different leaf colour. Rare in the Shire only recorded in one location in Heathcote NP on an exposed sandstone ridge. Very attractive species with enormous ornamental potential.

***Dianella revoluta* (Mauve Flax Lily)**

Similar & less common than *D. caerulea*, but a more compact plant. Leaves are not toothed & are inrolled slightly.

***Dichelachne crinita* (Long-hair Plume Grass)**

Slender dense tufted grass with ornamental softly hairy seed heads on tall graceful stems in spring/ summer. Moderately common on sandstone & clay. Ornamental species for mass planting or revegetation work. Freely seeds from parent plants becoming weedy if only a single specimen is required.

***Dichondra repens* (Kidney Weed)**

Very low growing herb with rounded kidney shaped leaves, spreading by rhizomes to create a carpet of foliage. Common species tolerating a wide range of conditions. Has successfully been used for a hardy lawn alternative in sun or semi-shade with adequate moisture that rarely requires mowing. Can be purchased from seed in most nurseries.

***Dicksonia antarctica* (Soft Tree Fern)**

Tree fern with thick stout trunk covered in old frond bases. Large crown of dark glossy leathery leaves. Only recorded in the Shire occasionally in the deep rainforest gullies of southern RNP. Found in deep rainforest gullies. Slow growing species requiring some shade & ample water.

***Dillwynia floribunda* (Eggs and Bacon)**

Small compact shrub with ascending branches of dense narrow dark green leaves. Golden yellow & red 'pea' flowers crowd the upper stems making a spectacular show in late winter/ spring. Common component of exposed heath especially local National Parks. Rarely seen in cultivation, suitable for sandy soils moist to moderately dry.

***Dillwynia parvifolia* (Small-leaf Dillwynia)**

Small spreading shrub with tiny crowded leaves & clusters of yellow terminal 'pea' flowers in spring. Uncommon to the shire preferring rich clay soils eg. Hall Dr Reserve, Menai. Suitable for heavier soils in full sun/ semi-shade.

***Dillwynia retorta* (Eggs and Bacon)**

Small prickly shrub with yellow/ red "pea" flowers from winter through to summer. One of the most widespread & common plants to the Shire. Hardy colourful shrub for well drained sandy soils.

***Dioscorea transversa* (Native Yam)**

Slender twining climber with attractive glossy heart shaped leaves & 5-7 prominent veins. Inconspicuous flowers in spring produce decorative 3 winged brown papery capsules. The swollen tubers were eaten by aborigines. Rare in the Shire found in rainforests in RNP. Attractive species for small areas.

***Dodonaea triquetra* (Hop Bush)**

Upright shrub with small unusual flowers followed by decorative bundles of dangling paper fruits, green turning brown in spring. Common plant on dry sandstone slopes. Fast growing & hardy, useful for regeneration work & mixed shrub gardens.

***Dodonaea viscosa ssp. angustifolia* (Sticky Hop Bush)**

Medium size shrub with attractive dark green leaves with an interesting sticky surface. The small flowers produce decorative winged fruit. A very rare plant in the Shire only known from rainforest margins in the RNP eg Forest Island walk. Makes a hardy feature shrub for protected areas in full sun to semi-shade.

***Doodia aspera* (Rasp Fern)**

Low creeping fern spreading by short rhizomes, with coarse raspy fishbone like fronds. New growth is vivid red or pink making it a very attractive species. Common in sheltered gullies & rainforests on sandy as well as rich soils. Slow spreading species popular & hardy from full sun to shade in moist soils.

***Doryanthes excelsa* (Gynea Lily)**

Enormous unmistakable clumping plant with strap leaves to 2m. Striking, flamboyant blood red flower heads are produced on erect 3-4m leafy stems in late winter to summer. Common on dry sheltered sandstone slopes. Aborigines roasted the young flower stems & roots. Spectacular plant for a bold feature. May not flower each year often requiring a bushfire to stimulate flowering.

***Echinopogon caespitosus* (Hedgehog Grass)**

Loosely tufted grass with attractive small flower heads in summer. Common & suitable among ground herbage in a wide range of conditions.

***Ehretia acuminata* (Koda)**

Upright narrow medium sized tree with large glossy leaves. Small summer flowers followed by masses of orange edible berries. Uncommon in the Shire, found along the upper Hacking River RNP. A proven hardy fast growing ornamental tree for protected moist sites.

***Elaeocarpus reticulatus* (Blueberry Ash)**

Narrow medium tree with dark glossy leaves, decorative white bell shape flowers in summer followed by rich blue berries from autumn to winter. A widespread, ornamental & hardy species commonly grown as a specimen or street tree.

***Eleocharis sphacelata* (Tall Spike Rush)**

Large rush spreading by thick short rhizomes, with upright hollow chambered stems & small fluffy white flowers produced at their tips. Restricted to slow moving fresh water eg. Audley. Aborigines ate the underground stems and wove the soft leaves into mats. Attractive & useful species for ponds & wetlands providing shelter for aquatic birds frogs & invertebrates.

***Endiandra sieberi* (Corkwood)**

Small bushy tree with glossy leaves & deeply textured trunk. Black 3cm fruit for most of the year. Rare in the Shire with a lovely stand at Darook Park. A prized tree for protected coastal areas.

***Epacris longiflora* (Fuchsia Heath)**

Straggling small shrub with prickly, stem clasping leaves & familiar long tubular red & white tipped flowers for most of the year. Widespread on sheltered sandstone slopes often growing out of rock crevices. Difficult to propagate but sometimes available at local nurseries. Prized species for low nutrient sandy soils.

***Epacris microphylla* (Coral Heath)**

Small stiffly branched upright shrub with minute leaves & masses of white bell shaped flowers packed into the leaf axils in winter/ spring. Common to moist sunny heath or woodland. Difficult to propagate but occasionally available. May be hard to establish in cultivation. For the enthusiast with poor sandy soils.

***Eriostemon australasius* (Pink Wax Flower)**

Small shrub with long bluish/ green leaves & large waxy pink flowers in spring. Common in heath & open forest on sandstone. Showy shrub for well drained soils. Can be difficult to establish.

***Eriostemon buxifolius* (Wax Flower)**

Small stiffly branched shrub with waxy foliage & stems covered in warty oil glands. Pink & white star shaped waxy flowers are very spectacular in spring. Common on moist sandy heath in RNP eg. Coastal Track. Occasionally available in nurseries but can be difficult to maintain in cultivation. Requires moist but well drained sandy soil.

***Eucalyptus agglomerata* (Blue-leaf Stringybark)**

Large trees with a straight trunk & bluish foliage. Mostly confined to Heathcote NP with some grand specimens in the Woronora Valley. Aborigines lit rolled bundles of bark for torches. Suitable for sandstone slopes in open spaces.

***Eucalyptus amplifolia* (Cabbage Gum)**

Medium/ large narrow upright tree with patchy smooth pale trunk & large broad leaves. Naturally rare in the Shire with a small population at Forbes Ck Woronora. Widely planted in streets & parks. Excellent tree for waterlogged soils.

***Eucalyptus botryoides* (Bangalay)**

Large tree with rough bark. Foliage is seasonally attacked by lerp insects which in turn Pardalotes feed on. Common & suitable for coastal plantings.

***Eucalyptus capitellata* (Brown Stringybark)**

The most common Stringybark in the Shire. Small stunted tree on exposed ridges, larger on protected slopes. Cream flowers in Summer. Very hardy species.

***Eucalyptus consideniana* (Yertchuk)**

Spreading open tree with rough bark, smooth upper branches & white flowers in spring. Rare to the Shire found on exposed ridges eg RNP & Engadine. A hardy tree for difficult conditions.

***Eucalyptus eugenioides* (Thin-leaf Stringybark)**

Large dense stringybark often flowering abundantly in summer to autumn. Scattered throughout the area eg Gynea, Miranda.

***Eucalyptus globoidea* (White Stringybark)**

Medium/ large spreading tree with straight stringybark trunk, cream flowers during summer & autumn. Aborigines utilised the fibrous bark for making rope & cord. Common on both clay & sandstone ridges, eg Kirrawee, Heathcote and Menai.

***Eucalyptus gummifera* (Bloodwood)**

Medium/ large tree with rough tessellated bark & broad canopy. Flowers profusely in autumn. Aborigines used the sticky sap to treat their fibrous fishing lines making them waterproof. A familiar tree to Shire residents, common to sandstone ridges & slopes.

***Eucalyptus haemastoma* (Scribbly Gum)**

Small/ medium tree with open canopy & spectacular smooth white trunk and limbs. Common on sandstone ridges & slopes. Slow growing but worth the wait. Very ornamental tree for poor soils providing dappled shade underneath.

***Eucalyptus leuhmanniana* (Yellow Top Ash)**

Mostly a small mallee with large sickle shaped leaves & a smooth trunk. Large fruits & new growth bluish/grey. Nationally **rare (2RCa)**. Scattered on exposed sandstone ridges in RNP, Heathcote & Woronora Hts. If not exposed to fire can become a medium tree. Can be coppiced to maintain mallee form.

***Eucalyptus longifolia* (Woollybutt)**

Rare to the Shire this large tree has rough bark, long narrow leaves & large showy pendulous fruits. Attractive cream flowers in summer. Small population adjacent to the park & railway station at Woollooware.

***Eucalyptus multicaulis* (Whip-stick Mallee)**

Multi-stemmed mallee with smooth slender trunks & red branchlets on new growth. Flowering profusely in winter. Rare to the Shire scattered on sandstone ridge tops and slopes eg Woronora Hts, and Scouter' Mountain RNP. Small tree for urban areas that needs to be coppiced to maintain a mallee habit.

***Eucalyptus oblonga* (Common Sandstone Stringybark)**

Small stringybark with an open canopy. Common to ridge tops of clay & sandstone in the west of the shire eg Lucas Hts. Useful in harsh conditions, the open canopy allowing shrubs to be planted beneath it.

***Eucalyptus obstans* (Port Jackson Mallee)**

Ornamental smooth trunk mallee with leathery leaves, white flowers in spring & summer, & large attractive capsules. Common on sandstone ridges in RNP, Kurnell & Burraneer Pt. Excellent plant for cultivation providing dense foliage for screening. On better soil will grow to a small tree unless coppiced.

***Eucalyptus paniculata* (Grey Ironbark)**

Large robust tree with deeply furrowed ironbark, dark green foliage & pendulous cream flowers during winter. Conspicuous to the shale plateaus that have now mostly been cleared eg Menai, Heathcote, Kirrawee & Caringbah where it should be planted if given enough space. In the past *E. sideroxylon* has been planted in these areas though not indigenous to the shire.

***Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt)**

Tree with straight rough trunk & smooth branches festooned with ribbons of shedding bark. This giant commonly dominates sheltered sandstone slopes. Long lived important canopy tree for parks, schools & open spaces.

***Eucalyptus piperita* (Sydney Peppermint)**

One of the most common trees in the Shire. Large spreading canopy, rough bark & smooth upper limbs. Grows on difficult rocky sandstone slopes.

***Eucalyptus punctata* (Grey Gum)**

Large sturdy gum tree featuring an unmistakable apricot/ grey bark & broad canopy. Common & distinctive to the Shire but unfortunately not widely planted. Adaptable & fast growing, flowering in summer.

***Eucalyptus racemosa* (Narrow-leaf Scribbly Gum)**

Striking large tree with smooth white upright trunk. Similar to & often intergrading with *E haemastoma*. Generally larger, faster growing & preferring clay soils eg Sutherland Cemetery & Burraneer Pk. An exceptionally appealing species worthy of greater landscape use.

***Eucalyptus resinifera* (Red Mahogany)**

Variable tree, mostly tall & straight with stringy/ rough bark found on protected sandstone slopes. On exposed sites it is only a small spreading tree. Yellow flowers during summer. A hardy adaptable tree reasonably common in the Shire

***Eucalyptus robusta* (Swamp Mahogany)**

Medium spreading tree with coarse rough bark, large dark green leaves, attractive large buds, flowers & capsules. Uncommon, preferring low lying swampy areas by the coast eg Gwawley ck Sylvania. Fast growing species for coastal plantings.

***Eucalyptus saligna* (Sydney Blue Gum)**

Large smooth barked tree with a spreading crown. Restricted to the clay/ shale plateau at East Heathcote & the rich soils of southern RNP. Mostly occur as hybrids with Bangalay *E. botryoides*. Landscaping and regeneration using this species should be restricted to these areas.

***Eucalyptus sieberi* (Silver Top Ash)**

Variable small/ large tree depending on conditions. Features rough hard bark, red young branchlets & white flowers in spring. Widespread on ridge tops eg Engadine to Waterfall. Tough fast growing species.

***Eucalyptus squamosa* (Scaly Bark)**

Unusual small tree with scaly bark, outstanding dark green/grey foliage & cream flowers in spring. Scattered but uncommon on ridges in the shire eg Kareela Golf Course, Yarrowarra & Woronora Heights. Suitable small tree for exposed gardens with poor soils.

***Eucalyptus tereticornis* (Forest Red Gum)**

Beautiful majestic large tree with a spreading crown. Trunk & branches smooth dappled cream/ brown. Prefers rich alluvial or shale soils eg along Woronora floodplain, Menai & Como. In the open it forms a broad shade specimen eg Gunnamatta Park.

***Eupomatia laurina* (Native Guava, Bolwarra)**

An interesting medium shrub with handsome large glossy leaves from an ancient family of rainforest plants. Unusual cream flowers in December followed by fleshy tasty edible fruits. Restricted mostly forests in RNP. Aborigines used the strong fibre of the inner bark for fishing lines. Foliage plant for moist wet rainforest gardens.

***Euroschinus falcata* (Ribbonwood)**

Outstanding medium sized tree with large decorative glossy light green leaves. A rainforest tree rare to the area with specimens at Grays Point Res, Marina Crescent Res & occasionally in RNP. Little known species not yet utilised in cultivation. For sheltered sites & rainforest gardens.

***Eustrephus latifolius* (Wombat Berry)**

Vigorous but slender twining climber with light green shiny broad lanceolate leaves. Attractive clusters of white & purple flowers in spring followed by large fleshy edible orange berries make this a desirable garden species. Common in open forests on well drained sandstone slopes.

***Ficus coronata* (Sandpaper Fig)**

Dense bushy small tree with unusual sandpaper-like leaves used by the Aborigines for that purpose. Curious black 2cm fruits formed on older branches are edible when ripe & attract rainforest birds. Common along creek banks in RNP and Kurnell but rare elsewhere. Suitable for bushtucker and rainforest gardens.

***Ficus rubiginosa* (Rusty Fig)**

Vigorous spreading medium/ large tree with gnarled limbs & large leaves. Small fruits were eaten by aborigines & the strong inner bark used for fibre to make dilly bags, nets & fishing lines. Scattered in the area, often growing from rock shelves. Attractive species for parks & open spaces.

***Ficus superba* var. *heneana* (Deciduous Fig)**

Spreading medium tree with sinuous branches, large leaves. Prominent 2.5cm spotted crimson fruit, attractive to rainforest pigeons. Aborigines ate the fruit & used the strong inner bark for nets, fishing lines & dilly bags. Rare in the shire with isolated specimens at Grays Point Res & RNP. Potential use for parks & as a specimen tree.

***Gahnia aspera* (Sword Sedge)**

Dense small tufted sedge with sharply serrated leaves & short flower spikes producing attractive dark red seeds. Restricted to the shale soils of rainforests in RNP & Menai. Requires rich moist soils in sun or shade. Not commonly available though suitable as a water feature or understory plant.

***Gahnia clarkei* (Sword Sedge)**

Tall dense sedge with sharp finely serrated leaves & large open seed heads producing small red/ brown seeds. Common on poorly drained sites near rainforests, swamps & creek banks. Large hardy species suitable for revegetation work or edges of ponds.

***Gahnia erythrocarpa* (Sword Sedge)**

Similar to *G. clarkei*, except found in open sunny sites often drying out.

***Gahnia sieberiana* (Sword Sedge)**

Similar to *G. clarkei* except leaves are paler below, the most common species in the shire.

***Geitonoplesium cymosum* (Scrambling Lily)**

Strong but slender twining climber/ scrambler with dark green lanceolate leaves & small clusters of pendulous white flowers in spring producing small black fruits. Common in open forests throughout the area on dry to moist sandstone slopes.

***Geranium homeanum* (Northern Cranesbill)**

Herbaceous ground cover with slender rhizomes, delicately lobed leaves & small pale pink flowers. A modest plant found on moist sheltered slopes. Suitable for sheltered positions with adequate moisture, as a fill in plant that won't climb over shrubs.

***Glochidion ferdinandi* (Cheese Tree)**

Medium tree with a broad spreading crown of glossy light green leaves. Small flowers produce curious squat pumpkin or Dutch cheese shaped fruits with bright orange seeds. Common in open forests & sheltered gullies. Rarely used in cultivation but a magnificent hardy specimen tree, tolerating pruning if necessary.

***Glycine clandestinum* (Lover's Twine)**

Slender herbaceous twining climber/ ground cover with small trifoliolate leaves & small purple 'pea' flowers most of the year. Common component of the ground cover vegetation in sheltered gullies on clay or sandstone. Suitable among shrubs in most situations.

***Gmelina leichhardtii* (White Beech)**

Highly ornamental tree with a spreading crown, pale trunk & light green leaves. Bell shaped flowers in spring followed by blue fruits eaten by birds. Rare in rainforests in RNP eg. along Lady Carrington Drive. Requires moist soil but tolerates full sun from young forming a broad dense canopy.

***Gompholobium grandiflorum* (Wedge Pea)**

Small shrub with trifoliolate leaves. Large yellow pea flowers in spring. Reasonably common as an understorey shrub throughout the shire on dry sandstone slopes. Colourful species for semi shade.

***Gompholobium latifolium* (Large-leaf Wedge Pea)**

Very similar to *G. grandiflorum* except slightly broader leaves.

***Gonocarpus teucrioides* (Germander Raspwort)**

Neat compact small rounded shrub with tiny raspy leaves often tinged red. One of the most common plants in the shire in sheltered open forests. In cultivation it is more attractive than in the bush, suitable for a wide range of situations as a border or fill in foliage plant.

***Goodenia hederacea* (Ivy-leaf Goodenia)**

Low growing herbaceous ground cover spreading by slender stolons. Leaves are variable creating a sparse cover with yellow flowers in spring/ summer. Common on sandstone & clay in filtered light. Suitable attractive fill in species that is not too vigorous.

***Grevillea buxifolia* (Grey Spider-flower)**

Dense dome shaped shrub with small oblong leaves & beautiful woolly grey "spider" flowers in spring & summer. Common well known shrub on well drained sites eg. Jannali Reserve. Hardy plant for mixed shrub plantings.

***Grevillea diffusa* (Red Spider-flower)**

Variable small shrub with lanceolate leaves & pendulous deep red 'spider' flowers in winter/spring. Attractive species common on sandstone slopes, tolerating some shade.

***Grevillea linearifolia* (Narrow-leaf Grevillea)**

Variable shrub with long narrow leaves & white/ pink "spider" flowers in spring. Uncommon in the shire on well drained sandstone slopes eg. Heathcote NP. Graceful shrub for mixed shrub plantings.

***Grevillea longifolia* (Long-leaf Grevillea)**

Very broad spreading robust shrub with 150mm long leaves with coarsely serrated margins & silvery undersurface. Abundant deep red “tooth brush” flowers through spring & summer. Nationally **rare (2RC-)** occurring in the Shire along creek banks in the Woronora River, Mill & Heathcote Creeks. Hardy species for wet sites.

***Grevillea mucronulata* (Green Grevillea)**

Small rounded shrub with spoon shaped leaves & unusual green “spider” flowers obscured among the foliage. Common feature of well drained sandstone slopes. Suitable for mixed shrub plantings.

***Grevillea oleoides* (Red Spider-flower)**

Attractive open shrub with large dark green leaves & contrasting silver reverse. Large delicate pendant red “spider” flowers are eye catching through winter & spring. Common to the Shire in heath and sandstone slopes. Tolerates periods of poor drainage & some shade.

***Grevillea sericea* (Pink Spider-flower)**

Slender foliage & an open habit with pink flowers from winter through spring. The most common Grevillea in the area on sandstone slopes. Requires good drainage.

***Grevillea sphacelata* (Grey Spider-flower)**

Rounded small shrub with narrow dark green leaves & terminal small grey ‘spider’ flowers in spring. Similar to *G. buxifolia* but smaller in all aspects. Common on well drained sandstone slopes eg. Jannali Reserve.

***Guioa semiglauca* (Guioa)**

Medium shrub/ small tree featuring decorative large dark green leaves with a pale undersurface. Restricted to littoral & temperate rainforests eg. Lilli Pilli Point, Darook Park & Towra Point. Suitable for protected coastal plantings & rainforest gardens.

***Haemodorum planifolium* (Bloodroot)**

Loose tufted herbaceous plant with long sprawling flattened leaves & tall branched stem bearing unusual black flowers in spring. Common on dry sandstone slopes eg. Jannali Reserve, inconspicuous unless flowering. Aborigines ate the roasted swollen roots. Curious slow growing species for mixed plantings.

***Hakea dactyloides* (Broad-leaf Hakea)**

Small to medium shrub with various forms. The most common of the 2 flat leaf Hakeas in the shire. White Grevillea-like flowers cover the stems in spring & smooth woody fruits persist through out the year. Common large understorey plant on sandstone slopes. Useful screening plant that would usually be more appropriate than the more commonly planted *H. salicifolia*.

***Hakea gibbosa* (Needlebush)**

Dense prickly shrub with hairy terete leaves & cream “Grevillea” like flowers in spring followed by large 3cm woody fruits. Birds are attracted to the nectar & the nesting habitat provided. Common to exposed sandstone ridges & slopes with good drainage.

***Hakea propinqua* (Needlebush)**

Very prickly medium shrub with needle like leaves & cream flowers followed by enormous 3.5cm woody fruits. Moderately common on exposed sandstone ridges especially around Heathcote/ Engadine. Excellent bird attracting plant for nectar feeders as well as shelter for small birds.

***Hakea salicifolia* (Willow-leaf Hakea)**

Medium dense shrub, the least common of the 2 local species with flat leaves. Mostly confined to a few moist gullies eg. Woronora River. Over used in cultivation seen as a panacea for every situation. Hardy with white spring flowers followed by warty persistent fruits.

***Hakea sericea* (Bushy Needlebrush)**

Dense prickly shrub with needle-like leaves. Masses of white Grevillea-like flowers from late winter through spring followed by curious large woody fruits. Very common on well drained sandy slopes & ridges. Fast growing, useful for encouraging birds to the garden.

***Hakea teretifolia* (Daggerbush)**

Broad stiffly branched shrub forming impenetrable thickets of sharp needle-like foliage. White flowers among the leaves in summer & autumn & unusual slender woody fruits persistent along the stems. Excellent shrub for attracting & protecting small birds. Requires plenty of space.

***Hardenbergia violacea* (False Sarsaparilla)**

Slender fast growing climber/ ground cover with oblong dark green leaves & prominent venation. Deep purple 'pea' flowers in spring followed by decorative smooth black pods. Very common in open forests on sandstone slopes. Popular colourful landscape plant with several cultivars available.

***Helichrysum elatum* (White Everlasting Daisy)**

Tall narrow herbaceous shrub with broad lanceolate leaves covered in woolly hairs & white terminal daisy flower heads in early spring. Confined mostly to rich shale soils in sunny clearings in the southern end of RNP. Easily grown species.

***Hibbertia bracteata* (Guinea Flower)**

Medium open shrub with attractive glossy light green lanceolate leaves & large single yellow flowers winter to summer. Occasional in moist shaded sandstone valleys. Uncommon in cultivation but an ornamental species suitable to urban gardens.

***Hibbertia dentata* (Guinea Flower)**

Slender twining climber with broad ovate glossy toothed leaves, red new growth & large 3-4cm dia single yellow flowers in spring/ summer. Common in shaded moist gullies. Foliage is sparse, suitable for climbing among shrubs.

***Hibbertia empetrifolia* (Trailing Guinea Flower)**

Low trailing shrub with slender branches & small oblong leaves slightly hairy & bright yellow flowers scattered among the foliage in spring/ summer. Restricted to clay/ shale soils eg Menai Park. Attractive species for heavy soils.

***Hibbertia linearis* (Showy Guinea Flower)**

Variable small species with linear to lanceolate leaves & masses of yellow single flowers through winter & spring. Common in coastal heath & open forests on sandy moist soils.

***Hibbertia monogyna* (Guinea Flower)**

Upright small shrub with glossy leaves notched at the apex. Abundant single yellow flowers in winter/ spring. Moderately common throughout the shire in sheltered well drained gullies. Suitable for winter colour in moist sandy soils in dappled light.

***Hibbertia nitida* (Shiny Guinea Flower)**

Attractive small upright shrub with glossy leaves and abundant flowers during spring. Nationally **rare (2RC-)**, though scattered in open forest in the Shire, eg Coonong Creek; Prince Edward Park and the Woronora Valley. Suitable for semi-shade positions in well drained soils.

***Hibbertia obtusifolia* (Grey Guinea Flower)**

Variable shrub from prostrate to erect with small spoon shaped leaves & abundant yellow flowers from winter to early summer. Scattered on moist heath in coastal RNP. Commonly cultivated, suitable for most soils in full sun / semi-shade.

***Hibbertia riparia* (Erect Guinea Flower)**

Small pretty upright shrub with soft green slender foliage. Large lemon yellow flowers with 5 petals for an extended period from winter to summer. Common in heath & open forest on sandy moist soil. Useful in mixed plantings to add winter colour.

***Hibbertia scandens* (Snake Vine)**

Vigorous ground cover/ climber with thick large light green elliptical leaves & large 6-8 cm dia golden yellow flowers. Common on the coast in deep sand or in open forests. Hardy plant creating a colourful screen or dense ground cover in full sun with adequate water.

***Hibbertia serpyllifolia* (Guinea Flower)**

Dense compact prostrate woody shrub/ ground cover with small shiny oval leaves & masses of yellow flowers in spring. Uncommon species found on the moist, low nutrient soils of the coastal heaths, south of Bundeena RNP. Potentially an ornamental species for massed planting creating ground cover or as a border shrub.

***Histiopteris incisa* (Bat's Wing Fern)**

Tall slender creeping fern with large soft pale green fronds. Moderately common forming small colonies in sheltered sandstone gullies & wet cliff crevices. Reported to be easily established in cool shady moist sites.

***Hovea linearis* (Hovea)**

Sprawling open shrub with long narrow dark green leaves & deep purple 'pea' flowers in spring followed by swollen air filled pods. Occasional understorey shrub in open forests on well drained sandy soils eg. Loftus Crown Reserves.

***Hydrocotyle pedunculata* (Pennywort)**

Ground cover spreading by rhizomes with lobed rounded softly hairy leaves & tiny inconspicuous flowers. Common in sheltered moist areas forming dense cover. Suitable for heavy shade.

***Hydrocotyle tripartita* (Pennywort)**

Creeping dense ground cover with tiny glossy trifoliate leaves & insignificant flowers. Rare in the area only recorded on the rich soils of the southern rainforests in RNP, usually in sunny clearings or forming part of the turf in picnic areas. Suitable as a lawn alternative in moist soils.

***Hypolepis muellerii* (Harsh Ground Fern)**

Creeping fern with light green lacy divided fronds, spread by vigorous rhizomes forming dense colonies. Common in sheltered gullies usually along creek banks eg. Coonong Creek. An attractive species for large moist areas with full sun to filtered shade.

***Imperata cylindrica* (Blady Grass)**

Broad leafy grass spreading by long rhizomes. Attractive silky white flower spikes sporadically or in masses after fire or mowing. Common in open sunny sites on clay & sandstone usually growing in large colonies. Aborigines chewed the starchy rhizomes. Suitable for median strips or large difficult sites. It can be mown to rejuvenate & stimulate flowering.

***Ipomea brasiliensis* (Goatsfoot Convolvulus)**

Robust long creeping ground cover with strong stolons & rhizomes, sparse round leathery leaves 50-80mm dia & large pink trumpet shaped flowers in summer. Rare in the shire only recorded at Jibbon Beach sand dunes. Aborigines chewed the roots. Useful for beach restoration work in the area.

***Indigofera australis* (Native Indigo)**

Erect delicate shrub with soft compound leaves & long racemes of pink pea flowers during spring. Common on rainforest margins & shady gullies eg Bundeena Reserve; Lady Carrington Drive RNP. Suitable for sites protected from strong winds. Tolerates some shade preferring richer soils.

***Isolepis inundata* (Swamp Club Rush)**

Small bright green tufted sedge with dainty seed heads. It is common in many damp places tolerating full sun or dappled light. Suitable for small damp areas.

***Isolepis nodosus* (Knobby Club Rush)**

Erect clumping sedge with narrow cylindrical leaves & ball like seed heads most of the year. Very common in damp places along exposed coastal headlands. Easily cultivated in moist soils suitable for margins of ponds and poorly drained sites near the coast.

***Isopogon anemonifolius* (Drumsticks)**

Charming dense small shrub with leathery much divided leaves & unusual terminal heads of pale yellow flowers mostly in spring produce unusual persistent globular cones. Very common on dry sandstone slopes. Slow growing long lived shrub attractive throughout the year.

***Isopogon anethifolius* (Drumsticks)**

Beautiful compact small shrub with light green leaves divided into terete segments. Unusual terminal yellow flower heads spring & summer are followed by persistent globular cones. Not as common as *I. anemonifolius*, occurring in similar habitats.

***Juncus continuus* (Rush)**

Dense upright tufted sedge with pithy narrow cylindrical leaves & hanging seed heads most of the year. Common in sunny poorly drained sites. Easily cultivated for use around ponds and watercourse restoration.

***Juncus kraussii* (Sea Rush)**

Tall leafy rush with dense seed heads in summer found in saltmarshes & brackish estuaries eg. Towra Point. Useful for restoration work in these areas providing wading birds with protection.

***Juncus planifolius* (Broad Rush)**

Low grass like tufted sedge with shiny leaves & open flower heads on tall stems. Common throughout the area freely colonising damp sunny ground. Suitable for watercourse restoration & pond margins.

***Juncus usitatus* (Common Rush)**

Dense tufted sedge with slender cylindrical pithy leaves & hanging seed heads most of the year. Common on sunny damp places. Attractive species for watercourse restoration, ponds & constructed wetlands providing habitat for frogs and birds.

***Kennedia prostrata* (Running Postman)**

Long creeping ground cover/ twining climber, with trifoliolate leaves & bright red 'pea' flowers in spring. Less common & not as vigorous as *K. rubicunda*. Popular cultivated species for sunny locations as a climber or groundcover on sandy soils.

***Kennedia rubicunda* (Dusky Coral Pea)**

Rampant climber/ ground cover with long twining stems, trifoliolate leaves with broad elliptical leaflets. Large dull red 'pea' flowers in spring followed by long straight hairy seed pods. Common throughout the Shire on clay & sandstone. Suitable for bushland restoration work rather than domestic gardens.

***Kunzea ambigua* (Tick Bush)**

Spreading large shrub with papery bark & small crowded leaves. White fluffy flowers along the stems of new growth in summer. Very common shrub on moist heath & dry exposed sandstone ridges. Hardy for low maintenance plantings.

***Kunzea capitata* (Pink Kunzea)**

Compact rounded shrub with crowded small leaves. In spring a brilliant show of pink globular flower heads cover the bush. Common on heath & scrub in RNP eg Curra Moors. Worthy of much more frequent use in moist sunny sites. Prune regularly to maintain a dense habit and abundant flowers.

***Lambertia formosa* (Mountain Devil)**

Rigid dense shrub with dark green foliage. Unusual red/ white flowers sporadically through the year attract birds. The "Mountain Devil" fruits are seldom formed in Sydney. Common on dry sandstone slopes. Long lived & slow growing.

***Lasiopetalum ferrugineum* (Rusty Petals)**

Small variable shrub with oblong to lanceolate leaves covered below with a felty layer of rusty hairs. Unusual pendulous cream felty flowers in spring. Common in the Shire on sheltered sandstone slopes. Potentially a useful small plant for sandy soils in full sun to dappled shade.

***Lasiopetalum rufum* (Rusty Petals)**

Small compact shrub with long narrow oblong leaves dark green above & felty below. Clusters of pendulous pale red flowers adorn the plant in spring. It is common on exposed ridges & sandstone slopes in the Engadine & Yarrawarra area. Very ornamental species for poor sandy soils.

***Leptospermum arachnoides* (Spidery Tea-tree)**

Low prostrate stiffly branched shrub with small prickly leaves & white 5 petalled flowers in summer followed by woody capsules. Very common on wet heath & sandstone slopes eg Jannali Reserve. Very hardy plant for sunny sites with poor drainage.

***Leptospermum continentale* (Prickly Tea-tree)**

Open shrub with prickly foliage, white flowers spring to summer & cup shaped capsules persisting throughout the year. Uncommon in the Shire on moist sunny heath/ woodland eg Buttenshaw Hts RNP. Offers good protection for small birds.

***Leptospermum grandifolium* (Woolly Tea-tree)**

Rounded shrub with attractive elliptical grey/ green leaves, white flowers with woolly sepals. Unusual densely hairy capsules. Common in creek beds across the Shire. Overlooked by the horticulture industry, a useful plant for moist sunny positions. Can be pruned heavily to maintain vigour.

***Leptospermum juniperinum* (Tea-tree)**

Narrow upright shrub with small dense foliage but not prickly. White flowers cover the bush in spring & summer. Moderately common in wet sunny areas eg. Australia Rd Reserve Lucas Hts. A good dense screen for narrow spaces that can be pruned regularly to maintain its dense habit.

***Leptospermum laevigatum* (Coastal Tea-tree)**

Twisted trunks & small ovate leaves create a dense thicket. White flowers in winter/ spring followed by dainty capsules. Limited to the coastal sands & exposed headlands eg Kurnell & RNP beaches. Not suitable for use away from the coast where it becomes large & awkward.

***Leptospermum parvifolia* (Small-leaf Tea-tree)**

Small open shrub with tiny blunt leaves & white 5 petalled flowers in spring. Rare to the Shire only recorded on exposed ridges in Engadine. Easily grown hardy fill in plant for sunny poorly drained soils.

***Leptospermum polygalifolia* (Lemon-scented Tea-tree)**

Medium to large shrub with long graceful branches of soft light green lemon scented flowers during spring. Cup shaped woody capsules persist through the year. One of the most common tea trees in the Shire on wet sunny sites. Fast growing & hardy plant that will re-sprout after heavy pruning.

***Leptospermum squarrosum* (Pink Tea-tree)**

Small compact shrub with angular branching & prickly foliage. Large pink/ white flowers in autumn followed by persisting smooth cup shaped capsules. Common in damp heath & clay soils flowering best in open sunny positions. Hardy attractive species for mixed plantings.

***Leptospermum trinervium* (Paperbark Tea-tree)**

Tall shrub with papery bark & small elliptical leaves. White flowers during winter & spring, capsules not persisting. Very common on dry to moist sandstone slopes. Hardy, tolerating drier sites than other *Leptospermum* spp.

***Livistona australis* (Cabbage Palm)**

Tall attractive palm with giant fan shaped fronds on a slender trunk. Growing in groves in sheltered moist gullies often near the coast eg. Bundeena & Garie Beach. Aborigines ate the flesh from the trunk apex (which kills the tree), & utilised the fine fibrous leaves to manufacture fishing lines, nets & rope. Useful as an accent plant, though the leaf stalks have sharp spines.

***Lobelia alata* (Coastal Lobelia)**

Sprawling low herb with sparse linear foliage & dainty 3 petalled lilac flowers in spring/ summer. Confined to damp rock crevices in coastal cliffs & rainforest watercourses.

***Lobelia dentata* (Native Lobelia)**

Erect small herbaceous shrub with variable lanceolate leaves & bright blue dainty flowers on delicate stems in winter through to summer, especially after fire. Scattered on dry sandy soils in dappled light eg. Fahy Creek Gully, Loftus. Attractive species mostly overlooked by the horticultural industry.

***Lobelia gracilis* (Native Lobelia)**

Very similar to *L. dentata* though more common & petals are broader.

***Logania albiflora* (Logania)**

Small to medium shrub with glossy mid green lanceolate leaves. Outstanding sprays of white sweetly perfumed flowers in spring. Widely distributed but not common, in sheltered shady sandstone slopes eg. Woronora Valley. Ornamental species for well drained sites. Maybe difficult to establish.

***Lomandra fluvialis* (River Lomandra)**

Dense tufted grass like plant with dark green flat narrow leaves. Flowers are inconspicuous. Nationally **rare** (3RC-) occurring between rocks in creek beds eg. upper Woronora River, Flat Rock Creek & South-west Arm Creek RNP. Has not been utilised in cultivation but potentially a very ornamental hardy species for sun or shade in moist soils.

***Lomandra longifolia* (Spiny Mat-rush)**

Forms large tussocks with coarse strap leaves & spiky flower heads in spring & summer. Very common in most plant communities. Aborigines ground the seeds for flour & utilised the foliage for strong fibre. Used extensively for median strip & low maintenance plantings in the most difficult situations.

***Lomandra multiflora* (Lomandra)**

Small tufted herbaceous plant with stiff leathery strap leaves & very attractive cream/ yellow flowers in spring. Common on sandstone & clay eg. Hall Drive Reserve, Menai where it is common. Hardy species not readily available but worthy of cultivation in small gardens.

***Lomatia myricoides* (River Lomatia)**

Large open shrub with long lanceolate leaves sparsely toothed. Cream Grevillea-like flowers in summer followed by black woody boat shaped fruits filled with papery yellow seeds. Common along creek banks in deep gullies eg. upper Woronora River & tributaries of the upper Hacking River. Prefers ample moisture but tolerates drier conditions where it will grow smaller.

***Lomatia silaifolia* (Wild Parsley)**

Small compact stiffly branched shrub with deeply divided leathery foliage. Creamy 'Grevillea' like flowers are arranged in tall spikes during summer especially after fire. Curious boat shaped woody capsules contain seeds with papery wings. Common on sandy soils on ridges & sheltered slopes. Unusual plant requiring low nutrient soils.

***Macrozamia communis* (Burrawang)**

Impressive species from the ancient cycad group of plants with long palm like leaves radiating from an underground trunk. Large pineapple like cones produce curious orange seeds on the female plants which can be poisonous if eaten. Aborigines ate the starchy trunk & processed the seeds before eating them. Slow growing but long lived hardy plant for well drained sandy soil & filtered light.

***Marsdenia rostrata* (Common Milk-vine)**

Robust twining climber with soft dull green broad elliptical leaves & clusters of small yellow/ cream flowers producing papery fruits containing hairy seeds. Rainforest species eg Darook Park & RNP. Requires rich moist soil & a sheltered semi-shaded position. Will provide a dense cover for a lattice or mesh screen.

***Marsdenia suaveolens* (Sweet Scented Doubah)**

Slender slow growing small climber with dark green leathery leaves & sweetly scented small white flowers in summer. Scattered in sheltered gullies. Suitable small plant for mixing with shrubs.

***Melaleuca armillaris* (Bracelet Honey-myrtle)**

Rounded dense shrub/ small tree with fine foliage & cream flowers in spring. Common & suitable right on the coast eg. Kurnell. It has been inappropriately planted away from the coast where it becomes large & prone to blowing over.

***Melaleuca deanei* (Deane's Honey-myrtle)**

Dense small shrub with papery bark & elliptical leaves. Cream/ yellow terminal bottle brush like flowers in spring. Nationally **rare** (3RC-) and listed as vulnerable on the TSC Act. Restricted to a few populations in heath & moist exposed sandstone ridges in RNP, Heathcote NP, Menai & Lucas Hts. Seed is often not viable but once propagated is an easily grown plant for sunny wet sites.

***Melaleuca decora* (White Feather Honey-myrtle)**

Large shrub to a medium tree with a attractive dense crown of narrow leaves and a papery bark trunk. White feathery flowers are conspicuous in summer attracting insects and birds. Rare to the Shire only recorded in Menai Park and Barden's Ridge on clay, poorly drained soils. More common to the west of the Shire on the Cumberland Plain. Very similar to the more common *M. linearifolia*. Hardy long lived species for clay and poorly drained sites.

***Melaleuca ericifolia* (Swamp Paperbark)**

Upright tall shrub with fine foliage similar to *M. armillaris*. Attractive cream bottle brush like flower spikes in spring. Occurs in sandy coastal swamps around Botany Bay eg. Captain Cook Drive Kurnell and Georges River near Alford's Pt. More suitable for cultivation than *M. armillaris*.

***Melaleuca nodosa* (Ball Honey-myrtle)**

Small rounded compact shrub with terete spiky leaves. Masses of dense terminal yellow flowers are eye catching in spring. Common on the coast & headlands in heath & shallow poorly drained soils eg. Burraneer Pt, Darook Park & RNP. Very attractive shrub for coastal plantings with adequate water.

***Melaleuca linearifolia* (Snow in Summer)**

Graceful small/ medium tree with papery bark, narrow leaves & a profusion of fluffy white flowers in Summer. Widespread on swamp margins or estuarine communities behind *Casuarina glauca* eg The Glen Res Bonnet Bay. Hardy ornamental tree as a specimen or screen preferring moist soils.

***Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Broad-leaf Paperbark)**

Upright tree with a narrow canopy & broad stiff leaves. Large cream 'bottlebrush' like flowers create a spectacular display in autumn. Aborigines used sheets of bark as a sling for carrying a baby, supporting a broken limb or as a disposable raincoat. Commonly grown but naturally restricted to swampy areas near the coast eg. Kurnell. Durable tree hardy even in dry conditions.

***Melaleuca squamea* (Swamp Honey-myrtle)**

Very attractive compact shrub with crowded leaves & small terminal pink flower heads during spring. Moderately common in wet sunny heath & creek banks in the local National Parks. Hardy plant for wet sunny sites. Regular pruning will help maintain a dense habit.

***Melaleuca squarrosa* (Scented Paperbark)**

Upright medium shrub with neatly arranged opposite leaves & small yellow sweetly scented bottle brush like flowers in spring. Moderately common forming thickets along slow moving sunny creeks in RNP. Under utilised long lived shrub for wet sunny locations. Regular tip pruning will ensure a dense habit and abundant flowers.

***Melaleuca styphelioides* (Prickly Tea-tree)**

Small symmetrical, upright paperbark tree with prickly foliage and white 'bottlebrush' flowers in summer. A handsome species growing in protected moist gullies eg. Woronora Valley. Aborigines used sheets of bark as a sling for carrying a baby, supporting a broken limb or as a disposable raincoat. Worthy of much wider use as a screen or specimen tree.

***Melaleuca thymifolia* (Thyme Honey-myrtle)**

Low shrub with corky bark and dense foliage with narrow aromatic leaves. Feathery purple flowers in spring. Scattered on, moist soils, heath & swamp margins on sandstone & clay eg. Menai. Has been cultivated for many years as a hardy plant for moist soils in full sun.

***Microlaena stipoides* (Weeping Meadow-grass)**

Tufted grass with attractive weeping seed heads. Very common in sheltered sites often forming a dense sward. Easily spread by seeds & can be mown to create a hardy lawn in sun or dappled light, preferring ample moisture.

***Mirbelia rubrifolia* (Mirbelia)**

Sprawling low understorey plant with oblong dark green leaves & prominent veins. Deep purple 'pea' flowers in spring/ summer add colour to the ground cover herbage. Common on heath in sunny moist soils.

***Mirbelia speciosa* (Mirbelia)**

Upright small shrub with narrow oblong leaves grouped in 3's along slender stems. Eye catching bright purple 'pea' flowers in spring. Rare to the shire only recorded in a few locations on exposed sandstone ridges eg. Ulloola Falls track, RNP. Likely to be a hardy plant for poor moist sandy soils.

***Morinda jasminoides* (Jasmine Morinda)**

Attractive slender twining climber/ scrambler with glossy lanceolate leaves & small cream flowers which produce decorative orange round fruits once eaten by aborigines. Occasional through the Shire in moist sheltered gullies eg. Thompson's Bay Reserve, Illawong. Suitable dense screen for moist rich soils in full sun or dappled light.

***Myoporum acuminatum* (Mangrove Boobialla)**

Medium to large shrub with large lanceolate leaves. Small white flowers in spring/ summer followed by edible pink/ blue fleshy fruits. Occasionally found around sandy coastal & estuarine communities eg. Grays Point Reserve & Kurnell. Suitable for protected coastal plantings.

***Olearia microphylla* (Small-leaf Daisy Bush)**

Rounded shrub with scented tiny dark green foliage & a profusion of white daisy flowers in spring. Moderately common on sandstone slopes & clay plateaus eg. Hall Drive Reserve Menai. Hardy ornamental shrub for a range of soils in sunny locations.

***Olearia tomentosa* (Hairy Olearia)**

Dense rounded shrub with ovate hairy leaves & white daisy flowers covering the bush in spring/ summer. Recorded on sea cliffs in RNP & the Woronora Valley, Woronora. Hardy shrub for a variety of situations.

***Omalanthus populifolius* (Bleeding Heart)**

Large shrub/ small tree with unexpectedly large heart shaped leaves, occasionally red. Common on disturbed sites as a pioneer plant. Unusual fast growing plant for contrasting foliage.

***Oplismenus aemulus* (Basket Grass)**

Normally a weak spreading grass, but with high soil nutrient & moisture levels, can become a dense ground cover with soft broad leafy foliage. Can be mown or used in heavy traffic areas in sun or shade.

***Ozothamnus diosmifolium* (Everlasting Paper Daisy)**

Upright shrub with narrow crowded leaves & large compact heads of stunning white flowers in summer. Common on sandstone slopes & clay plateaus eg. Menai. Brilliantly attractive shrub for mixed shrub plantings or cut flowers. Rarely utilised in cultivation.

***Pandorea pandorana* (Wonga Vine)**

Vigorous twining climber with glossy compound leaves & showy masses of cream flowers in spring. Common in sheltered gullies & rainforests. Adaptable climber for moist rich soils in sun or dappled light. Grows quickly to provide a dense screen over a pergola or fence. Several cultivars are available with golden or pure white flowers.

***Parsonsia straminea* (Monkey Rope)**

Vigorous twining climber with large broad lanceolate leaves creating dense leafy foliage. Small cream flowers produce fascinating long 150-200mm cylindrical pods in spring/ summer containing masses of fluffy seeds. Common in rainforests & sheltered coastal gullies eg. Bundeena Reserve & upper Hacking River RNP. Rarely seen in cultivation but potentially a very attractive species for a wide range of conditions even sheltered coastal.

***Paspalum distichum* (Water Couch)**

A low mat forming grass common along slow moving water courses and fresh water pond margins eg. Honeysuckle creek, Como & Engadine wetland. Useful for detention ponds & wetland restoration, quickly covering & protecting wet areas frequently inundated. Available through specialist nurseries.

***Passiflora herbertiana* (Native Passionfruit)**

Rampant slender climber with tendrils & softly hairy dull green leaves with 3 lobes. Large cream to pink flowers produce edible fruits similar to the cultivated species. Restricted to the moist rainforests of southern RNP where it is common. Suitable for covering pergolas or lattice screens requiring adequate moisture & fertile mulched soils.

***Patersonia glabrata* (Smooth Purple Flag)**

Spreading tufted herbaceous plant with flat rigid leaves & outstanding large pale purple flowers with 3 petals on stout stems in spring/ summer. Grows in exposed sandy heath & open forests. Beautiful species suitable for sunny moist sites but not commonly available.

***Patersonia sericea* (Silky Purple Flag)**

Similar to *P. glabrata* except deeper coloured flowers, slightly shorter leaves & more upright habit.

***Pelargonium australe* (Coast Geranium)**

Trailing herb with large hairy lobed leaves & stems with small terminal clusters of pink flowers in summer. Scattered on the coast on deep sandy hind dunes eg. Kurnell. Best for beach-side gardens or sand dune rehabilitation.

***Pelargonium inodorum* (Wild Geranium)**

Delicate spreading or tufted small herb with rounded leaves with serrated margins. Modest pink flowers in spring. Uncommon in the Shire on sheltered sandy slopes or clay soils eg Prince Edward Pk, Woronora. Pretty low plant for dappled shade.

***Pellaea falcata* (Sickle Fern)**

Creeping fern with dark shiny green fishbone like fronds spreading by slender rhizomes. Common on sheltered sandstone slopes & rainforests tolerating periods of dryness. Desirable species forming slow spreading non invasive colonies.

***Persicaria decipiens* (Slender Knot Weed)**

Spreading low herb with large dull green lanceolate leaves with purple markings. Small pink flower spikes mostly in summer. Aborigines used the crushed leaves as a fish poison. Found in slow moving creeks & drainage ditches tolerating high nutrients & pollution. Useful for shallow ponds & watercourse restoration.

***Persicaria lapathifolia* (Pale Knot Weed)**

Similar to *P. decipiens* but larger.

***Persoonia pinifolia* (Pine-leaf Geebung)**

Dense medium shrub with graceful arching branches & soft bright green pine like foliage. Bears sprays of yellow terminal flowers in summer followed by attractive succulent fruits eaten by aborigines. A prized hardy plant, the only Geebung readily available due to difficulty in propagation.

***Petrophile pulchella* (Cone Stick)**

Erect narrow shrub with delicately divided leaves. Showy cream flowers followed by persistent woody cones. Very common throughout the shire. Hardy for well drained, poor rocky soils. Can be pruned to keep dense.

***Petrophile sessilis* (Cone Stick)**

Unusual upright rigidly branched shrub with stiff divided prickly leaves. Creamy yellow terminal flowers followed by persistent woody cones. Common on well drained sandy or rocky soils. Suitable for mixed plantings on difficult soils.

***Phebalium dentatum* (Phebalium)**

Dense medium shrub with long slender leaves & abundant yellow flowers in spring. Scattered in sheltered sandstone valleys eg. Heathcote Creek & upper Woronora Valley. Outstanding plant for semi-shade though not commonly available.

***Phebalium squamulosum* (Phebalium)**

Variable shrub with oblong leaves covered below in silvery brown scales & pale yellow clustered flowers in spring. Common on heath & drier sandy forests especially in RNP. Hardy showy species tolerating a wide range of conditions in cultivation.

***Phragmites australis* (Common Reed)**

Tall leafy aquatic grass with cane like stems & loose fluffy flower heads in summer. Spreading by thick rhizomes forming dense stands in slow moving creeks or brackish water eg. Oyster Creek, Jannali. The new shoots & rhizomes were eaten by aborigines. Vigorous species browning off in winter suitable for creek & wetland restoration.

***Phylidrum lanuginosum* (Frog's Mouth)**

Upright tufted herb with spongy strap leaves & quaint yellow flowers along erect stems in summer. Common on the margins of freshwater ponds & wetlands tolerating periods of dryness & partial submersion. Non vigorous species for restoration work.

***Phyllanthus hirtellus* (Thyme Spurge)**

Open low shrub with tiny glossy leaves & inconspicuous flowers. A very common component of ground cover vegetation in open forests. Suitable fill in plant for most sites.

***Phyllota phyllicoides* (Bush Pea)**

Small shrub with ascending branches & dense compact linear leaves. Terminal heads of yellow 'pea' flowers in spring/ summer. Common in heath & open forests on sandstone slopes & exposed ridges. Rarely cultivated though potentially a hardy species for a wide range of conditions.

***Pimelia linifolia* (Rice Flower)**

Open elegant small shrub with evenly spaced narrow leaves & very attractive white rounded flower heads mostly winter/ spring. Aborigines used the remarkably strong bark for string. Very common understorey plant in the area on sheltered sandstone slopes. Difficult to propagate but occasionally available.

***Pittosporum revolutum* (Hairy Pittosporum)**

Neat rounded shrub with large lanceolate leaves. New growth & leaf undersurface covered in soft rusty hairs. Large yellow trumpet shaped flowers in spring are followed by curious warty orange fruits with sticky red seeds. Widespread on sheltered moist slopes eg. Burraneer Park. Hardy ornamental that doesn't become a weed like *P. undulatum*.

***Planchonella australis* (Black Plum)**

Medium size tree, smaller in cultivation, with glossy dark green foliage. Large fleshy golf ball size fruits are edible and ripen in January to an attractive glossy black. An uncommon rainforest plant found along the upper Hacking River in RNP. Very hardy tree for moist sheltered situations in bush tucker and rainforest landscapes.

***Platynerium bifurcatum* (Elkhorn Fern)**

Large epiphytic or lithophytic fern with enormous divided fronds forming a nest like arrangement. Only found in the Shire in rainforests in RNP. Very common in cultivation suitable for rainforest gardens or shaded areas with high humidity. Should be attached to timber boards or rainforest trees rather than Eucalypts that shed their bark.

***Platylobium formosum* (Handsome Flat Pea)**

Open shrub with dark green heart shaped leaves distinctly veined. Scattered yellow 'pea' flowers in spring. Common understorey plant on well drained sandy soils. Attractive even when not in flower.

***Podocarpus spinulosus* (Plum Pine)**

Unusual ground cover species from the ancient conifer group of plants. Dark green long glossy leaves with separate male & female plants & black succulent edible fruits. Uncommon in sheltered sandstone gullies forming a loose network of foliage among other ground cover vegetation.

***Polymeria calycina* (Swamp Bind Weed)**

Slender climber or ground cover with broad arrow shaped leaves & pink bell shaped flowers from spring through to the end of summer. Uncommon in the Shire on moist shale sites eg. Hall Drive Reserve, Menai. Attractive species for rich moist soils.

***Polyscias sambucifolia* (Elderberry Panax)**

Erect shrub with large soft compound leaves usually contrasting with surrounding foliage. Small green terminal flowers produce blue succulent fruits attractive to birds. An unusual plant common on sandstone slopes.

***Polyscias elegans* (Celerywood)**

Small tree with a broad spreading crown of huge compound leaves. Unusual rainforest tree is rare in the Shire. A few remnant specimens grow at Lilli Pilli Point and in RNP. Fast growing species with small purple flowers followed by black fruits attractive to rainforest birds. Suitable for rainforest gardens & revegetation.

***Polystichum australiense* (Shield Fern)**

Tufted coarse fern with short rhizomes & very divided leathery fronds. Common in sheltered gullies & rainforests mostly in RNP. Readily cultivated in most shady moist soils.

***Pomaderris andromedifolia* (Pomaderris)**

Small dense woody shrub with dark green elliptical leaves. Striking terminal clusters of bright yellows in spring. Scattered in the Shire on sandstone & clay soils eg. Woronora Valley & Menai. Hardy long lived shrub deserving more widespread use.

***Pomaderris discolor* (Pomaderris)**

Medium erect shrub with large lanceolate leaves, pale and hairy below. Creamy flowers in spring. Moderately common in sheltered valleys throughout the Shire. Useful shrub for semi-shaded positions.

***Pomaderris ferruginea* (Rusty Pomaderris)**

Medium dense woody shrub with large dark green lanceolate leaves softly hairy below. Compact terminal heads of creamy flowers in spring. Scattered through the Shire in moist sheltered gullies mostly in RNP and the Woronora Valley. Hardy useful shrub not known to be cultivated.

***Pomaderris intermedia* (Pomaderris)**

Upright medium shrub with large lanceolate leaves softly hairy below. Similar to *P. elliptica* & *P. lanigera*. Scattered through the shire on sandstone slopes.

***Pomaderris lanigera* (Woolly Pomaderris)**

Upright woody shrub with large lanceolate leaves with soft rusty hairs below. Large clusters of yellow flowers in spring are a feature. Moderately common on clay/ shale plateaus eg. Menai.

***Pomax umbellata* (Pomax)**

Quaint tiny shrub with small elliptical leaves & tiny flowers arranged in dainty heads that persist for most of the year. Very common among ground cover vegetation on sandstone. Shown to respond to cultivation, suitable for full sun or dappled shade.

***Pratia purpurascens* (White Root)**

Small creeping ground cover with dark green leaves purple below & edible fleshy tap roots. Common in a wide range of conditions on sandstone & clay. Suitable for revegetation projects as it can become weedy in an ornamental garden.

***Prostanthera densa* (Cliff Mint-bush)**

Bushy small shrub with broad lanceolate hairy leaves & delicate pink flowers in spring. Nationally **rare (3vci)** also listed **Vulnerable** on the NSW TSC Act. Occurring in the Shire at Bass & Flinders Point & Bundeena on moist sandstone soils exposed to salt winds. Ornamental species that should be more widely grown.

***Prostanthera linearis* (Narrow-leaf Mint-bush)**

Slender medium shrub with long narrow scented foliage & dainty pale pink flowers spring/ summer. Scattered in moist shady valleys eg. upper Woronora Valley & Heathcote Creek. Particularly useful for shady positions often short lived. Prune to maintain dense growth & abundant flowers.

***Prostanthera sieberi* (Mint-bush)**

Dense medium shrub with small strongly aromatic leaves & prolific dainty mauve flowers in spring. The most common Mint Bush in the Shire preferring rich soils in shady valleys eg. Forest Island track RNP. Attractive garden specimen.

***Pseudanthus pimeleoides* (Pseudanthus)**

Erect compact woody small shrub with long narrow pointed leaves & dense white 'leafy' flowers in autumn. Uncommon in the shire, found along rocky creek banks eg. The Needles, Woronora River. Beautiful shrub occasionally available in local specialist nurseries.

***Pteris tremula* (Slender Brake)**

Slender tufted fern with large soft lacy fronds. Common in moist sandstone crevices and shady gullies. Easily cultivated in any moist semi-shaded position.

***Pultenaea blakelyi* (Blakely's Bush Pea)**

Tall shrub with small oblong leaves & yellow 'pea' flowers through spring. Common in the south of the shire on shady sheltered slopes eg. Lady Carrington Dr & Garawarra Ridge RNP. Useful for mixed shrub & understorey plantings.

***Pultenaea daphnoides* (Large-leaf Bush Pea)**

Dense upright medium shrub becoming large in shaded gullies. Appealing broad dark green leaves & large heads of yellow/ orange 'pea' flowers late winter/ spring. Common on sandstone slopes eg. Fahy Creek Yarrowarrah. Very attractive & hardy species. Prune to maintain dense growth.

***Pultenaea elliptica* (Bush Pea)**

Small attractive shrub with hairy elliptical leaves & heads of orange & red 'pea' flowers in spring/ summer & occasionally through the year. Common in open forests on sandstone slopes. Hardy species for sandy soils.

***Pultenaea flexilis* (Graceful Bush Pea)**

Tall shrub with dainty small oblong leaves & yellow 'pea' flowers in spring. Similar to *P. blakelyi* but more common eg. lower Woronora Valley. Useful colourful understorey shrub for well drained soils. Requires pruning to maintain dense growth.

***Pultenaea hispidula* (Rough-leaf Pultenaea)**

Low bushy shrub with long arching branches & softly hairy foliage. Abundant yellow 'pea' flowers in spring. Found on ridge tops with clay influence eg. Loftus ridge where it is common. Similar to *P. villosa* but more common in the Shire. Attractive species for clay or sandstone in full sun to semi-shade.

***Pultenaea linophylla* (Bush Pea)**

Open small shrub with distinctive oblong leaves broader at their apex. Small terminal heads of yellow 'pea' flowers in spring. Scattered through the area in heath & open forests on sandstone. Suitable for moist to dry sandy soils as a fill in shrub.

***Pultenaea stipularis* (Fine-leaf Bush Pea)**

Small dense shrub with long soft narrow foliage & compact terminal heads of yellow 'pea' flowers in spring. Common on sandstone slopes in woodland & open forests. Spectacular plant for well drained soils in full sun to partial shade.

***Pultenaea villosa* (Hairy Bush Pea)**

Dense low shrub with long arching branchlets & soft downy foliage. Abundant bright yellow 'pea' flowers in spring make an attractive show. Restricted to clay/ shale eg Menai. Commonly cultivated in native gardens.

***Rapanea howittiana* (Brush Muttonwood)**

Beautiful small tree with smooth shiny leaves & tiny flowers in spring followed by clusters of purple fleshy fruits along the older stems. Only found in rainforests eg RNP, Lilli Pilli Point & a small remnant in sheltered Yowie Bay. Attractive species for rainforest gardens or protected sites with moist soil.

***Restio tetraphyllus* (Tassel Rush)**

Slender graceful rush with glossy elegant branchlets. Uncommon in the Shire in swampy sites near the coast eg Botany Bay NP, Kurnell where it forms dense stands. Very attractive species only recently becoming available in nurseries. Suitable for ornamental ponds.

***Rhagodia candolleana* (Sea-berry Saltbush)**

Prostrate shrub with thick glossy ovate leaves & inconspicuous flowers producing bright red edible fleshy fruits. Uncommon, restricted to coastal & estuarine vegetation often behind mangroves eg Grays Pt. Suitable for coastal plantings.

***Rhodamnia rubescens* (Scrub Turpentine)**

Large shrub/ small tree with rounded crown of broad lanceolate, softly hairy leaves with prominent venation. Small white scented flowers in spring produce clusters of red/ brown berries. Restricted to rainforest gullies in RNP. Very attractive species, hardy & long lived for fertile moist soils in sun or shade.

***Ricinocarpos pinifolius* (Wedding Bush)**

Rounded medium shrub with soft long narrow leaves & striking large single white flowers in spring. Scattered on well drained sandstone slopes. Difficult to propagate though occasionally available. Spectacular species for the enthusiast.

***Rubus hillii* (Broad-leaf Bramble)**

Scrambling plant with thorny stems, large lobed leaves paler below & edible raspberry like fruits. Restricted to rainforests in RNP eg. Lady Carrington Drive. Attractive species in spite of the thorns, not too vigorous.

***Rubus parvifolius* (Native Raspberry)**

Scrambling species with thorny stems, small leaves & edible small raspberry like fruits. Scattered in moist gullies & rainforests on shale & sandstone soils. Attractive in spite of thorns, not too vigorous.

***Rulingia dasyphylla* (Kerrawang)**

Dense upright shrub with large softly hairy lanceolate leaves & loose terminal clusters of star like white flowers in winter/ spring. Only recorded in the Shire at Menai Park where it is an understory plant. Aborigines used strips of bark for strong fibre to make bags & cordage. Attractive species for fertile soils.

***Rulingia hermanniifolia* (Rulingia)**

Prostrate woody ground cover with small glossy leaves & abundant small white flowers in spring. Nationally **rare (3RCa)** but locally common on sandstone heath in RNP & Botany Bay NP. Prefers full sun in moist sandy soils. Widely cultivated species.

***Sarcopetalum harveyanum* (Pearl Vine)**

Slender twining climber with long stems & large glossy heart shaped leaves. Inconspicuous flowers & small cream fruits. Common in rainforests & sheltered gullies. Attractive foliage makes this a hardy dense climber providing a dense screen, for moist rich soils in full sun to semi-shade.

***Sarcomelicope simplicifolia* (Yellow Wood)**

Small tree with glossy elliptical leaves on long stalks. Small cream flowers followed by hard brown berries eaten by rainforest birds. Common in rainforests north of Sydney, however rare in the Shire eg. Lilli Pilli Point & RNP. A fast growing species in cultivation responding to fertilisers & mulching.

***Scaevola calendulacea* (Dune Fan Flower)**

Dense ground cover with fleshy broad elliptical leaves, pale blue fan shaped flowers throughout the year & round fleshy edible purple berries. Restricted to coastal sands eg. Kurnell. Attractive species performing well in exposed coastal gardens.

***Scaevola ramosissima* (Purple Fan Flower)**

Open spreading ground cover with long rambling hairy stems, toothed leaves & large purple fan shaped flowers in spring/ summer. Scattered in sheltered sandstone gullies. Attractive species not forming a dense cover but providing interest to a mixed ground cover vegetation.

***Schizomeria ovata* (Crab Apple)**

Large dominant tree in subtropical & littoral rainforests. Large glossy leaves, blotched smooth trunk and edible bitter fruits attractive to rainforest birds, make this a useful species. Rare outside of RNP with a lovely stand in Marina Crescent Reserve.

***Schoenoplectus littoralis* (Bog Rush)**

Dense clumping sedge spreading by short rhizomes with slender pithy stems supporting attractive dense drooping seed heads. Uncommon in the area in brackish wetlands eg. Metromix Wetland, Botany Bay. Provides habitat for aquatic birds.

***Schoenoplectus mucronatus* (Rush)**

Slender tufted sedge with fleshy stems, triangular in section & small tightly clustered seed heads. Uncommon on pond margins & along slow moving creek banks eg. Audley. Suitable for restoration work & ornamental ponds.

***Schoenoplectus validus* (River Club Rush)**

Similar to *S. littoralis* except found along slow moving freshwater creeks.

***Smilax glyciophylla* (Native Sarsaparilla)**

Tough slender climber/ scrambler with wiry stems climbing by tendrils. Broad ovate leaves with 3 distinct veins, small cream flowers followed by black glossy berries. The leaves can be chewed or made into a bitter/ sweet tea. Very common in open forests on dry sandy soils. Hardy species for screening over mesh or wire fences in full sun.

***Spinifex sericeus* (Coastal Spinifex)**

Robust spreading grass with long tough stolons & blue/ green softly hairy leaves. Female flower heads are spherical and roll along the beach. Common sand dune species on the coast eg Cronulla. Useful for stabilisation work.

***Sporobolus virginicus* (Salt water Couch)**

A creeping fine leaf grass forming a dense swathe. This grass has largely been overlooked for its potential as a lawn near the sea. It can be mown or left natural only growing 200mm high. It will grow in pure sand but needs a little moisture and is very salt resistant. It is common along estuaries near mangroves or slow moving water eg Grays Point, Kurnell & Bonnie Vale.

***Stenocarpus salignus* (Scrub Beef Wood)**

Tall shrub becoming a small tree in local rainforests. Dark green glossy leathery leaves & white 'Grevillea' like flowers in summer. Occurs in local rainforests & sheltered gullies eg. Bola Creek RNP & The Needles, Woronora River. Hardy, handsome species for moist soils in sun or shade.

***Stephania japonica* (Snake Vine)**

Attractive, moderately vigorous twining climber with large shiny rounded leaves, small flowers & decorative clusters of red fleshy berries. Common in littoral & temperate rainforests eg. Darook Park & RNP. Ornamental foliage plant for screening & probably ground cover in moist fertile soils in semi-shade.

***Stipa pubescens* (Spear Grass)**

Loosely tufted grass producing attractive large pendulous seed heads in summer. Common in open forests on dry sandy soils eg Jannali Reserve. Ornamental species for low mixed ground cover vegetation where the flower stems can protrude above.

***Stylidium graminifolium* (Trigger Plant)**

Tufted grass like herb inconspicuous when not flowering. Bright pink dainty flowers arranged in erect spikes can be triggered with a stick to imitate an insect pollinating them. Common in sheltered open forests throughout the Shire. Interesting species for a wide range of conditions.

***Stylidium laricifolium* (Giant Trigger Plant)**

Slender upright herb with narrow light green foliage & a single spike of pale pink dainty flowers in spring that can be set off as in other Trigger plants. Moderately common on sheltered sandstone slopes eg. Lady Carrington Drive RNP. Interesting small plant for shady sites.

***Syncarpia glomulifera* (Turpentine)**

Large dominating tree with rough bark, dark green leaves & curious "space ship" capsules. An indicator of shale/ clay soils eg Menai, Kirrawee & East Heathcote. Usually associated with Grey Ironbark. Long lived species gradually being removed through urban development.

***Synoum glandulosum* (Bastard Rosewood)**

Erect woody shrub or small spreading tree with large compound shiny compound leaves & small pink/ white flowers followed by conspicuous red 3 chambered fruits. Uncommon, restricted to rainforests & deep shaded gullies eg Darook Park & upper Hacking River. Hardy, very attractive fast growing species for moist soils. Can be pruned to keep dense.

***Syzygium australe* (Brush Cherry)**

Very ornamental tree developing a dense crown. Shiny leaves with red new growth. Cream fluffy flowers in summer followed by clusters of edible pink/ red berries attractive to birds. Occasional tree in RNP rainforests. Prefers moist sites but will tolerate a range of conditions including full sun.

***Syzygium oleosum* (Blue Lilli Pilli)**

Densely bushy small tree with glossy lanceolate leaves. White flowers in summer followed by charming pale blue edible berries attractive to rainforest birds. Uncommon in RNP rainforests & occasionally elsewhere eg. Burraneer Point & Darook Park. A very ornamental species rarely cultivated, though hardy & easily grown.

***Syzygium paniculatum* (Magenta Lilli Pilli)**

Robust tree with a dense crown of glossy leaves. Decorative white flowers followed by clusters of juicy edible purple berries attractive to rainforest pigeons. Nationally **rare (3VCi)** also listed **Vulnerable** on the NSW TSC Act, with an important population along Captain Cook Drive, Kurnell. Widely planted in gardens where it is hardy, providing a dense shade cover.

***Tasmania insipida* (Pepper Bush)**

Small shrub with large glossy oblanceolate leaves & fleshy stems often tinged red. Green small flowers produce red/ purple berries. Common along shady creek banks in rainforests eg. Bola Creek RNP. Suitable foliage plant for moist rich soils in shady positions.

***Telopea speciosissima* (NSW Waratah)**

Much revered plant of unquestionable beauty. Upright sparsely branched shrub with majestic blood red terminal flower heads in spring followed by decorative woody fruits containing neat rows of winged seeds. Scattered on moist but well drained rocky sandstone slopes. Aborigines utilised the rich nectar. Can be difficult to establish. Ensure soil is low in phosphorus & well mulched. Prune severely (simulating the effects of fire) after flowering every few years to maintain vigour & ensure abundant future flowering.

***Tetragonia tetragonoides* (Warrigal Cabbage)**

Sprawling shrub/ ground cover with fleshy leaves & stems. Common close to the coast & estuaries eg Swallow Rock Reserve Grays Point. The leaves were eaten by aborigines & early settlers. Suitable for coastal gardens & restoration of salt marshes.

***Tetradlea neglecta* (Black-eyed Susan)**

Low growing woody shrub with small narrow leaves grouped in whorls of 6 around the stems. Single pendulous purple flowers with black centres in spring. Nationally **rare (3RC-)** though common where it occurs in the Shire on sandstone ridges eg. Jannali Reserve. Ornamental species for sandy soils.

***Tetradlea shiresii* (Black-eyed Susan)**

Small open shrub with slender stems with variable narrow leaves & beautiful pendulous purple flowers with black centres in spring. Uncommon in the shire found on exposed sandstone ridges in RNP eg. Walumarra Track. Attractive species for sunny moist sites as a fill in shrub amongst ground cover vegetation.

***Themeda australis* (Kangaroo Grass)**

Dense tufted grass with green/ bronze narrow leaves & attractive drooping seed heads in summer. Very common in a wide range of conditions. Proven to be an adaptable fast growing species for bushland restoration & mass planting in low maintenance areas. Can be occasionally mown to rejuvenate.

***Todea barbara* (King Fern)**

Large tufted fern with a short trunk & long glossy leathery fronds. Forms large clumps beside creeks in shaded gullies & rainforest eg. Bola Creek RNP. Spectacular species for rainforest & fern gardens.

***Toona ciliata* (Red Cedar)**

Renown for its valuable red timber. Large broad tree deciduous in late winter. Scattered along Lady Carrington Drive RNP. Occasionally planted in gardens where it only reaches a proportion of its potential height. Prefers moist rich soils, responding to fertilisers & mulch. A practical tree for winter sun/ summer shade.

***Trachymene incisa* (Trachymene)**

Tufted small herb with delicate lacy leaves & pretty dense white flower heads in summer. Uncommon in the area on sandstone slopes eg Burraneer Park. The swollen tap root was eaten by aborigines. Hardy species tolerating dry conditions.

***Trema aspera* (Native Peach)**

Open tall woody shrub with neatly arranged soft lanceolate leaves with finely toothed margins. Small flowers & tiny black fruits cluster in the leaf axils. Only found in or close to rainforests eg Lady Carrington Drive RNP. Handsome shrub for sheltered sites & fertile soils.

***Tristania neriifolia* (Water Gum)**

Small dense shrub with glossy lanceolate leaves & showy yellow flowers in summer. Common in rocky creek beds eg. Woronora River & tributaries. Attractive throughout the year. Hardy for moist sunny to semi-shaded positions.

***Tristaniopsis laurina* (Water Gum)**

Variable tree with dark green glossy leaves, rounded canopy & sculptured pale trunk. Clusters of showy bright yellow flowers during winter. Common along watercourses in the Shire. Popular & hardy in cultivation being successfully used for street trees, screening & a shade tree. An important species for creek bank restoration.

***Typha domingensis* (Bull Rush)**

Vigorous, tall emergent aquatic plant with spongy flat leaves & spreading by thick rhizomes. Dense brown flower heads are produced on stout erect stems in spring/ summer. Found & suitable for use in fresh slow moving water in creeks & wetlands. Provides habitat for aquatic birds, frogs & invertebrates.

***Typha orientalis* (Bull Rush)**

Similar to *T. domingensis*, except much more common & slightly larger in all its parts.

***Veronica plebeia* (Speedwell)**

Herbaceous ground cover with broad leaves with serrated margins & small clusters of blue flowers in summer. Scattered in sheltered ground cover vegetation in filtered light. Ornamental species forming a low dense cover requiring moist soils.

***Viminaria juncea* (Native Broom)**

Tall upright shrub with arching light green leafless branchlets. Long sprays of bright yellow 'pea' flowers are a highlight in spring. Common on sunny swampy ground or banks of slow moving creeks. Very hardy fast growing species for moist clay or sandstone soils even tolerating salt spray. Useful around water features.

***Viola hederacea* (Native Violets)**

Dense mat forming ground cover with rounded leaves & erect blue & white flowers most of the year. Common in shaded rainforest floors. Popular garden plant that can spread over large areas in moist shaded sites. Flowers are an interesting addition to salads.

***Wahlenbergia communis* (Blue Bells)**

Small slender herb with upright stems & pale blue bell shaped flowers, larger than the more common *W. gracilis*, in spring/ summer. Prefers moist clay soils eg. Menai. Easily cultivated often freely regenerating from seeds.

***Wahlenbergia gracilis* (Blue Bells)**

Low clumping herb with tiny blue bell shaped flowers in spring/ summer. Common, growing freely on moist soils. Useful border plant in sun or shade .

***Westringia fruticosa* (Coastal Rosemary)**

Broad dome shaped shrub with dense green/ grey foliage & white flowers most of the year. Common along the coastal zone & hind dune communities. Widely used in landscaping as a trimmed hedge or low screen. Performs well even with salt spray. In shade away from the coast becomes large & more open.

***Xanthorrhoea arborea* (Grass Tree)**

Extraordinary plant characteristic of the Australian bush. Long arching linear leaves radiate from a thick trunk. Some specimens live for several hundred years developing trunks over 1.5 m tall. Stout flower spikes are produced in spring/ summer depending on the last fire. An important genus for aborigines. Flowers produce copious nectar; flower stems were used for spear shafts & fire making; resin from the trunk was used for cementing tools. Scattered on dry sandstone slopes. Plants are protected & should only be purchased with a NPWS tag.

***Xanthorrhoea media* (Grass Tree)**

Similar to *X. arborea* except leaves are slightly narrower. Most common species on dry sandstone slopes.

***Xanthorrhoea resinosa* (Grass Tree)**

Similar to other species except preferring wet heath & poorly drained sites, often on the exposed coast. Does not develop an above ground trunk as in other species.

***Xanthosia pilosa* (Hairy Xanthosia)**

Variable small spreading shrub with hairy toothed leaves & inconspicuous green/ cream flowers. Common but mostly unnoticed species found in dry open forests. Useful fill in plant for shady dry situations.

***Xanthosia tridentata* (Rock Xanthosia)**

Prostrate low shrub with straggling stems, tiny toothed leaves & inconspicuous flowers. Smaller than *X. pilosa* but just as common. Useful species for moist to dry sandy soils in dappled light.

***Xylomelum pyriforme* (Woody Pear)**

Erect open shrub with large stiff leathery leaves, toothed when young & strongly veined. Creamy flowers in spring, but not every year. Large woody, pear shaped fruits are an interesting feature, containing 1-2 large seeds eaten by aborigines. New growth is covered in felty hairs. Scattered on sandstone slopes & deep sandy hind dunes eg. Botany Bay NP, Kurnell. Requires similar conditions to the Waratah which it may be confused with when not in flower. Slow growing feature plant.

***Ziera smithii* (Sandfly Zieria)**

Delicate rounded shrub with trifoliate, aromatic leaves & small clusters of modest star white flowers in spring. Aborigines rubbed their skin with the leaves to repel insects. Scattered in sheltered forests usually in semi-shade. Useful fill in or understorey plant.

Native

***Acacia binervia* (Coast Myall)**

Medium tree with bluish/ grey foliage & contrasting bright yellow flower spikes. A long lived species naturally occurring between Port Macquarie & the south coast. Often planted as a garden specimen or park specimen suitable for the coast.

***Austromyrtis dulcis* (Midyin Berry)**

Low broad shrub with soft lanceolate leaves & bronze new growth. Prolific white flowers in spring produce attractive round fleshy edible fruits tasting of sweet cinnamon. From northern NSW & QLD on coastal dunes. Shown to be adaptable for most soils in full sun to semi-shade.

***Baekea virgata* "Nana" (Dwarf Swamp Myrtle)**

Very dense low spreading shrub with light green small oblong leaves & masses of white Tea Tree like flowers in spring/ summer. Popular long lived hardy shrub for a wide range of conditions including poorly drained soils.

***Banksia integrifolia* 'Prostrate' (Groundcover Banksia)**

Unusual prostrate form of the species creating a robust low shrub/ ground cover with large flowers for sunny dry sites.

***Brachycome multifida* (Swan River Daisy)**

Low spreading shrub/ ground cover with soft lacy divided foliage & blue daisy flowers in spring & summer. Popular rockery or border plant with several cultivars available. Suitable for well drained soils in full sun to dappled shade. Tolerates pruning to maintain vigour.

***Callistemon* 'Candy Pink' (Bottlebrush)**

Medium dense shrub with stiff lanceolate leaves & abundant showy pink flowers in spring & autumn. Suitable for moist or clay soils in full sun. Prune after flowering to maintain dense habit.

***Callistemon* 'Captain Cook' (Bottlebrush)**

Dwarf form of *C. viminalis* with dark green pendulous foliage & red flower heads in spring. Hardy cultivar tolerating a wide range of conditions, though preferring moist sunny sites. Unfortunately some seedling grown plants are sold that do not retain their dwarf habit. Can be pruned hard after flowering to maintain dense habit.

***Callistemon* 'Endeavour' (Bottlebrush)**

Medium to tall dense shrub with bright green broad lanceolate leaves & large bright red brushes in spring & autumn. Often used in medium strips in the Shire. Hardy cultivar with a long flowering period. Can be slow growing in dry conditions. Can be pruned after flowering to maintain vigour.

***Callistemon 'Hannah Ray'* (Bottlebrush)**

Large dense shrub with soft weeping foliage & large red brushes in spring / autumn. Common fast growing cultivar for heavy screening in most soil types.

***Callistemon 'Kings Park Special'* (Bottlebrush)**

Large dense shrub with soft dark green lanceolate leaves & weeping habit. Masses of large red flower heads in spring. Hardy & popular fast growing cultivar for most situations.

***Callistemon 'Western Glory'* (Bottlebrush)**

Medium compact shrub with stiff lanceolate leaves & long red flower heads in spring. Hardy in most situations, though slow growing in dry conditions.

***Callistemon 'White Anzac'* (Bottlebrush)**

Low dense shrub with lanceolate leaves & white flowers in spring/ summer. Very hardy species preferring a moist sunny position.

***Correa baeuerlenii* (Chef's Cap Correa)**

Rounded dense shrub with attractive glossy dark green leaves, contrasting red stems & unusual green/ cream tubular flowers during winter. Nationally **rare (3VCa)** occurring on the south coast of NSW but common to cultivation. Splendid species preferring moist soil & semi-shaded position.

***Correa decumbens* (Correa)**

Low broad prostrate shrub with dull green leaves & erect tubular red with yellow tipped flowers throughout the year (most species have pendulous flowers). A SA species requiring full sun to partial shade & good drainage.

***Correa 'Dusky Bells'* (Correa)**

Low spreading shrub with dull green leaves & large deep red tubular flowers in spring/ summer. Requires good drainage & moderately fertile soil in sun or partial shade with adequate moisture.

***Dampiera diversifolia* (Dampiera)**

Dense low suckering ground cover with dark green foliage & contrasting bright blue flowers spring & summer. Popular WA species for cultivation in sunny sites with adequate moisture.

***Eriostemon myoporoides 'Profusion'* (Wax Flower)**

Rounded dense small shrub with waxy aromatic grey/ green leaves & a mass of white star shaped flowers in spring. Hardy plant for full sun/ semi-shade & moist well drained soils.

***Grevillea banksii* (Grevillea)**

Large open shrub/ small tree mostly with a single trunk & a dense crown of strongly divided foliage. Huge red flower spikes spring through to summer. Attractive species with an extended flowering period for sunny well drained site.

***Grevillea 'Clear View David'* (Grevillea)**

Dense broad medium shrub with narrow pointed leaves & terminal clusters of crimson 'spider' flowers from winter to early summer. Hardy cultivar for sunny well drained soils.

***Grevillea 'Gaudichaudii'* (Grevillea)**

Robust prostrate shrub/ ground cover with deeply lobed leaves & deep red toothbrush like flowers through winter & spring. A natural hybrid from the Blue Mts. Hardy plant for sunny well drained locations.

***Grevillea 'Honey Gem'* (Grevillea)**

Tall dense shrub with large deeply divided feathery leaves & huge orange flower spikes most of the year. An exceptional cultivar best in fairly rich moist soils.

***Grevillea 'Ivanhoe'* (Grevillea)**

Upright tall shrub with long lanceolate, coarsely toothed leaves & bronze new growth. Dark red 'toothbrush' flowers from late winter to early summer. Proven to be a hardy cultivar in most situations.

***Grevillea juniperina 'Prostrate'* (Grevillea)**

Low spreading shrub with prickly foliage & spidery flowers in spring/ summer. Many coloured forms are available from yellow to red. Reliable cultivar for sunny well drained sites.

***Grevillea 'Moonlight'* (Grevillea)**

Dense rounded medium shrub with finely divided foliage & creamy white flower heads for most of the year. Attractive cultivar for well drained sandy soils.

***Grevillea 'Mt Tamboritha'* (Grevillea)**

Low spreading dense shrub with dark green oblong leaves & spidery pink/ white flowers from winter to summer. Requires well drained sandy soil in full sun.

***Grevillea 'Ned Kelly'* (Grevillea)**

Medium woody shrub with deeply divided leaves & large red/ orange terminal flower heads for most of the year. Similar to *G. 'Robyn Gordon'* but slightly taller & orange tinged flowers. Very hardy in sunny positions.

***Grevillea 'Poorinda Constance'* (Grevillea)**

Medium dense shrub with narrow linear leaves & Bright red 'spider' flowers for most of the year. Shown to be an adaptable quick growing cultivar.

***Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon'* (Grevillea)**

Well known medium shrub with large deeply divided leaves & loose crimson terminal flower heads for most of the year. Grows in a wide range of conditions except for waterlogged soils.

***Grevillea 'Royal Mantle'* (Grevillea)**

Very dense woody ground cover with long leathery lobed leaves & deep red toothbrush like flowers spring/ summer. Popular cultivar for well drained sunny locations.

***Grevillea 'Superb'* (Grevillea)**

Medium rounded shrub with large deeply divided foliage & loose orange terminal flower heads for most of the year. Proven to be very reliable cultivar in sunny well drained sites.

***Hymenosporum flavum* (Native Frangipani)**

Slender small tree with large glossy dark green leaves & large yellow/ white fragrant trumpet shaped flowers. Growing in rainforests & sheltered creek banks from QLD to Sydney but not recorded in the shire. Popular garden plant for moist shady sites.

***Leptospermum polygalifolium 'Pacific Beauty'* (Tea-tree)**

Low spreading form with small glossy leaves & masses of white flowers in spring/ summer. Very hardy form for sunny moist sites.

***Macadamia tetraphylla* (Macadamia Nut)**

Medium tree with a broad dense canopy of dark green leaves with sharply toothed margins. Large racemes of cream flowers followed by familiar edible nuts in summer. Native to northern NSW & QLD, a popular tree in Sydney gardens. Requires ample moisture and responds to mulching & low phosphorus fertilisers.

***Melaleuca bracteata 'Revolution Green'* (Melaleuca)**

A dwarf form of the species with dark green fine leaf foliage & cream flowers in summer. A common & hardy plant for cultivation in moist locations.

***Melaleuca hypericifolia* (Honey-myrtle)**

Dense medium woody shrub with arching branches & elliptical leaves. Habit varies depending on conditions. Attractive red 'bottle brush' like flowers in spring & occasionally through the year. Coastal species from south of Sydney. Widely planted & successful in sunny positions on most soils.

***Melaleuca nesophila* (Showy Honey-myrtle)**

Tall woody shrub with dull green ovate leaves & striking rounded heads of purple flowers in summer. A WA species used extensively for shrub borders & screening. Long lived hardy species tolerating wet to quite dry soil conditions. Can be pruned heavily to rejuvenate old specimens.

***Pandorea 'Golden Showers'* (Wonga Vine)**

Vigorous twining climber with glossy compound leaves & hanging clusters of decorative tubular bronze coloured flowers in spring/ summer. Popular cultivar for dense screening requiring ample moisture & flowering best in full sun.

***Pandorea 'Snow Bells'* (Wonga Vine)**

Similar to *P. 'Golden Showers'* but brilliant white flowers.

***Pandorea jasminoides* (Bower Vine)**

Vigorous twining climber with glossy compound leaves & showy large bell shaped pink flowers with a red throat flowering from spring to the end of summer. Similar to *Pandorea pandorana* with larger flowers. From the NSW north coast & QLD.

***Prostanthera incana* (Velvet-leaf Mint-bush)**

Compact small shrub with hairy broad ovate, aromatic leaves. Abundant lavender flowers in spring. A tablelands species found in sheltered gullies. Ornamental plant for moist well drained sandy soils in dappled light. Requires regular pruning to maintain vigour & dense habit.

***Prostanthera ovalifolia* (Oval-leaf Mint-bush)**

Medium upright to spreading shrub with aromatic elliptical leaves. Purple flowers are abundant in spring. Popular cultivated species for sheltered moist but well drained sites. Frequent tip pruning will maintain a dense habit & ensure abundant flowers.

***Scaevola albida* (White Fan Flower)**

Suckering herbaceous ground cover with variable soft leaves & white fan shaped flowers most of the year. Adaptable species for full sun to semi-shade with moist well drained soils.

***Westringia 'Blue Heaven'* (Westringia)**

Dense bushy medium shrub similar to *W. fruticosa*, but with pale blue flowers most of the year. Regular pruning will maintain a dense habit & prolific flowering.

***Westringia glabra* (Westringia)**

Compact small shrub with broad ovate to linear dark green aromatic leaves & purple flowers mostly in spring & summer. Ornamental species for shady moist but well drained sites.

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PLANT SELECTION TABLE

		Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
		Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
TREES																	
Botanical Name	Common Name																
Indigenous																	
<i>Acacia binervata</i>	Two Veined Hickory	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆		3-6	2-4
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	Green Wattle			◆	◆	◆						◆	◆		3-6	2-3	
<i>Acacia implexa</i>	Hickory				◆	◆		◆	◆				◆		4-6	2-4	
<i>Acacia irrorata</i>	Green Wattle	◆			◆				◆				◆		4-6	2-4	
<i>Acacia maidenii</i>	Maiden's Wattle	◆			◆		◆			◆			◆		4-8	3-5	
<i>Acacia parramattensis</i>	Sydney Green Wattle				◆				◆				◆		3-6	2-3	
<i>Acacia parvipinnula</i>	Silver Stem Wattle				◆						◆		◆	◆	3-5	2-3	
<i>Acmena smithii</i>	Lillypilly	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		3-8	3-5	
<i>Allocastrum littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak			◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆		4-6	3-3	
<i>Allocastrum torulosa</i>	Forest Oak			◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		◆		5-8	2-3	
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>	Red Ash			◆		◆	◆			◆					4-8	3-5	
<i>Angophora bakeri</i>	Narrow Leaf Apple			◆					◆	◆		◆			3-6	2-4	
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth Barked Apple				◆		◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			8-20	5-10	
<i>Angophora floribunda</i>	Rough Barked Apple				◆		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		8-20	4-10	
<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i>	Bangalow Palm	◆	◆				◆	◆				◆	◆		5-10	3	
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆	◆		4-8	3-5	
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Old Man Banksia				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		3-4	2-4	
<i>Callicoma serratifolia</i>	Black Wattle	◆	◆				◆		◆			◆			3-5	2-3	
<i>Cassine australis</i>	Red Fruited Olive Plum	◆			◆		◆					◆	◆		2-3	2-3	
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	Swamp Sheoak		◆	◆	◆			◆				◆			4-8	3-4	
<i>Celtis paniculata</i>	Hackberry	◆		◆			◆	◆					◆		4-6	3-5	
<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>	Coachwood	◆	◆				◆		◆						4-8	3-4	
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆			3-8	3-5	
<i>Ehretia acuminata</i>	Koda	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆	◆		5-8	3-4	
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆		◆		◆	◆		4-8	2-4	
<i>Endiandra sieberi</i>	Corkwood	◆		◆			◆	◆				◆	◆		3-6	3-4	
<i>Eucalyptus agglomerata</i>	Blue Leaf Stringybark					◆			◆						6-20	4-10	
<i>Eucalyptus amplifolia</i>	Cabbage Gum		◆		◆				◆						10-20	4-8	
<i>Eucalyptus botryoides</i>	Bangalay				◆			◆							10-20	6-8	
<i>Eucalyptus capitellata</i>	Brown Stringybark				◆				◆	◆	◆				4-15	3-8	
<i>Eucalyptus consideriana</i>	Yertchuk				◆					◆			◆		10-15	7-10	
<i>Eucalyptus eugenioides</i>	Thin Leaf Stringybark				◆		◆		◆	◆					12-20	5-10	
<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark				◆				◆	◆					4-15	4-8	
<i>Eucalyptus gummifera</i>	Bloodwood				◆	◆		◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		3-15	3-10	
<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i>	Scribbly Gum				◆		◆	◆	◆			◆			4-12	4-8	
<i>Eucalyptus luehmanniana</i>	Yellow Top Ash			◆			◆		◆			◆	◆		3-5	3-4	
<i>Eucalyptus longifolia</i>	Woollybutt				◆				◆			◆	◆		14-20	5-10	
<i>Eucalyptus multicaulis</i>	Whip Stick Mallee				◆		◆		◆			◆			3-5	2-4	
<i>Eucalyptus oblonga</i>	Sandstone Stringybark		◆						◆						4-6	3-5	

		Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
		Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
Eucalyptus obstans	Port Jackson Mallee			◆	◆					◆			◆		2-5	2-3	
Eucalyptus paniculata	Grey Ironbark				◆			◆							15-30	8-15	
Eucalyptus pilularis	Blackbutt				◆				◆						15-30	8-10	
Eucalyptus piperita	Sydney Peppermint				◆				◆						15-25	8-12	
Eucalyptus punctata	Grey Gum				◆			◆							10-25	5-8	
Eucalyptus racemosa	Narrow Leaf Scribbly Gum				◆				◆		◆				10-25	5-10	
Eucalyptus resinifera	Red Mahogany				◆				◆		◆				6-25	4-10	
Eucalyptus robusta	Swamp Mahogany		◆		◆			◆				◆	◆		10-20	4-8	
Eucalyptus saligna	Sydney Blue Gum		◆		◆						◆			◆	15-30	5-12	
Eucalyptus sieberi	Silver top Ash				◆				◆	◆					8-25	4-10	
Eucalyptus squamosa	Scaly Bark			◆	◆					◆				◆	3-4	3-4	
Eucalyptus tereticornis	Forest Red Gum				◆				◆		◆				15-35	6-12	
Euroschinus falcata	Ribbonwood	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆						◆	5-15	4-8	
Ficus coronata	Sandpaper Fig	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆		◆				◆	◆	3-4	2-4	
Ficus rubiginosa	Rusty Fig	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				◆		5-15	5-15	
Ficus superba var. henneana	Deciduous Fig	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆				◆	◆	5-10	4-8	
Glochidion ferdinandi	Cheese Tree	◆	◆				◆	◆			◆		◆		5-10	4-8	
Gmelina leichhardtii	White Beech	◆		◆			◆	◆						◆	8-15	4-8	
Guioa semiglauca	Guioa				◆			◆						◆	2-5	2-3	
Leptospermum laevigatum	Coastal Tea Tree			◆				◆							3-5	2-4	
Livistona australis	Cabbage Palm	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆					◆	10-20	2-3	
Melaleuca linariifolia	Snow in Summer		◆	◆		◆			◆		◆		◆		4-8	2-4	
Melaleuca quinquenervia	Broad Leaf Paperbark		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆					◆		5-10	3-5	
Melaleuca stypelioides	Prickly Tea Tree		◆	◆		◆			◆		◆				4-8	2-5	
Planchonella australis	Black Plum	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆		◆				◆	◆	4-8	3-4	
Polyscias elegans	Celerywood						◆	◆						◆	3-8	3-5	
Rapanea howitteana	Brush Muttonwood	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆				◆	◆	5-8	3-5	
Sarcomelicope simplicifolia	Yellow Wood	◆			◆			◆	◆					◆	3-6	3-4	
Schizomeria ovata	Crab Apple	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆					◆	6-20	4-5	
Syncarpia glomulifera	Turpentine				◆	◆	◆				◆		◆		15-25	5-8	
Syzygium australe	Brush Cherry	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	3-8	3-5	
Syzygium oleosum	Blue Lilli Pilli	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	3-5	2-3	
Syzygium paniculatum	Magenta Lilli Pilli	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	5-15	4-10	
Toona ciliata	Red Cedar	◆					◆	◆						◆	8-12	5-8	
Tristaniopsis laurina	Water Gum	◆	◆	◆				◆				◆			3-10	3-5	
Native																	
Acacia binervia	Coast Myall			◆	◆			◆					◆		4-6	4-5	
Hymenosporum flavum	Native Frangipani	◆							◆		◆				5-8	3-4	
Macadamia tetraphylla	Macadamia Nut			◆		◆	◆		◆		◆		◆		6-10	4-6	
Melaleuca bracteata + cultivars	Melaleuca		◆	◆			◆		◆		◆		◆		3-5	2-3	

SHRUBS 1-4m

Botanical Name	Common Name
Indigenous	
Acacia elongata	Swamp Wattle
Acacia falcata	Sickle Wattle
Acacia floribunda	Sally Wattle
Acacia linifolia	Flax Leaf Wattle
Acacia longifolia	Sydney Golden Wattle
Acacia myrtifolia	Myrtle Leaf Wattle
Acacia obtusifolia	Blunt Leaf Wattle
Acacia pubescens	Downy Wattle
Acacia sophorae	Coastal Wattle
Acacia stricta	Straight Wattle
Acacia suaveolens	Scented Wattle
Acacia terminalis	Sunshine Wattle
Allocasuarina distyla	Scrub Sheoak
Angophora hispida	Dwarf Apple
Aotus ericoides	Common Aotus
Backhousia myrtifolia	Grey Myrtle
Baekea linifolia	Swamp Baeckea
Banksia ericifolia	Heath Leaf Banksia
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia
Banksia oblongifolia	Banksia
Banksia robur	Swamp Banksia
Banksia spinulosa	Hairpin Banksia
Bauera rubiodes	Dog Rose
Bertya brownii	Bertya
Bertya pomaderroides	Hazel Bertya
Bursaria spinosa	Blackthorn
Callistemon citrinus	Crimson Bottlebrush
Callistemon linearis	Narrow Leaf Bottlebrush
Callistemon pinifolius	Green Bottlebrush
Callistemon subulatus	Dwarf Bottlebrush
Callitris muelleri	Mueller's Cypress
Callitris rhomboidea	Port Jackson Pine
Calytrix tetragona	Fringe Myrtle
Cassinia aureonitens	Golden Cassinia
Cassinia uncata	Bent Cassinia
Ceratopetalum gummiferum	NSW Christmas Bush
Clerodendrum tomentosum	Hairy Clerodendrum
Daviesia corymbosa	Bitter Pea
Daviesia mimosoides	Bitter Pea
Dillwynia retorta	Eggs and Bacon
Dodonaea triquetra	Hop Bush
Eriostemon australasius	Pink Wax Flower

Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
	◆						◆				◆			1.5-3	1-2
			◆	◆					◆		◆	◆		1.5-3	1-2
◆		◆	◆				◆		◆		◆	◆		2-4	2-3
			◆				◆	◆	◆		◆			2-3	1-2
			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆			2-4	2-3
			◆				◆	◆						1.5	1
			◆				◆		◆					2-3	2-3
			◆						◆			◆		2-3	1-2
			◆	◆			◆				◆			1.5-3	2-3
								◆						1.5-2	1
			◆				◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		1-2	1-1.5
			◆				◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		1.5-2	1-2
	◆	◆	◆					◆				◆		2-3	2-3
			◆			◆	◆	◆			◆	◆		2-4	2-3
							◆				◆			1-2	1
◆	◆					◆	◆							2.5-4	1.5-3
◆	◆						◆							1.5-2.5	1-2
	◆		◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		2-3	2.5
		◆	◆				◆	◆			◆	◆		1.5-3	1.5-2.5
	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		1-2	1-2
	◆		◆				◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	1-1.5	2
			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		1.5	1
◆	◆		◆				◆				◆			1-2	1-2
◆						◆	◆					◆		1-2	1
			◆						◆					1.5-2.5	1.5
			◆						◆					2-3	1
	◆	◆	◆				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			2-3	1-2
	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆		◆			1-2	1
	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆		◆			1-2	1-2
			◆						◆		◆	◆		1.5	1
			◆				◆				◆	◆		3-5	1-2
			◆			◆	◆				◆			3-5	1-2
	◆					◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			0.5-1.5	1
◆						◆	◆		◆		◆			1.5-2	1
							◆	◆	◆					1.5-2	1
			◆		◆	◆	◆				◆			2-4	1-3
◆		◆	◆				◆				◆	◆		2	1.5
			◆				◆				◆			1.5	1
			◆				◆				◆			1-2	1
			◆				◆	◆	◆					1.5	1
			◆				◆		◆		◆			1-2	1
						◆	◆	◆			◆			1	1

		Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
		Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
Pomaderris ferruginea	Rusty Pomaderris	◆		◆					◆		◆					2-3	1.5
Pomaderris intermedia	Pomaderris			◆					◆							2-3	1.5
Pomaderris lanigera	Woolly Pomaderris			◆					◆		◆					2	1
Prostanthera linearis	Narrow Leaf Mint Bush	◆							◆							1.5-3	1.5
Prostanthera sieberi	Mint Bush	◆							◆			◆				2	1.5
Pultenaea blakelyi	Blakely's Bush Pea	◆			◆				◆			◆				2-3	1.5
Pultenaea daphnoides	Large Leaf Bush Pea	◆			◆				◆			◆				1-2.5	1.5
Pultenaea flexilis	Graceful Bush Pea	◆			◆				◆			◆				2-3	1.5
Pultenaea stipularis	Fine Leaf Bush Pea				◆				◆			◆				1-1.5	1.5
Pultenaea villosa	Hairy Bush Pea				◆						◆	◆				1-1.5	1
Rhodamnia rubescens	Scrub Turpentine	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆			2-3	2.5
Ricinocarpos pinifolius	Wedding Bush	◆						◆	◆			◆				1-1.5	1.5
Rulingia dasyphylla	Kerrawang	◆				◆			◆		◆			◆		1-2	1.5
Stenocarpus salignus	Scrub Beefwood	◆			◆		◆		◆					◆		2-4	1.5
Synoum glandulosum	Bastard Rosewood	◆			◆		◆	◆	◆				◆			2-3	2-3
Tasmania insipida	Pepper Bush	◆				◆	◆		◆					◆		1-1.5	1
Telopea speciosissima	NSW Waratah				◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆			1-3	1
Trema aspera	Native Peach	◆				◆	◆		◆							2-4	2
Tristania neriifolia	Water Gum		◆					◆	◆			◆				1-1.5	1
Viminaria juncea	Native Broom		◆					◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				2-3	1.5
Westringia fruticosa	Coast Rosemary			◆	◆			◆								1-2	1.5
Xylomelum pyriforme	Woody Pear					◆	◆		◆				◆			2-3	1.5
Zieria smithii	Sandfly Zieria	◆				◆			◆							1-2	1
Native																	
Callistemon 'Candy Pink'	Bottlebrush		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				2	2
Callistemon 'Captain Cook'	"		◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				1.5	1.5
Callistemon 'Endeavour'	"		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				2	2
Callistemon 'Eureka'	"		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				3-4	2
Callistemon 'Hannah Ray'	"		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				4	2
Callistemon 'Kings Pk Special'	"		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				4	3
Callistemon 'Western Glory'	"		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				2-4	2
Eriostemon myoporoides	Long Leaf Wax Flower	◆		◆				◆				◆				1.5-2	1.5
Grevillea banksii	Grevillea/ Spider Plants			◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆				2-3	2
Grevillea 'Clear View David'	"			◆	◆				◆	◆		◆				2	2
Grevillea 'Ivanhoe'	"			◆	◆				◆	◆		◆				2-3	2.5
Grevillea 'Moonlight'	"			◆	◆				◆	◆		◆				2	2
Grevillea 'Ned Kelly'	"			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆				1.5-2	1.5
Grevillea 'Poorinda Constance'	"				◆			◆	◆	◆		◆				1.5	1.5
Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon'	"				◆			◆	◆	◆		◆				1.5	1
Grevillea 'Superb'	"			◆	◆				◆	◆		◆				1-2	1.5
Melaleuca hypericifolia	Honeymyrtle		◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				2.5	2.5
Melaleuca nesophila	Showy Honeymyrtle		◆	◆	◆				◆		◆	◆				2-3	2.5
Prostanthera incana	Velvet Leaf Mint Bush	◆							◆			◆				1	1.5
Prostanthera ovalifolia	Oval Leaf Mint Bush	◆							◆			◆				2-3	2
Westringia 'Blue Heaven'				◆				◆				◆				1.5-2	1.5-2
Westringia glabra		◆							◆			◆				1	1.5-2

SHRUBS up to 1m

Botanical Name	Common Name
Indigenous	
Acacia brownei	Prickly Moses
Acacia hispida	Rough Hairy Wattle
Acacia ulicifolia	Prickly Moses
Actinotus helianthi	Flannel Flower
Actinotus minor	Lesser Flannel Flower
Allocasuarina diminuta ssp. diminuta	Sheoak
Allocasuarina nana	Dwarf Sheoak
Austromyrtus tenuifolia	Narrow Leaf Myrtle
Baekea imbricata	Heath Myrtle
Bauera microphylla	White River Rose
Boronia floribunda	Pale Pink Boronia
Boronia ledifolia	Sydney Boronia
Boronia serrulata	Native Rose
Bossiaea heterophylla	Variable Bossiaea
Bossiaea stephensoni	Bossiaea
Bracteantha bracteatum	Golden Everlasting Daisy
Callistemon subulatus	Dwarf Bottlebrush
Correa alba	Coast Correa
Correa reflexa	Native Fuchsia
Crowea exalata	Crowea
Crowea saligna	Crowea
Dampiera purpurea	Dampiera
Dampiera stricta	Blue Dampiera
Darwinia diminuta	Darwinia
Dillwynia floribunda	Eggs and Bacon
Dillwynia parvifolia	Small Leaf Dillwynia
Epacris longiflora	Fuchsia Heath
Epacris microphylla	Coral Heath
Eriostemon buxifolius	Wax Flower
Gonocarpus teucroides	Germander Raspwort
Grevillea diffusa	Red Spider Flower
Grevillea sphacelata	Grey Spider Flower
Helichrysum elatum	White Everlasting Daisy
Hibbertia bracteata	Guinea Flower
Hibbertia empetrifolia	Trailing Guinea Flower
Hibbertia obtusifolia	Grey Guinea Flower
Hibbertia linearis	Showy Guinea Flower
Hibbertia monogyna	Guinea Flower
Hibbertia nitida	Shining Guinea Flower
Hovea linearis	Hovea
Isopogon anemonifolius	Drumsticks
Isopogon anethifolius	Drumsticks
Lasiopetalum ferrugineum	Rusty Petals
Lasiopetalum rufum	Rusty Petals
Leptospermum arachnoides	Spidery Tea Tree
Leptospermum parvifolia	Small Leaf Tea Tree
Lobelia dentata	Native Lobelia

Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
			◆					◆		◆	◆			1	1
			◆					◆						1	1
			◆					◆	◆	◆				1	1
						◆		◆			◆			1	0.4
◆								◆						0.3	0.3
			◆			◆			◆			◆	◆	0.3	0.5-1
			◆			◆			◆			◆	◆	0.5-1	1-1.5
◆	◆					◆		◆			◆			1	1-2
	◆						◆	◆	◆					0.4	0.3
◆	◆							◆	◆	◆	◆			0.3	0.5
◆								◆			◆			1	0.5-1
◆								◆	◆		◆			0.6	0.5
								◆	◆		◆	◆		0.6	0.5
◆								◆			◆			1	0.5
◆								◆			◆			0.5	0.5
								◆			◆			0.5	0.3
	◆		◆					◆			◆			1	1
							◆							1	1
◆								◆			◆			0.5	1
◆								◆			◆			0.6	0.4
								◆	◆		◆			0.5	0.4
								◆	◆		◆			0.4	0.2
									◆			◆		0.5	0.5
								◆	◆		◆			0.5	0.4
									◆	◆	◆	◆		0.3-1	0.5
								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.5-1	0.5
								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.5	0.3
◆	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			0.3-0.5	0.3-0.5
◆							◆	◆	◆	◆				0.3	0.3
			◆					◆			◆			1	1
								◆						0.5	0.5
								◆		◆	◆			1	0.3
								◆			◆			1	0.5
◆								◆			◆			0.3	0.6
								◆	◆		◆			0.2	0.5
								◆			◆			1	0.4
◆								◆			◆			0.6	0.4
◆								◆			◆	◆		1	0.5
◆								◆		◆	◆			0.5	0.3
			◆					◆				◆		1	0.5-1
			◆			◆		◆	◆			◆		1	0.5-1
◆								◆						0.5-1.5	0.5-1.5
								◆			◆			1	1
	◆							◆	◆	◆				0.5	1
								◆	◆			◆		0.5	0.5
								◆			◆			0.3	0.1

		Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
		Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
Lobelia gracilis	Native Lobelia								◆			◆			0.3	0.1	
Lomatia silaifolia	Wild Parsley								◆	◆					0.4	0.4	
Melaleuca thymifolia	Thyme Honeymyrtle		◆		◆				◆	◆	◆	◆			1	1	
Mirbelia rubifolia	Mirbelia								◆		◆				0.3	0.3	
Mirbelia speciosa	Mirbelia								◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	0.4	0.2	
Pelargonium australe	Coast Geranium							◆							0.3	1	
Pelargonium inodorum	Wild Geranium								◆						0.2	0.2	
Persicaria decipiens	Slender Knot Weed		◆			◆			◆						0.5	0.5	
Persicaria lapathifolia	Pale Knot Weed		◆			◆			◆						1	1	
Phyllanthus hirtellus	Thyme Spurge	◆							◆	◆	◆				0.3	0.3	
Phyllota phylicoides	Common Phyllota						◆		◆	◆		◆			0.5	0.5	
Pimelia linifolia	Rice Flower					◆			◆	◆		◆			1	1	
Pomax umbellata	Pomax	◆							◆	◆	◆				0.2	0.2	
Prostanthera densa	Cliff Mintbush	◆						◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	0.5-1	0.5	
Pseudanthus pimeleoides	Pseudanthus		◆						◆			◆			1	1	
Pultenaea elliptica	Bush Pea								◆		◆	◆			0.5-1	0.5	
Pultenaea hispida	Rough Leaf Pultenaea						◆			◆	◆	◆			0.5	0.5	
Pultenaea linophylla	Bush Pea								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.5-1	0.5	
Rhagodia candolleana	Seaberry Saltbush					◆		◆					◆		0.5	1	
Stylidium laricifolium	Giant Trigger Plant	◆							◆						0.5-1.5	0.1	
Tetradlea neglecta	Black Eyed Susan							◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	0.2	0.3	
Tetradlea shiresii	Black Eyed Susan							◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	0.2	0.3	
Trachymene incisa	Tracymene					◆			◆			◆			0.3	0.3	
Wahlenbergia communis	Blue Bells								◆						0.3	0.2	
Wahlenbergia gracilis	Blue Bells								◆						0.3	0.1	
Xanthosia pilosa	Hairy Xanthosia	◆							◆	◆	◆				0.5	0.4	
Xanthosia tridentata	Rock Xanthosia	◆							◆	◆	◆				0.2	0.3	
Native																	
Austromyrtis dulcis	Midyin Berry				◆	◆		◆					◆		0.5-1	1	
Baeckea virgata 'Nana'	Dwarf Swamp Myrtle		◆				◆		◆		◆	◆			0.3-0.5	1	
Brachycome 'Break-O-Day'	Swan River Daisy							◆	◆		◆	◆			0.3	0.5	
Brachycome multifida	Swan River Daisy							◆	◆		◆	◆			0.3	0.5	
Callistemon citrinus	'White Anzac'		◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			1	1	
Correa baeuerlenii	Chef's Cap Correa	◆					◆		◆			◆	◆	◆	1	1	
Correa decumbens	Correa	◆		◆			◆		◆	◆	◆	◆			0.2	1.5	
Correa 'Dusky Bells'	Correa	◆					◆		◆			◆			0.7	1-2	
Grevillea 'Mt Tamboritha'	Soft Leaf Grevillea				◆				◆	◆	◆	◆			0.5	1	
Leptospermum polygalifolia	'Pacific Beauty'		◆		◆		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆			0.5	1	

GRASSES & TUFTED PLANTS

Botanical Name	Common Name
Indigenous	
Anisopogon avenaceus	Oat Spear Grass
Aristida vagans	Three Awned Spear Grass
Austrofestuca littoralis	Coastal Fescue
Baumea articulata	Jointed Twig Rush
Baumea rubiginosa	Soft Twig Rush
Baumea teretifolia	Wrinkle Nut Twig Rush
Blandfordia nobilis	Christmas Bells
Carex appressa	Tall Sedge
Crinum pedunculatum	Crinum Lily
Cymbopogon refractus	Barbed Wire Grass
Danthonia species	Wallaby Grasses
Deyeuxia quadriseta	Reed Bent Grass
Dianella caerulea	Blue Flax Lily
Dianella prunina	Flax Lily
Dianella revoluta	Mauve Flax Lily
Dichelachne crinita	Long Hair Plume Grass
Doryanthes excelsa	Gymea Lily
Echinopogon caespitosus	Hedgehog Grass
Eleocharis sphacelata	Tall Spike Rush
Gahnia aspera	Sword Sedge
Gahnia clarkei	Sword Sedge
Gahnia erythrocarpa	Sword Sedge
Gahnia sieberiana	Sword Sedge
Haemodorum planifolium	Strap Leaf Bloodroot
Imperata cylindrica	Blady Grass
Isolepis inundata	Swamp Club Rush
Isolepis nodosus	Knobby Club Rush
Juncus continuus	Rush
Juncus krausii	Sea Rush
Juncus planifolius	Broad Rush
Juncus usitatus	Common Rush
Lomandra fluviatilis	River Lomandra
Lomandra longifolia	Spiny Mat Rush
Lomandra multiflora	Lomandra
Macrozamia communis	Burrawang
Microlaena stipoides	Weeping Meadow Grass
Paspalum distichum	Water Couch
Patersonia glabrata	Smooth Purple Flag
Patersonia sericea	Silky Purple Flag
Phragmites australis	Common Reed
Phylidrum lanuginosum	Frogsmouth
Restio tetraphyllus	Tassel Rush
Schoenoplectus littoralis	Bog Rush
Schoenoplectus mucronatus	Rush

Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
			◆					◆		◆		◆		1-1.5	0.5
								◆		◆				0.3	0.2
							◆				◆	◆		0.5	0.5
	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			◆	1	x
	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				1	1
	◆		◆	◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆				1	1
	◆		◆					◆	◆		◆			0.5	0.1
	◆							◆						1	0.5
	◆			◆		◆	◆					◆		1-1.5	1.5
								◆		◆		◆		0.5	0.5
								◆		◆				0.4	0.4
								◆		◆				0.5	0.3
◆			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		0.5	0.5
			◆	◆		◆			◆		◆	◆	◆	0.6	0.5
◆			◆	◆				◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		0.5	0.5
							◆	◆		◆	◆			0.5	0.5
			◆	◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆		1.5-2	2
								◆		◆	◆			0.3	0.2
	◆		◆	◆				◆	◆	◆				1	x
◆	◆		◆	◆	◆			◆		◆		◆		0.8	0.5
	◆		◆	◆				◆				◆		1.5	1.5
	◆		◆	◆				◆				◆		1.5	1.5
	◆		◆	◆				◆		◆		◆		1.5	1.5
								◆			◆	◆		1	0.3
				◆				◆		◆	◆			0.6	x
	◆						◆	◆						0.5	0.5
	◆						◆							0.5	0.3
	◆		◆				◆	◆	◆	◆				1	1
	◆		◆				◆							1	x
	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆				0.4	0.4
	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆				0.6	0.5
◆	◆					◆	◆							0.4	0.5
◆	◆			◆			◆	◆	◆	◆				1	1.5
							◆	◆	◆	◆				0.3	0.2
◆				◆		◆	◆	◆			◆			1-1.5	1.5
◆	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆				0.1-0.5	x
	◆						◆	◆	◆	◆				0.3	x
								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.3	0.3
								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.3	0.3
	◆		◆	◆			◆							2.5	x
	◆							◆	◆	◆				1	0.3
	◆		◆				◆							1.5	1-2
	◆		◆				◆							1.5	x
	◆		◆					◆	◆	◆				1	x

		Landscape Use							Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics				
		Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
Schoenoplectus validus	River Club Rush		◆		◆				◆	◆	◆					1	x
Spinifex sericeus	Coastal Spinifex								◆				◆			0.3	x
Sporobolus virginicus	Salt Water Couch		◆						◆								
Stipa pubescens	Spear Grass				◆				◆		◆	◆				1.5	1
Stylidium graminifolium	Trigger Plant	◆							◆							0.3	0.1
Themeda australis	Kangaroo Grass								◆	◆	◆	◆				0.5	0.5
Typha domingensis	Bull Rush		◆		◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆				2	x
Typha orientalis	Bull Rush		◆		◆	◆			◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			2	x
Xanthorrhoea arborea	Grass Tree				◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆			1	1
Xanthorrhoea media	Grass Tree				◆	◆	◆		◆			◆	◆			1	1
Xanthorrhoea resinosa	Grass Tree		◆		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆			1	1

GROUNDCOVERS & SCRAMBLERS

Botanical Name	Common Name
Indigenous	
<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Craneberry Heath
<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Appleberry
<i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>	Native Pig Face
<i>Centella asiatica</i>	Swamp Pennywort
<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	Kangaroo Grape
<i>Commelina cyanea</i>	Scurvy Weed
<i>Darwinia grandiflora</i>	Darwinia
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney Weed
<i>Geitonoplesium cymosum</i>	Scrambling Lily
<i>Geranium homeanum</i>	Northern Cranesbill
<i>Glycine clandestinum</i>	Lover's Twine
<i>Goodenia hederacea</i>	Ivy Leaf Goodenia
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False Sarsaparilla
<i>Hibbertia scandens</i>	Snake Vine
<i>Hibbertia serpyllifolia</i>	Guinea Flower
<i>Hydrocotyle pedunculata</i>	Pennywort
<i>Hydrocotyle tripartita</i>	Pennywort
<i>Ipomoea brasiliensis</i>	Goatsfoot Convolvulus
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman
<i>Lobelia alata</i>	Coastal Lobelia
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Weeping Meadow Grass
<i>Oplismenus aemulus</i>	Basket Grass
<i>Podocarpus spinulosus</i>	Plum Pine
<i>Polymeria calycina</i>	Swamp Bind Weed
<i>Pratia purpurascens</i>	White Root
<i>Rubus hillii</i>	Broad Leaf Bramble
<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	Native Raspberry
<i>Rulingia hermanniifolia</i>	Rulingia
<i>Scaevola calendulacea</i>	Dune Fan Flower
<i>Scaevola ramosissima</i>	Purple Fan Flower
<i>Tetragonia tetragonoides</i>	Warrigal Cabbage
<i>Veronica plebeia</i>	Speedwell
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	Native Violet
Native	
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i> 'Prostrate'	Groundcover Banksia
<i>Dampiera diversifolia</i>	Dampiera
<i>Grevillea 'Gaudichaudii'</i>	Grevillea
<i>Grevillea juniperina</i> 'Prostrate'	Grevillea
<i>Grevillea 'Royal Mantle'</i>	Grevillea
<i>Scaevola aemula</i>	Fan Flower
<i>Scaevola albida</i>	White Fan Flower

Landscape Use						Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics					
Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆					0.2	0.5
◆				◆			◆	◆	◆		◆	◆		0.3	1
				◆			◆				◆			0.1	1.5
◆				◆	◆		◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆				◆	◆		◆	◆				◆		0.3	3
◆	◆			◆			◆	◆	◆					0.2	x
								◆			◆	◆		0.1	1
◆							◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆				◆			◆	◆	◆		◆			1	2
								◆						0.2	1.5
◆					◆			◆	◆	◆				0.2	x
								◆	◆	◆				0.2	0.5
								◆	◆	◆	◆			0.1	2
							◆				◆			0.3	2
							◆		◆		◆	◆		0.1	0.3
◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆	◆				◆		◆	◆	◆			◆		0.01	x
				◆			◆				◆	◆	◆	0.1	x
				◆				◆			◆			0.2	2
	◆						◆	◆						0.1	0.3
◆							◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆							◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆				◆			◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
◆			◆	◆			◆	◆			◆	◆		0.1	2
◆			◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆			0.5	2
	◆						◆		◆			◆		0.1	0.5
				◆			◆				◆	◆		0.1	1
				◆				◆			◆			0.1	1
				◆			◆							0.3	1
◆								◆	◆					0.1	1
◆	◆						◆	◆	◆					0.1	x
				◆			◆				◆			0.3	3
				◆				◆	◆		◆			0.2	0.5
			◆					◆	◆		◆			0.3	2
			◆					◆	◆		◆			0.5	2
			◆					◆	◆		◆			0.2	3-4
							◆	◆	◆		◆				
							◆	◆	◆		◆			0.1	1

FERNS	
Botanical Name	Common Name
Indigenous	
<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Maidenhair Fern
<i>Adiantum formosum</i>	Giant Maidenhair
<i>Adiantum hispidulum</i>	Rough Maidenhair
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	Birds Nest Fern
<i>Blechnum camfieldii</i>	Water Fern
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>	Gristle Fern
<i>Blechnum indicum</i>	Swamp Water Fern
<i>Blechnum minus</i>	Soft Water Fern
<i>Blechnum nudum</i>	Fishbone Water Fern
<i>Calochlaena dubia</i>	Soft Bracken
<i>Christella dentata</i>	Binung
<i>Cyathea australis</i>	Rough Tree Fern
<i>Cyathea cooperi</i>	Straw Tree Fern
<i>Davallia pyxidata</i>	Hare's Foot Fern
<i>Dennstaedtia davallioides</i>	Lacy Ground Fern
<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	Soft Tree Fern
<i>Doodia aspera</i>	Rasp Fern
<i>Histiopteris incisa</i>	Bat's Wing Fern
<i>Hypolepis muellerii</i>	Harsh Ground Fern
<i>Pellaea falcata</i>	Sickle Fern
<i>Platycerium bifurcatum</i>	Elkhorn
<i>Polystichum australiense</i>	Shield Fern
<i>Pteris tremula</i>	Slender Brake
<i>Todea barbara</i>	King Fern

Landscape Use							Urban Zone				Plant Characteristics				
Shade tolerant	Wet areas	Screening	Bird attracting	Bush tucker/ aboriginal use	Rainforest garden	Feature plant	Coastal & estuarine	Sandstone slopes & gullies	Exposed ridges	Clay/ shale plateaus	Showy flowers	Interesting fruit/ seed pods	Rare/ uncommon	Height- metres	Width- metres
◆	◆				◆		◆	◆		◆				0.3	x
◆	◆		◆		◆			◆						0.5	x
◆	◆							◆						0.2	0.4
◆	◆				◆	◆		◆						0.5	1
◆	◆				◆			◆				◆		0.5-1	x
◆	◆		◆	◆	◆			◆						0.4	x
◆	◆			◆	◆			◆				◆		0.5-1	x
◆	◆				◆			◆				◆		0.3	0.5
◆	◆			◆	◆			◆				◆		0.3	0.3
◆	◆		◆		◆			◆						0.5	x
◆	◆				◆			◆						0.6	1
◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆						2-3	2
◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆						2-3	2
◆					◆			◆						0.2	0.5
◆	◆		◆		◆			◆						0.5-1	x
◆	◆			◆	◆	◆		◆				◆		1.5-2	1.5-2
◆	◆				◆		◆	◆		◆				0.2	x
◆	◆				◆			◆						0.5	1
◆	◆				◆			◆						0.5	x
◆	◆				◆		◆	◆		◆				0.2	x
◆					◆			◆						0.8	0.8
◆	◆				◆			◆						0.4	0.5
◆	◆						◆	◆		◆				0.4	0.4
◆	◆				◆			◆						1-1.5	1-2