



## Australian Native Edible & Medicinal Seed Service

**[www.exoticplants.com.au](http://www.exoticplants.com.au)**

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We normally supply the seeds and/or seedlings listed below. Occasionally, a species will be listed that is not in stock, in which case we will notify you when it is available again. We gather many of these seeds ourselves, while others are sourced from seed collectors across Australia.

Seed sample packs are normally AUD \$4 each, although some rarer or larger seeds may be more expensive.

To place an order, send an email to [aussie\\_natives@exoticplants.com.au](mailto:aussie_natives@exoticplants.com.au) listing the species and quantities you want. We will contact you quickly to establish a price and organize delivery.

Also, keep in mind that we are continually making additions to the range of species we offer, and it is worthwhile checking for new catalogue versions regularly.

## Section 1: Medicinals

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**Botanical name:** *Abrus precatorius*

**Common name:** Jequirity Beans

**Other common name(s):** Crab's Eye

**Description:** Known by many names, including "Rosary Pea" in the USA. Extremely poisonous seeds. Perennial vine/climber to 3m. Pinkish flowers. Seeds in pods & are red with a black area at the base.

**Use(s):** This plant vies for the title of "most poisonous plant on Earth" (at least to humans). The cracked seeds are EXTREMELY poisonous - a single cracked seed if ingested can kill a man. In modern times the seeds have been prepared industrially for the treatment of trachoma. The root has been used as a liquorice substitute in preparations for coughs, colds, and conditions such as catarrh.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Australia, Africa, and the Subcontinent.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia beauverdiana*

**Common name:** Pukati

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 6m. Golden flowers.

**Use(s):** Ash from the top branches was mixed with Pituri and chewed. It is thought that this ash releases the alkaloids present in the tobacco, enhancing its effects.

**Habitat and conditions:** Prefers sandy soil. Drought hardy. Native to southwestern Western Australia, occurring in semi-arid locations.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia bivenosa* ssp *wayi*

**Common name:** Umbrella Bush

**Other common name(s):** Two-Nerved Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 3m tall. Produces golden globular flowers.

**Use(s):** The bark was used as a cough syrup boiled or soaked in water. Also, the ash can be combined with *Duboisia hopwoodii* for chewing.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid southern Australia. Prefers dry alkaline soil. Doesn't tolerate too many frosts. Drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia cuthbertsonii*

**Common name:** Cuthbertson's Wattle

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m with twisted trunk. Yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The bark has been used as an aid against toothache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Western Australia. Prefers full sun. Drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia decurrens*

**Common name:** Early Black Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Queen Wattle

**Description:** Tree to 14m. Dark trunk. Brilliant yellow flowers. Feathery green leaves.

**Use(s):** The bark is astringent. A preparation from the bark was used to treat dysentery and diarrhea. The bark has also been used in more modern times in the tanning industry.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to cooler and wetter regions of New South Wales. Hardy to -7 deg C. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia falcata*

**Common name:** Lignum vitae

**Other common name(s):** Sickle-leaved Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Small cream clustered flowers. Leaves resemble

Eucalyptus.

**Use(s):** A lotion was made from the bark to treat skin disorders.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to NSW and southern Queensland coastal areas. Prefers clay or shale soils. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia holosericea*

**Common name:** Velvet Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Candelabra Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 2.5m. Small yellow flowers occur on spikes.

**Use(s):** A water infusion was made with the pounded roots to treat throat disorders. The leaves exude a substance that disturbs or poisons fish in waterholes and rivers to make it easy to catch them. The roasted or boiled seeds are nutritious and tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Australia. Found along watercourses and in open forest areas. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia implexa*

**Common name:** Hickory Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Lightwood

**Description:** Small tree to 4m. Cream globular flowerheads with 30 to 50 flowers inside.

**Use(s):** A lotion was made from the bark to treat skin disorders.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Victoria, New South Wales and SE Queensland. Many soil types. Part sun, moderate water. Frost tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia ixiophylla*

**Common name:** Sticky Leaved Wattle

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Dark green shrub to 2.5m. The phyllodes are sticky. Flowers are yellow balls.

**Use(s):** It is reported that compounds found in its branches have tumour-fighting properties, although at this stage appropriate preparations and efficacy are unknown.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in temperate to subtropical eucalypt forests or mallee scrub in NSW and Queensland as well as SW Western Australia. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia leptocarpa*

**Common name:** North Coats Wattle

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 7m. Yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** An infusion in water was made with the crushed phyllodes to treat sore eyes.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Australia. Found near creeks and waterways.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia melanoxylon*  
**Common name:** Blackwood  
**Other common name(s):** Black Sally  
**Description:** Medium to large tree to 30m.  
**Use(s):** A hot infusion was made with the roasted bark to bathe sore and rheumatic joints. Note: A small minority of people experience allergic asthmatic reactions to this tree, especially to its dust when used as wood (so don't chop it down).  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate southern Australia. Prefers well-watered rich soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia monticola*  
**Common name:** Red Wattle  
**Other common name(s):**  
**Description:** Shrub to 4m. Flowers are clustered yellow balls. Sticky, hairy branches.  
**Use(s):** A water infusion was made with stems or branches which was drunk or bathed in for coughs and colds.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid tropical Australia. Poor soil. Full sun. Drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia tetragonophylla*  
**Common name:** Prickly Wattle  
**Other common name(s):** Dead-finish  
**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Myriad beautiful yellow flowers in globular clusters.  
**Use(s):** Seeds are edible, both in the pod while still green, and dried, ground, mixed with water & baked in the earth. A root bark decoction was used to treat sores. The leaves were chewed to cure dysentery. An infusion was made from the cleaned inner bark and consumed for coughs. Wood ashes (minus bark) was used as an antiseptic.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs widely throughout Central Australia. Extremely tough & drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia translucens*  
**Common name:** Poverty Bush  
**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small shrub. Globular yellow flower clusters.

**Use(s):** Leaves and twigs are mashed together in water. Skin sores are bathed in the infusion and the infusion is rubbed over the head for headache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Tropical Western Australia and Northern Territory. Sandy soil. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia victoriae*

**Common name:** Elegant Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Bramble Wattle

**Description:** Prickly shrub, yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** Contains compounds called avicins which have been shown to inhibit inflammation and cancer in laboratory studies. For food, probably the most popular wattle seed source. Nutritious and tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in semi-arid and arid southern Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Adiantum aethiopicum*

**Common name:** Common maidenhair fern

**Other common name(s):** Valley Mist

**Description:** Fern to 60cm high. Fine fronds up to 80cm long.

**Use(s):** Astringent and emetic. A soothing infusion is prepared with 1 to 5 parts fronds for every 100 parts water.

**Habitat and conditions:** Damp open river banks, creeks and gullies, all states including Tasmania. Part shade. Prefers sandy or loamy soil. Also found in South Africa and New Zealand.

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**Botanical name:** *Aleurites moluccana*

**Common name:** Candlenut Tree

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Large evergreen tree to 20m. Hairy large leaves crowd near the ends of branches. Olive-coloured ball-shaped fruit, containing one or two seeds.

**Use(s):** The seeds yield oil that is inedible and POISONOUS. When roasted, the kernels are edible and have laxative and, reputedly, aphrodisiac effects. The pulped kernels have been used for headaches, fever and rheumatism.

**Habitat and conditions:** Northern NSW and SE Queensland. Variants are also native to many South Pacific and Asian equatorial countries. Prefers moist warm locations.

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**Botanical name:** *Alocasia brisbanensis*

**Common name:** Spoon lily

**Other common name(s):** Cunjevoi

**Description:** Formally grouped under *Alocasia macrorrhizos*. Large perennial plant to 1.5m. Large glossy dark green leaves are spade- or heart-shaped, surrounding small pale yellow-green flowers on the central stalk. The subsequent fruit is in the form of red berries, which look deceptively tasty, but are in fact poisonous.

**Use(s):** Has been used as an external stimulant and a mild counter-irritant. The juice of the leaves is reportedly valuable to treat sunburn. The plant is potentially irritating to sensitive areas of the body such as the eyes, and is therefore included for interest only.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Queensland.

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**Botanical name:** *Alphitonia excelsa*

**Common name:** Red Ash

**Other common name(s):** Leatherjacket

**Description:** Tree to 20m. Flowers are cream to green in colour. The berries are red/black and occur in clusters. The leaves are leathery & elliptical.

**Use(s):** A water infusion of the leaves was used for bathing to cure headache or body pains, or gargled to treat toothache. Young leaf tips were chewed in case of stomach upset. Leaves were also applied to treat sore eyes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to northern tropical Australia and forest areas down to the east coast of NSW.

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**Botanical name:** *Alphitonia petriei*

**Common name:** Pink Almond

**Other common name(s):** White or Pink Ash

**Description:** Tall tree to 45m. Dark bark. Leaves are smooth on the top and hairy underneath. Produces fragrant cream flowers. The black fruit is small and round.

**Use(s):** The bark was infused in boiling water for external application to treat aches and pains.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to rainforests in tropical and subtropical Australia and nearby islands.

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**Botanical name:** *Angophora costata*

**Common name:** Sydney Red Gum

**Other common name(s):** Smooth-barked Apple Gum

**Description:** Tall tree to 25m. Related to the eucalypts. Pinkish/ruddy bark. Large, rather gnarled trunk. White flowers in bunches. Beware: drops branches frequently.

**Use(s):** The trunk exudes a reddish substance (kino), a solution of which has been used in the treatment of diarrhea.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to SE Queensland and all along coastal NSW. Full sun. Can tolerate light frosts.

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**Botanical name:** *Araucaria cunninghamii*

**Common name:** Hoop Pine

**Other common name(s):** Moreton Bay Pine

**Description:** Very large tree to 60m. Similar in appearance to Bunya Nut.

**Use(s):** The bark of this tree exudes a resin when cut. This resin can be dissolved in alcohol to treat kidney ailments.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to southern Queensland and Northern coastal NSW. A variety also occurs in New Guinea. Likes good rainfall, full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Asteromyrtus symphyocarpa*

**Common name:** Liniment Tree

**Other common name(s):** Waria-Waria Tree

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 10m with a bluish tinge. Flowers are golden-orange in globular clusters. Formerly known as *Melaleuca symphyocarpa*.

**Use(s):** The crushed leaves were inhaled to treat headache; the steam from a leaf decoction was used to clear the nasal passages. The crushed leaves or an infusion was rubbed over the body for aches and pains and over the chest to ease breathing.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to swampy coastal areas of tropical northern Queensland and the Northern Territory.

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**Botanical name:** *Atherosperma moschatum*

**Common name:** Native Sassafras

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tree to 20m. The crushed leaves are aromatic.

**Use(s):** A laxative tonic was made from a bark infusion. A more precise tincture has been used for ailments ranging from asthma and lung disease to heart disease.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Tasmania and southeastern mainland rainforests. Prefers a moist location.

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**Botanical name:** *Atriplex nummularia*

**Common name:** Oldman Saltbush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Grey oval leaves.

**Use(s):** Was used for the treatment of scurvy and blood diseases.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate and subtropical arid Australia. Full sun. Frost tolerant. OK in salty soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Backhousia citriodora*

**Common name:** Lemon Scented Myrtle

**Other common name(s):** Lemon Ironwood

**Description:** Small bushy tree to 8m, although can sometimes reach 15m in the wild. Green leaves smell strongly of lemon. The younger leaves are more reddish. Flowers are cream or white and occur profusely when in bloom.

**Use(s):** The leaves smell amazingly like lemon and are used as a spice. A tea can also be prepared which is said to have a relaxing effect.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal Queensland. Prefers rich, moist soil. Part to full sun. Hardy to -8 deg C once established. Keep warm when young though.

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**Botanical name:** *Buchanania obovata*

**Common name:** Green Plum

**Other common name(s):** Wild Plum

**Description:** Small deciduous tree to 6m. The fruit is a green berry resembling a plum. The bark is grey and rough. The leaves are light green.

**Use(s):** The green plum-like fruit was pounded up into a sweet edible paste. Cavities were treated with minced leaves and a gargled (not swallowed) mouthwash was prepared against toothache from an infusion of the inner bark and sapwood. The pure infusion was also used to bathe sore eyes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Northern Territory and Queensland near the Gulf of Carpentaria. Full sun, warm conditions.

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**Botanical name:** *Bursaria spinosa*

**Common name:** Native or Christmas Box

**Other common name(s):** Blackthorn

**Description:** Tallish shrub with oval leaves with thorny branches. Fragrant cream flowers cover the plant in summer.

**Use(s):** The leaves contain a compound called Aesculin which is useful for certain skin conditions as well as in sun-tan lotion.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs generally in wetter areas of all states.

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**Botanical name:** *Callitris columellaris*

**Common name:** White Cypress Pine

**Other common name(s):** Bribie Island Pine

**Description:** Medium-large tree to 30m. Tiny grey/green leaves grow off the stems. Rough dark bark.

**Use(s):** Leaves and twigs have been used in steam broths to treat colds and sores; the injured bark exudes a substance used in the coating of pills, and the scent is used in the



cosmetics and aromatherapy industries.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs usually in semi-arid areas in all mainland states, although sometimes on the coast too. Drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Callitris endlicheri*

**Common name:** Black Cypress Pine

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Dark leaved triangular evergreen conifer to 13m. Tiny leaves, like *C. columellaris*, grow off the stems.

**Use(s):** The yellow resin of injured trees is rich in geranyl acetate. Has been used as a worming agent for horses.

**Habitat and conditions:** Cool rocky or mountainous environments in Eastern Australia from Victoria to southern Queensland.

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**Botanical name:** *Calophyllum inophyllum*

**Common name:** Alexandrian Laurel

**Other common name(s):** Tamanu

**Description:** Medium tree to 20m. Thick dark trunk. Oblong leaves. Small white flowers are pleasantly fragrant.

**Use(s):** The nuts contain no oil when freshly picked, but when dried they contain Tamanu resin which is mixed with water and rubbed over the body to treat aches and pains, and also skin disorders. The oil from dried nuts has also been used as a laxative. In modern times the oil is being marketed as a beauty aid.

**Habitat and conditions:** Prefers part to full sun with well watered soil. Native to South Asia; occurs in tropical Queensland and the Northern Territory.

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**Botanical name:** *Canavalia rosea*

**Common name:** Beach Bean

**Other common name(s):** Bay Bean

**Description:** Coastal vine or trailing herb with light green semi-succulent leaves and striking pink flowers. The pods are green and around 12cm long.

**Use(s):** An infusion was made with the crushed roots and rubbed over the skin for rheumatism, general pain, skin disorders, and colds.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs all over the world in tropical and subtropical coastal locations. In Australia it occurs from northern NSW up through Queensland and also in coastal Western Australia. In Queensland it is also sometimes found inland. It prefers warmth and can tolerate periods of drought. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Carpobrotus rossii*

**Common name:** Native Pigface

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Prostrate herb spreading to 3m. Thick, succulent spiky leaves often tipped reddish or purple. The flowers have a white centre surrounded by brilliant thin purple petals. The red fruit is fleshy.

**Use(s):** Was used in Tasmania as a purgative. Both the fruit and the leaves are edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native in all southern states including Tasmania, predominantly in sandy coastal areas. Well drained soil; part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Castanospermum australe*

**Common name:** Moreton Bay Chestnut

**Other common name(s):** Blackbean

**Description:** Strong, handsome tall tree to 40m in the wild; frequently 10 to 20m in cultivation. Shiny green leaves on low spreading branches. Produces arrays of beautiful small red and yellow flowers hidden under the foliage. Pods follow which are 15-20cm long.

**Use(s):** The seeds were sliced and washed, and then boiled or roasted and eaten. Note that under normal conditions, unless prepared properly, the seeds are poisonous. Parts of the tree contain chemicals which, after careful extraction, have been shown to have anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, and anti-HIV properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal rainforests from northern NSW to northern Queensland. Prefers moist fertile and well-drained soils. Also found on some Pacific islands. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Casuarina equisetifolia* ssp *equisetifolia*

**Common name:** Coastal She-oak

**Other common name(s):** Australian Pine

**Description:** Tall evergreen tree to 30m. Rough reddish-brown to grey bark. Wide spreading branches. Tiny grey-green leaves on the stems and branchlets.

**Use(s):** The bark is very astringent and was used to treat diarrhea. A mouthwash has been used to cure toothache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to subtropical and tropical Australia, tropical Pacific islands, and to tropical and equatorial Asia.

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**Botanical name:** *Cinnamomum camphora*

**Common name:** Camphorwood

**Other common name(s):** Indian Bay-Leaf

**Description:** Also known as *Cinnamomum tamala*. Medium to tall tree to 35m. Dark roughish bark. Tough 3-veined glossy leaves.

**Use(s):** Leaves are used as a substitute for cinnamon and are important in northern Indian cooking. Infusions of the bark and leaves are reportedly diuretic, carminative, and aid perspiration.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in coastal forest areas of northern Queensland. Native to the Subcontinent.

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**Botanical name:** *Cissus hypoglauca*

**Common name:** Native Grape

**Other common name(s):** Jungle Vine

**Description:** Tall evergreen woody climber. Clusters of yellow flowers. Very thick, strong vine.

**Use(s):** The dark blue berries are edible. The berries were also crushed and mixed in water and gargled, to treat sore throat.

**Habitat and conditions:** Forest areas of eastern Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Frost tender, shade to part shade, rich soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Clematis glycinoides*

**Common name:** Traveler's Joy

**Other common name(s):** Forest Clematis

**Description:** Woody climber with green glossy leaves with profuse white flowers in spring.

**Use(s):** The leaves were crushed and inhaled to treat headaches and colds.

**Habitat and conditions:** Moist areas in forests and gullies from Victoria through up the east coast of Australia. Part to full shade.

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**Botanical name:** *Clematis microphylla*

**Common name:** Small Leaf Clematis

**Other common name(s):** Fine-Leaved Clematis

**Description:** Strong climber with creamy-lime fragrant flowers and thin stems.

**Use(s):** The leaves were applied to soothe irritated skin.

**Habitat and conditions:** Coastal areas in all states except the Northern Territory. Prefers adequate water but can tolerate short droughts. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Cleome viscosa*

**Common name:** Tickweed

**Other common name(s):** Sticky Cleome

**Description:** Annual herb covered in sticky hairs. Flowers are yellow. The entire plant is fragrant.

**Use(s):** The seeds can be used as a condiment, and also to relieve the symptoms of fever. The leaves, stems and flowers can be mashed and applied externally to relieve body aches and pains, headaches, and skin irritations.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in tropical Australia and worldwide. Tolerates a range of conditions.

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**Botanical name:** Clerodendrum floribundum

**Common name:** Lolly Bush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall shrub to 5m with tapered oval leaves and large heads of long white flowers, followed by black berries above an enlarged red calyx.

**Use(s):** A lotion from the branches or bark was used for bodily aches. The roots were boiled and eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native all across tropical Australia. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** Cochlospermum fraseri

**Common name:** Kapok Bush

**Other common name(s):** Cotton Tree

**Description:** Deciduous tropical small tree to 6m with starlike yellow flowers and green ovoid pods filled with cotton-like material.

**Use(s):** The cooked roots were eaten and also the flowers (cooked or raw). The leaves were used in a decoction to help fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical northern Australia.

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**Botanical name:** Codonocarpus cotinifolius

**Common name:** Desert Poplar

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Lime green leaves.

**Use(s):** The leaves were chewed to help with toothache (the leaves have a flavour like mustard). A bark infusion in conjunction with *Acacia cuthbertsonii* was used to aid rheumatism. The roots were apparently chewed as a narcotic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid interior of Australia. Prefers sandy soils, tolerates drought. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** Convolvulus erubescens

**Common name:** Pink Bindweed

**Other common name(s):** Native Bindweed

**Description:** Small perennial creeper with green-grey hairy leaves and pink flowers.

**Use(s):** A boiled decoction of the entire plant was consumed to treat stomach pains and diarrhea.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to grassland areas of temperate and subtropical Australia. Prefers full sun and well drained soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Crinum pedunculatum*

**Common name:** Swamp Lily

**Other common name(s):** River Lily

**Description:** Herbaceous plant to 2m. Large erect succulent leaves surround white fragrant elegant flowers growing from a stalk in the middle of the cluster. Beautiful.

**Use(s):** The juice of leaves was rubbed onto marine stings to reduce pain.

**Habitat and conditions:** Found along the NSW coast up into coastal Queensland. Hardy, from part shade to full sun, variety of drainage conditions.

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**Botanical name:** *Crotalaria cunninghamii*

**Common name:** Regal Birdflower

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small shrub to 2.5m. The leaves, flowers and branches are hairy. The lime-yellow flowers occur on spikes at the end of branches.

**Use(s):** The leaves were mashed, soaked in water, boiled, and then cooled and used to bathe various body parts in case of soreness or pain (e.g. head, eyes, ears).

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical arid and semi-arid Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Cyathea australis*

**Common name:** Rough Tree Fern

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tree fern to 20m. Large woody trunk which is actually a huge rhizome. The long dark green fronds at the top of the trunk droop only slightly from the horizontal. A magnificent and hardy tree fern.

**Use(s):** The roasted stalks of young fronds were eaten as an invigorating tonic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to wetter forest areas of the eastern states from Tasmania to SE Queensland. Very hardy. Prefers part shade.

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**Botanical name:** *Cymbopogon bombycinus*

**Common name:** Silky oilgrass

**Other common name(s):** Silkgrass

**Description:** Grass to 1m. The stem bases are very fragrant. When the tops are in bloom they resemble silk, hence the name.

**Use(s):** An infusion of the entire plant was made to help sore eyes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Full sun, tolerates drought.

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**Botanical name:** *Cynanchum floribundum*

**Common name:** Native Pear

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Perennial herb to 1m. The leaves are broad, tapered at the ends, and the flowers are white and spiny. The small fruit is tubular and un-pear-like.

**Use(s):** The sap was rubbed over the body to elevate body temperature in cool weather.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical northern Australia.

**Note:** New seeds will be available shortly.

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**Botanical name:** *Daviesia latifolia*

**Common name:** Hop bitter-pea

**Other common name(s):** Bitter-Pea

**Description:** Shrub to 2.5m. Upright with large elliptical leathery leaves, small yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The bitter-tasting leaves are infused in water to make an invigorating tonic and to treat fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate SE Australia from Tasmania to the ranges of New South Wales.

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**Botanical name:** *Dodonaea attenuata*

**Common name:** Narrowleaf Hopbush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Multi-stemmed and sometimes sticky, with very thin leaves.

**Use(s):** An infusion from the leaves and stems was used to rub over the body to reduce fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs all over mainland Australia, from mountainous areas to open grasslands and semi-arid places. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Dodonaea lanceolata*

**Common name:** Hopbush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Like the other *Dodonaeas*, this plant is unrelated to the *Humulus* sp. ("hops" used to make beer). Thin spiky leaves with yellowish flowers.

**Use(s):** The mashed leaves were boiled and then applied as a poultice to the body to

reduce pain (e.g. snakebite). A weaker infusion was drunk as a pain reducer.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical semi-arid Australia. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Dodonaea viscosa*

**Common name:** Sticky hopbush

**Other common name(s):** Giant Hopbush

**Description:** Shrub to 3.5m. Small yellow-green flowers. Thin medium leaves, sticky when young.

**Use(s):** The leaves were chewed for toothache (the juice from chewing wasn't swallowed). A boiled root infusion was applied to damaged skin to expedite healing. Elsewhere in the world, the leaves have been chewed as a stimulant.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in eastern Australian states, and also in other countries around the world. Prefers full sun, reasonably well watered.

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**Botanical name:** *Duboisia hopwoodii*

**Common name:** Pituri

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 3m or rarely a small tree. Thin variable light green leaves. Flowers cluster at the ends of branchlets. Produces black berries about 0.5cm long. The branches smell like vanilla when cut. This plant was the most important socio-psychoactive drug among the Aborigines of Central Australia.

**Use(s):** The dried leaves were rolled up into balls mixed with the ash of certain species such as *Acacia beauverdiana*, and chewed as a stimulant (the effect changes to drowsiness after a while). Later on, when the Europeans arrived, the Aborigines smoked Pituri like tobacco.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid parts of all mainland states. Full sun. Drought tolerant. Sandy soils. The efficacy (and toxicity) of this plant depends strongly on the environmental conditions in which it is grown. Please see special note.

**Special note:** The plant can be dangerous if used incorrectly, and is strictly for botanical interest only - you should NOT consume any preparation of the plant yourself. The chemical constituents vary greatly depending on environmental conditions. The Aborigines who use Pituri know which individual plants are the "right" ones to use. Pituri will grow in a variety of soil types and climatic conditions (sand to gravel, semiarid to arid, Alice to Menindee), and there is not enough data about this plant to determine the correct conditions in which to grow it for consumption. We have a number of these plants in cultivation and we are taking back-orders for small established pituri plants available by the end of 2004. Let us know if you are interested, and avoid missing out.

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**Botanical name:** *Eremophila bignoniiflora*

**Common name:** River Angee

**Other common name(s):** Dogwood, Emu Bush

**Description:** Shrub to 5m. Rough grey bark, pale green slightly drooping leaves. Pretty cream bell-shaped flowers precede oval-shaped berries. The crushed leaves smell like dog urine, hence the nickname.

**Use(s):** The berries were boiled and the resulting decoction was drunk as laxative.

**Habitat and conditions:** Widespread over arid to semi-arid grasslands and floodplains in all mainland states. Prefers full sun. Will tolerate occasional frosts.

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**Botanical name:** *Eremophila cuneifolia*

**Common name:** Wedge-leaved eremophila

**Other common name(s):** Pinyuru

**Description:** Small shrub to 1.5m. Leaves are wedge-shaped, flowers are purplish.

**Use(s):** A decoction was prepared from the leaves and drunk to help with colds.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Western Australia. Prefers full sun. Drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eremophila debilis*

**Common name:** Winter Apple

**Other common name(s):** Amulla

**Description:** Small shrub, almost prostrate & trailing to 2m. Light green leaves; small white to mauvish flowers. The green to pink-purple fruit is succulent and bitter-tasting. Also known as *Myoporum debile*.

**Use(s):** The plant was used as a treatment for venereal disease. The fruits were eaten and have a bitter taste.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal Northern NSW and SE Queensland.

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**Botanical name:** *Eremophila freelingii*

**Common name:** Limestone Fuchsia

**Other common name(s):** Rock Fuchsia

**Description:** Small shrub to 2m. Sticky thin grey-green leaves, blue or lilac flowers. Aromatic when crushed.

**Use(s):** The crushed plant was infused in water and washed over the body, and also inhaled, to treat head-colds.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Central Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Eremophila longifolia*

**Common name:** Berrigan

**Other common name(s):** Emu-Bush, Weeping Emu Bush



**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 7m. Grey-green hairy leaves are thin and tapered. Flowers are pink or purplish-red and slightly hairy. Flowers almost all year.

**Use(s):** Crushed leaves were infused in water and the infusion was drunk for colds, and rubbed over sores or body aches.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid temperate and subtropical parts of Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Eremophila maculata*

**Common name:** Spotted Emu-Bush

**Other common name(s):** Native Fuchsia

**Description:** Small shrub to 2m. Glossy dark green leaves. Tubular flowers can be pink, yellow, or a number of other colours.

**Use(s):** Crushed leaves were inhaled to help clear the nasal passages.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native all over inland Australia. Full sun. Drought tolerant. Mildly frost tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Erythrina vespertilio*

**Common name:** Bat's Wing Coral Tree

**Other common name(s):** Grey Corkwood

**Description:** Deciduous thorny tree to 25m. The bark is greyish. The light green leaf groups look like little bats, hence the name. Orange-red pea-like flowers hang in clusters.

**Use(s):** The bark was soaked in water and applied to the head in case of headache. Also, the leaves were boiled and the water drunk as a sedative and to promote deeper sleep.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to open woodlands and forests from New South Wales to the Northern Territory. Full sun; drought resistant. Apparently can also tolerate frosts.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*

**Common name:** River Red Gum

**Other common name(s):** Murray Red Gum

**Description:** Medium to large eucalypt to 35m. Deciduous light bark.

**Use(s):** The kino resin from the trunk is astringent and a water mixture has been used to treat diarrhea. A leaf infusion was used to bathe the head in case of colds or fevers.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to all mainland states in semi-arid or arid areas along watercourses and low-lying flats. Full sun; drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus citriodora*

**Common name:** Lemon-scented Gum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium to large eucalypt to 40m, with smooth deciduous grey bark.

**Use(s):** The leaves of this eucalypt contain a lemon-scented oil that is rich in citronellal, which has certain specific antibacterial properties. The kino resin from the bark contains citriodorol, which is antibiotic. The oil from the leaves of this tree is used industrially.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal Queensland. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus dichromophloia*

**Common name:** Variable Barked Bloodwood

**Other common name(s):** Gum-Topped Bloodwood

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 25m. Bark is red underneath.

**Use(s):** A weak solution of the kino resin from the bark was consumed as a tonic, and also as a remedy for toothache when used as a mouth rinse. The nectar from the flowers was consumed to treat colds and coughs.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to grassy woodlands of tropical Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus dives*

**Common name:** Broadleaf Peppermint

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 20m. Short trunk with a spreading canopy. The grey bark is rough and textured.

**Use(s):** The oils extracted from the leaves are used as antiseptics and in aromatherapy. The smoke from the leaves was applied from beneath a person with fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to SE Australia in mountainous areas. Frost tolerant. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus drepanophylla*

**Common name:** Bowen ironbark

**Other common name(s):** Queensland Grey Ironbark

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 30m. Rough bark.

**Use(s):** The bark was boiled and the decoction was used to bathe sores.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to eastern Queensland. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus globulus* ssp *globulus*

**Common name:** Tasmanian Blue Gum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall to very tall eucalypt occasionally reaching 70m. The bluish-grey bark is deciduous. The young leaves are a blue-green colour. A gorgeous, mighty tree.

**Use(s):** The tree is now cultivated worldwide for its volatile oils which help clear the

passages and treat aches and pains.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Tasmania and southern Victoria. Full sun. Tolerates frosts.

**Note to US and Canadian customers:** If you live in the USA or Canada, we recommend that you order this plant from Horizon Herbs, our friends in Oregon ([www.horizonherbs.com](http://www.horizonherbs.com)), unless you require bulk quantities, in which case feel free to order from us.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus gummifera*

**Common name:** Red Bloodwood

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium to tall eucalypt to 35m. Rough, flaky, fissured bark. The bright red kino (gum resin from the bark) gives the common name.

**Use(s):** The kino resin is astringent and has been used to treat sores associated with venereal diseases.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal areas from Victoria to Queensland. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus haemastoma*

**Common name:** Scribbly gum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 15. The very light deciduous bark, which glows ghostly white in the moonlight, has wavy/scribbly lines over its surface, which are caused by a certain species of moth. Often assumes a rather deformed appearance. A strange, beautiful species of eucalypt.

**Use(s):** The kino resin has antibacterial properties and was used to treat cuts and sores, as well as being taken internally for dysentery.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal New South Wales, especially in sandstone areas.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* ssp *macrorhyncha*

**Common name:** Red Stringybark

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 30m. Trunk is usually straight, but sometimes crooked or deformed. Bark is fissured and brown.

**Use(s):** The kino gum resin is astringent. The leaves are a source of rutin, a bioflavonoid which acts in conjunction with other substances to strengthen the immune system.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate southeastern Australia, sometimes in South Australia too. Tolerates frost. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus maculata*

**Common name:** Spotted Gum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall eucalypt to 40m. Trunk is distinctively straight, with smooth white-grey bark which peels in spots, hence the name.

**Use(s):** The kino resin, when mixed with water and swallowed, is reputed to have anti-inflammatory properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal eastern Australia. Prefers slightly sandy soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus microtheca*

**Common name:** Coolibah

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small eucalypt to 12m. Bark varies from very light to brown, and dull green-blue-grey pointed leaves.

**Use(s):** The inner bark was mashed and prepared into a poultice to treat snakebite.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native all over northern Australia. Reportedly hardy to -10 deg C, but its native habitat is warm.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus papuana* var *aparrerinja*

**Common name:** Ghost Gum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 20m with smooth white deciduous bark, hence the name.

**Use(s):** The bark was broken and an infusion was drunk to treat colds and to bathe sore eyes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus pilularis*

**Common name:** Blackbutt

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall eucalypt to 50m. The trunks are distinctively straight.

**Use(s):** The kino gum resin is astringent.

**Habitat and conditions:** Ranges all across the NSW coast into southern Queensland over a variety of soil types.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus piperita*

**Common name:** Sydney Peppermint

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 20m. Rough grey bark. The leaves, when crushed smell similar to peppermint.

**Use(s):** The leaf oil extract has been used to treat digestive problems.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to the Sydney area and central coastal NSW.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus polybractea*

**Common name:** Blue Mallee

**Other common name(s):** Blue-leaved Mallee

**Description:** Large shrub/small mallee to 9m. Multi-stemmed with blue-green leaves. The leaves, when crushed, smell very strongly of eucalyptus.

**Use(s):** The crushed leaves are an industrial source of eucalyptus oil to treat colds, body aches, etc.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid parts of eastern Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus polycarpa*

**Common name:** Long-fruited Bloodwood

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 15m. Rough flaky bark.

**Use(s):** The kino bark resin was eaten in case of dysentery.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to outback NSW, Queensland and the Northern Territory. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus racemosa*

**Common name:** Snappy Gum

**Other common name(s):** Scribbly Gum, Northern Scribbly Gum

**Description:** Medium eucalypt to 25m. Like *E. haemastoma*, the deciduous bark has characteristic "scribbles".

**Use(s):** The kino resin was used in case of diarrhea.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to the Sydney and central coast area of NSW. Full sun. Adequate water.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus resinifera*

**Common name:** Red Stringybark

**Other common name(s):** Red Mahogany

**Description:** Medium to tall eucalypt to 30m. Stringy red bark.

**Use(s):** The inner bark was rubbed onto the skin in case of venereal disease.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal eastern Australia. Prefers full sun, adequate water, sheltered location.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus smithii*

**Common name:** Gully Gum

**Other common name(s):** Blackbutt Peppermint

**Description:** Medium to tall eucalypt to 45m. The lower bark is deciduous, rough, fragrant & grey. The upper shed bark hangs in long ribbons from the branches.

**Use(s):** Crushed leaves are a good source of eucalypt oil.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal ranges of southeastern Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus terminalis*

**Common name:** Mountain Bloodwood

**Other common name(s):** Inland Bloodwood, Western Bloodwood

**Description:** Medium to tall eucalypt with persistent light grey bark.

**Use(s):** The red bark kino was mixed in water and consumed for diarrhea and also for indigestion and chest pain.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native sandstone ridges in semi-arid and arid areas of NSW, Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus tessellaris*

**Common name:** Moreton Bay Ash

**Other common name(s):** Carbeen

**Description:** Medium to tall eucalypt. The lower bark is cracked in a regular fashion while the upper bark is smooth.

**Use(s):** A bark infusion was prepared and consumed for dysentery.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to northern NSW and Queensland.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus tetradonta*

**Common name:** Darwin Stringybark

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium to tall tree to 30m. The bark is rough and persistent.

**Use(s):** A bark infusion was prepared and consumed for diarrhea. A mashed leaf infusion was consumed for headache and fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native across tropical northern Australia. Full sun, does best in sandy soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus viminalis*

**Common name:** Manna Gum

**Other common name(s):** Ribbon Gum, White Gum

**Description:** Tall eucalypt to 45m. Lower bark is dark, upper bark is light, and sheds in ribbons.

**Use(s):** The leaves have been used as a laxative, and were also smoked over fire to reduce fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate southeastern Australia including Tasmania as well as mountainous areas of southeast Queensland.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eucalyptus youmanii*

**Common name:** Youman's Stringybark

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small eucalypt to 15m. The fibrous ruddy bark is thick and fissured.

**Use(s):** The leaves are a source of rutin, a bioflavonoid which acts in conjunction with other substances to strengthen the immune system.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to NSW and southern Queensland, especially in damper areas.

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**Botanical name:** *Eucryphia lucida*

**Common name:** Leatherwood

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Usually shrubby but occasionally large tree to 25m. Leathery glossy leaves are almost white underneath, and sticky when young. White flowers are fragrant.

**Use(s):** The fragrant resin exuded by the plant was used as an antiseptic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in Tasmania in rainforest locations. Keep well watered.

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**Botanical name:** *Euphorbia drummondii*

**Common name:** Caustic weed

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small prostrate herb (weedy in many places) with smooth small dull bluish- or reddish-green leaves which are sometimes serrated. The sap is milky-white and corrosive.

**Use(s):** An infusion of the plant was prepared and drunk for diarrhea, dysentery, fever and rheumatism. Applied topically for skin irritation. The sap was also applied in case of venereal disease.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in all mainland states in predominantly inland areas. Very hardy.

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**Botanical name:** *Ficus coronata*

**Common name:** Sandpaper Fig

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium fig tree to 12m. Broad dark-green leaves are rough on the top. The edible fig is between 1 and 2cm in diameter and is dark purple when ripe.

**Use(s):** The milky sap of young stems is applied to wounds. A poultice is made from the bark too. The purple-black fruit are edible and sweet, once the hairy skin has been removed.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to rainforest environments near the coast, from eastern Victoria through to Queensland and into the Northern Territory. Prefers moist soil, part shade.

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**Botanical name:** *Flindersia maculosa*

**Common name:** Leopardwood

**Other common name(s):** Leopard Tree

**Description:** Small to medium tree to 15m. The bark sheds irregularly and thus looks spotty like a jigsaw puzzle.

**Use(s):** The resin from the trunk has been used to treat diarrhea.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to inland NSW and Queensland. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Geijera parviflora*

**Common name:** Wilga

**Other common name(s):** Australian Willow

**Description:** Small tree to 9m with profuse canopy of long thin leaves, making the tree resemble a willow. Tiny white flowers.

**Use(s):** The leaves are infused in water and drunk to alleviate pain. The raw leaves were chewed to treat toothache. The dried and crumbled leaves were smoked in conjunction with other species and produce drowsiness. They have been use ceremonially.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid and arid regions all over the mainland. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Goodenia ovata*

**Common name:** Hop Goodenia

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small dense shrub to 1.5m with bright green leaves and pretty yellow



flowers. Sometimes the foliage is rather sticky.

**Use(s):** The leaves and stems were infused in water and drunk to treat diabetes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Widespread across eastern Australia except in the far north. Very hardy.

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**Botanical name:** *Goodenia scaevolina*

**Common name:** Blue Fan Flower

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small dense shrub to 1.5m. The leaves are serrated. The flowers are a beautiful blue.

**Use(s):** The juice of the crushed roots was consumed to treat coughs.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

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**Botanical name:** *Goodenia varia*

**Common name:** Sticky Goodenia

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Clumping low shrub less than 1m. Leaves are toothed and slightly rigid. Yellow flowers appear sporadically throughout the year.

**Use(s):** A leaf decoction was used as a very mild sedative.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in southern Australia from coast to coast. Full sun, drought hardy, likes clay soils, frost resistant.

**Availability:** We are now taking orders for small established plants available in October 2004.

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**Botanical name:** *Grevillea pyramidalis*

**Common name:** Caustic Bush

**Other common name(s):** Blister Bush, West Pilbara Grevillea

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Blue-green leaves and bright yellow/white flower clusters.

**Use(s):** The greenish inner bark was mashed in water until it turned white, and then rubbed around women's breasts to induce lactation. Try it with your girlfriend today!

**Habitat and conditions:** Tropical Western Australia along the slopes and plains.

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**Botanical name:** *Gyrocarpus americanus*

**Common name:** Gyro Damson

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small deciduous tree with a thick trunk and smooth bark. The large leaves

are ovoid to heart-shaped and often hairy.

**Use(s):** The roots and young stems were infused in water and rub on day-old cuts as an antiseptic. The infusion was also rubbed over rheumatic parts of the body.

**Habitat and conditions:** Tropical Western Australia and Northern Territory. Often found in rocky places.

---

**Botanical name:** *Haemodorum spicatum*

**Common name:** Mardja

**Other common name(s):** Bloodroot

**Description:** Perennial stalky herb to 1m. The flowers are deep purple, almost black. The bulbs are red, hence the name.

**Use(s):** The bulbs were roasted and used as a spice. It also apparently treated dysentery.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Western Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Hakea macrocarpa*

**Common name:** Dyaridany

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 8m. Long narrow leaves are hairy on both sides. The yellow-green flowers are clustered and precede ovoid fruit about 4cm long.

**Use(s):** The charcoal from the burnt wood was used to open up cuts.

**Habitat and conditions:** Tropical arid regions of Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

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**Botanical name:** *Heteropogon contortus*

**Common name:** Black Speargrass

**Other common name(s):** Tanglehead Grass

**Description:** Grassy clumping plant to 1m with brownish flowered spikes.

**Use(s):** The narrow leaves were infused in water to help coughs. The plant was also chewed like tobacco.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs worldwide including over tropical Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Hibiscus tiliaceus*

**Common name:** Cotton tree

**Other common name(s):** Yellow Hibiscus

**Description:** Small tree to 9m. Round heart-shaped leaves are smooth and soft and profuse. The flower is a beautiful large yellow spiral funnel with a crimson centre.

**Use(s):** The leaves are wrapped around food before cooking to add flavour, and the

flowers are edible. The bark and sap-wood are infused in water and poured over wounds as an antiseptic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in subtropical and tropical coastal regions of Australia, and worldwide.

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**Botanical name:** *Ipomoea pes-caprae* ssp *brasiliensis*

**Common name:** Goatsfoot convolvulus

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Trailing cover to 10m long. The flowers are pink funnels at intervals between the alternate ovoid leaves.

**Use(s):** A boiled leaf infusion was applied to sores. The infusion was drunk to treat venereal disease. Leaves were heated and applied to boils to induce discharge. Has also been used in Brazil for different purposes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs over coastal areas across Australia. Occurs worldwide also.

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**Botanical name:** *Isotoma petraea*

**Common name:** Rock Isotome

**Other common name(s):** Wild Tobacco

**Description:** Small herb to 30cm high. Clustered erect stems hold sharply serrated leaves. The medium flowers are pale blue with 5 distinct petals like a star. Quite a pretty herb.

**Use(s):** The dried leaves were rolled up and chewed like tobacco as a stimulant. When mixed with *Acacia aneura* (mulga) the dried crushed plant was used as a general pain and discomfort inhibitor.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to dry rocky slopes across interior Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Lavatera plebeia*

**Common name:** Australian Hollyhock

**Other common name(s):** Flood Mallow

**Description:** Small short-lived perennial herb to 1.5m. The leaves are medium-green and up to 15cm in diameter. The flowers are lilac to purply-magenta, about 2.5cm across, with distinct petals.

**Use(s):** A poultice was made by boiling the leaves, which was applied to skin boils.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate inland southern Australia and occasional in Central Australia. Prefers full sun, good drainage.

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**Botanical name:** *Leptospermum petersonii*

**Common name:** Lemon-Scented Tea Tree

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Generally a shrub to 4m with small, thin leaves and small white flowers. Smells markedly of lemon.

**Use(s):** Apart from this plant's uses in perfume and aromatherapy, it is antiseptic, reputedly a mild sedative, and is also a powerful insect repellent. The active components include citronellal and citral.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to eastern NSW and southern Queensland. Tolerates frost once established. Moderate water, full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Lythrum salicaria*

**Common name:** Purple Loosestrife

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small herbaceous plant to 1m. Erect branches crowned in pink-purple flower bunches. Spectacular when it occurs in clumps or in a field; however this plant is invasive.

**Use(s):** The entire plant has astringent properties and has been used for such conditions as diarrhea, and irregular or heavy menstrual flow; has also used to reduce blood sugar levels.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in temperate to subtropical wetter areas of NSW and Queensland. This is an introduced herb and occurs worldwide, including Europe and North America.

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**Botanical name:** *Macadamia integrifolia*

**Common name:** Smooth-shelled Macadamia

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small to medium tree to 15m. The leaves are glossy, medium to dark green. The white flowers occur in a long raceme. The fruit is, of course, the Macadamia Nut, with a smooth hard green shell about 2.5cm in diameter. It is this species which is the most widely cultivated.

**Use(s):** The nuts are edible and delicious, either raw or roasted. Australia's only major native edible commercial crop. The oil from the nuts can be prepared into a soothing skin lotion. When host to bees, the honey has antibacterial properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to a small area of southeastern Queensland. Subtropical rainforest, part to full sun. This tree is now cultivated all over the world. Many people mistakenly believe that it is native to Hawaii.

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**Botanical name:** *Melaleuca alternifolia*

**Common name:** Medicinal Tea Tree

**Other common name(s):** Australian Tea Tree, Ti Tree

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 6m, with the canopy spreading to around 4m. The bark is papery and the leaves are small and pointed. The small white or cream flowers are in clustered spikes.

**Use(s):** "Tea tree oil" is extracted via steam distillation from the leaves. This oil is bacteriostatic and germicidal and has been used to treat sores, cuts and boils as well as various skin conditions.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to northeastern NSW and southeastern Queensland. Prefers well watered rich soil, well drained, in full sun.

**Note to US and Canadian customers:** If you live in the USA or Canada, we recommend that you order this plant from Horizon Herbs, our friends in Oregon ([www.horizonherbs.com](http://www.horizonherbs.com)), unless you require bulk quantities, in which case feel free to order from us.

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**Botanical name:** *Melaleuca hypericifolia*

**Common name:** Hillock Honey Myrtle

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 6m. The bark becomes papery with age. The habit becomes weeping also. The leaves are opposite, narrow, and dull-green. The flowers are beautiful red spiky clusters.

**Use(s):** The leaves are crushed and inhaled to treat headache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to moist southeastern NSW. Prefers a sunny position with adequate water.

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**Botanical name:** *Melaleuca linariifolia*

**Common name:** Snow in Summer

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. The whitish flower clusters envelope the tree in summer, hence the name. A very showy specimen.

**Use(s):** The leaves contain antibacterial oil similar to that of *M. alternifolia*.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal areas in eastern Australia. Prefers moist conditions.

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**Botanical name:** *Melaleuca quinquenervia*

**Common name:** Broad-Leaved Paperbark

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium tree to 25m. The bark is papery and spongy. The leaves are stiff and relatively narrow. The flowers are clustered on small spikes in a similar manner to *M. alternifolia*.

**Use(s):** The leaves were mashed and a water infusion was drunk to relieve headaches

and colds. The distilled oil contains cineole which is applied externally to help rheumatism and neuralgia, as well as being used as an expectorant.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal and swampy areas from NSW right up to northern Queensland. Prefers plenty of water.

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**Botanical name:** *Melaleuca uncinata*

**Common name:** Broombush

**Other common name(s):** Broom Honey Myrtle

**Description:** Small shrub to 2m. Narrow leaves, small yellow-golden globular flower clusters.

**Use(s):** The leaves were chewed to treat catarrh (nose or throat inflammation).

**Habitat and conditions:** Surprisingly for a *Melaleuca*, native to semi-arid and arid areas of the eastern states of Australia. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Melia azedarach* var *australasica*

**Common name:** Cape Lilac

**Other common name(s):** White Cedar

**Description:** Medium to tall tree to 40m. Deciduous leaves. Lacy lilac flowers have a fragrance resembling chocolate. A good ornamental tree. Berries are around 2cm in diameter.

**Use(s):** The fruit pulp was used to treat skin diseases. All parts of the plant are bitter and purgative. The fruit is poisonous.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to rainforests and moist locations in New South Wales, Queensland and the Northern Territory. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Mentha australis*

**Common name:** River Mint

**Other common name(s):** Australian Mint, Native Mint

**Description:** Creeping herb with small tapered leaves, with the flowers blooming at leaf junctions. A much stronger mint than normal peppermint or spearmint.

**Use(s):** Makes an interesting mint tea, which is reputedly good for easing the effects of colds. The crushed leaves were sniffed to relieve headache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Shaded areas near waterways (usually inland) in all states.

**Availability:** We are now taking orders for small established plants available in October 2004.

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**Botanical name:** *Morinda citrifolia*

**Common name:** Great Morinda

**Other common name(s):** Cheesefruit, Noni

**Description:** Large shrub or small tree to 12m. Large glossy oval leaves to 30cm. The small white flowers grow from a fleshy structure. The ripe fruit is green-white and ovoid, and smells like vomit!

**Use(s):** The fruit is bland but edible, raw or cooked, sometimes with salt. The young leaves can be eaten as a vegetable. The juice is high in Vitamin C and is marketed today as a tonic. An infusion of the rootbark was used as an antiseptic. A preparation of the roots and trunk has hypotensive properties. All in all, a very useful tree indeed.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs along the seashore of tropical Queensland and the Northern Territory, as well as over many Pacific islands and SE Asia. Prefers wet, swampy ground.

**Note:** Seeds are temporarily unavailable.

---

**Botanical name:** *Myoporum platycarpum*

**Common name:** Sugarwood

**Other common name(s):** Ngural

**Description:** Small tree to 7m. The bark often exudes pink resin as a result of insect wounds. Medium sized leaves can be slightly sticky. The small white flowers have purple spots .

**Use(s):** The sweet bark resin caused from insect wounds is a laxative.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid inland areas of southern states from Victoria to Western Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Nauclea orientalis*

**Common name:** Leichhardt Tree

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium tree to 25m. Large dark glossy leaves. Can be briefly deciduous. Attractive white and yellow flowers occur in ball-like clusters.

**Use(s):** The bark and wood are bitter and an alcoholic infusion has been used for a tonic, to cure fever, to induce vomiting and to treat snakebite. Externally it was used to treat rheumatism.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal northern Queensland and the Northern Territory. Also occurs across topical Asia. Prefers wet conditions.

---

**Botanical name:** *Nelumbo nucifera*

**Common name:** Sacred Lotus

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Aquatic perennial herb. Large circular leaves rise from the water surface. The flowers are large, multi-petaled, pink and fragrant; a spectacular plant indeed. Incidentally, a seed from this species is the oldest seed ever to have been germinated, at the age of 1288 years.

**Use(s):** The petals of its spectacular flowers are astringent. The milky sap/juice from the stalks have been used to treat diarrhea.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native across Asia and into coastal tropical Australia from Western Australia to Queensland. Obviously, needs water.

---

**Botanical name:** *Omalanthus nutans*

**Common name:** Native Bleeding Heart

**Other common name(s):** Queensland Poplar

**Description:** Shrub to 6m. Leaves are green on the top side, often dull red underneath. Flowers are small and vary from yellow-green to red. Previously known as *Omalanthus populifolius*.

**Use(s):** The leaves were crushed and used to stop bleeding.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to shady moist areas of New South Wales and Queensland. Part to full shade. Frost tender.

---

**Botanical name:** *Owenia acidula*

**Common name:** Emu Apple

**Other common name(s):** Sour Plum, Native Nectarine, Desert Plum

**Description:** Small tree. The leaves comprise many darker glossy mini-leaves. The fruit is reddish and succulent and very sour.

**Use(s):** The fruit is edible, but not particularly tasty - too sour. The wood was boiled and the cooled infusion was used to bathe sore eyes. Was used to treat malaria.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Central Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Owenia reticulata*

**Common name:** Desert Walnut

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Large leaves comprise smaller smooth leathery mini-leaves.

**Use(s):** The seeds were roasted and extracted, and applied to sores. A leaf infusion was used as a poultice. The nutty fruits were possibly eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Coastal areas of tropical Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Sandy soil. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Petalostigma pubescens*

**Common name:** Quinine Tree

**Other common name(s):** Bitterbark

**Description:** Small tree to 7m. Small oval leaves, yellow flowers. The small fruit is



yellow to red and hairy.

**Use(s):** The bitter tasting fresh fruit and bark have been made into a tonic. The bark has also been used to treat fever, and a bark infusion is astringent and antiseptic. The fresh fruits were placed inside the mouth (not swallowed) to treat toothache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal areas of tropical northern Australia and as far down as the coastal NE of NSW. Grows in thickets on hill sides.

---

**Botanical name:** *Petalostigma quadriloculare*

**Common name:** Quinine Bush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small shrub to 1m. Yellow flowers in leaf margins. Fruit is similar to *P. pubescens*.

**Use(s):** Same as *P. pubescens*. The bitter tasting fresh fruit and bark have been made into a tonic. The bark has also been used to treat fever, and a bark infusion is astringent and antiseptic. The fresh fruits were placed inside the mouth (not swallowed) to treat toothache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal areas of tropical northern Australia. Grows in rocky areas. Generally similar distribution to *P. pubescens*.

---

**Botanical name:** *Pittosporum phillyraeoides*

**Common name:** Butterbush

**Other common name(s):** Weeping Pittosporum

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Weeping slender habit. The leaves are dark green and the flowers are small and yellow. The fruit is bitter.

**Use(s):** An infusion was made of the leaves, fruit and bark and drunk to treat pain and cramps. A boiled infusion of the fruit was applied externally to treat skin disorders.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid and arid regions all over the mainland. Full sun, drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Pittosporum venulosum*

**Common name:** Brown Pittosporum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. The flowers are fragrant. The fruit is golden and globular.

**Use(s):** The mashed or bruised roots were sniffed as an aphrodisiac.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to rainforests in northern Queensland. Prefers moist habitat.

---

**Botanical name:** *Pongamia pinnata*

**Common name:** Indian Beech

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 8m. Leaves vary from burgundy to light green to dark green throughout the year. The flowers release a subtle fragrance during the night.

**Use(s):** The seed oil has been used to treat skin disorders and rheumatism. The leaves were made into a poultice to treat ulcers. All parts of this plant are toxic and will induce vomiting if consumed internally.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in tropical coastal Queensland and Northern Territory, as well as across tropical Asia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Portulaca oleracea*

**Common name:** Pigweed

**Other common name(s):** Purslane

**Description:** Small prostrate annual herb to 0.5m. The leaves are succulent and the flowers are small and yellow. A weed in many places.

**Use(s):** The plant is a diuretic and has been used to cleanse the blood.

**Habitat and conditions:** This plant has been introduced to Australia and occurs worldwide.

---

**Botanical name:** *Prostanthera rotundifolia*

**Common name:** Round-leaf Mint Bush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2.5m. Small medium-green rounded leaves, sometimes with a purplish hue, pink-purple flowers. Wonderfully scented!

**Use(s):** Is used along with *Mentha australis* to make a native mint tea. The volatile oil of *P. rotundifolia* has carminative properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs across the south-eastern side of Australia, including many areas of NSW and Victoria. Likes a sheltered position with adequate watering.

**Availability:** We are now taking orders for small established plants available in October 2004.

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**Botanical name:** *Pteridium esculentum*

**Common name:** Common bracken

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Fern to 3m. Fast growing. The rhizome is long and covered in reddish hairs.

**Use(s):** The plant is reportedly anthelmintic and astringent. An infusion of the leaves and stalks has been used to treat rheumatism. The juice of the young stems has been used to treat insect bites.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to moist, shady, cooler areas of all states including Tasmania. Also found in New Zealand.

---

**Botanical name:** *Rhynchosia minima*

**Common name:** Rhyncho

**Other common name(s):** Snout Bean

**Description:** Prostrate or climbing herb. Groups of three leaflets are ovate. Yellow-reddish flowers are pendulous and small.

**Use(s):** Plant is a source of prodelphinidin, which is an antibiotic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in tropical Queensland and the Northern Territory; also occurs worldwide.

---

**Botanical name:** *Santalum acuminatum*

**Common name:** Quangdong

**Other common name(s):** Native Peach

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 8m but usually around 3m. The plant is parasitic, with its roots attaching themselves to the roots of another shrub, herb or grass. The leaves are distinctly grey-green and are leathery and variable in size. The flowers are small, white, and occur in clusters at the ends of branchlets. The greenish or yellow fruit is about 3cm in diameter and becomes bright red when ripe.

**Use(s):** The edible fruit is high in vitamin C and various minerals, and is made into jams, pies, or eaten raw. The ground seed kernels have been used as a liniment. The root was ground and an infusion was drunk to treat rheumatism. The leaves were crushed and a poultice was made to treat sores and boils.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid and arid regions of mainland Australia. Prefers full sun and sandy soils.

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**Botanical name:** *Santalum lanceolatum*

**Common name:** Plumbush

**Other common name(s):** Northern Sandalwood

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 7m. Rough grey bark and medium sized grey leaves with small clusters of cream flowers. The red berries are about 1cm in diameter and become dark purple or black when ripe.

**Use(s):** The sweet-tasting fruit was eaten raw. They are reputed to be slightly narcotic. A boiled infusion of the leaves and bark was consumed as a purgative. A poultice of the roots was applied to treat rheumatism.

**Habitat and conditions:** Widespread across Australia, throughout the inland as well as in drier coastal regions.

---

**Botanical name:** Santalum spicatum

**Common name:** Fragrant Sandalwood

**Other common name(s):** Australian Sandalwood

**Description:** Small tree to 8m. The bark is rough and the wood is very fragrant, hence the name. The flowers are very small, occurring in bunches, and are green on the outside and reddish inside.

**Use(s):** An infusion or decoction of the inner bark was drunk as a cough medicine. The inside of the nuts was rubbed on the body to treat stiffness and colds. The oil is anti-inflammatory and anti-microbial.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid and arid regions of Central and Western Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant. Prefers sandy loam.

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**Botanical name:** Scaevola spinescens

**Common name:** Prickly Fanflower

**Other common name(s):** Currant Bush

**Description:** Small shrub to 2m. The plant is hairy and often spiny. The flowers are very sparse and are cream or ruddy yellow.

**Use(s):** A root infusion was drunk to treat stomach ache and urinary complaints. A decoction of the stems was drunk to treat sores and boils. The entire plant was burned and the fumes inhaled to treat colds.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid central Australia. Prefers full sun, sandy soil.

---

**Botanical name:** Senna artemisioides ssp artemisioides

**Common name:** Silver Cassia

**Other common name(s):** Feathery Cassia

**Description:** Small shrub to 2m. The leaves and branches are covered in very fine white hair, making the overall appearance of the plant silvery grey. Narrow grey/silver leaves to 5cm, flowers are bright yellow/orange. Formerly called Cassia artemisioides.

**Use(s):** The ash of this plant was mixed with Pituri into a ball for chewing.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to subtropical and tropical arid Western Australia across Central Australia to inland tropical and subtropical Queensland.

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**Botanical name:** Senna barclayana

**Common name:** Pepperleaf Senna

**Other common name(s):** Ant Bush

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Compound leaves of 8 to 20 leaflets 2.5cm long. Flowers are sparse. Formerly Cassia barclayana.

**Use(s):** The plant is poisonous. It is related to an Indian senna which has been used as a laxative and for the treatment of skin disorders. Included for interest only.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to subtropical and tropical eastern states, both coastal and inland areas. Also occurs in tropical and equatorial Asia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Senna odorata*

**Common name:** Australian Senna

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall shrub. Leaves are comprised of 6 to 10 pairs of leaflets. The veined flowers are yellow and are followed by flat seed pods. Formerly *Cassia odorata*.

**Use(s):** The leaves have been used as a laxative.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid NSW, Queensland and the Northern Territory.

---

**Botanical name:** *Senna pleurocarpa* var *pleurocarpa*

**Common name:** Ribfruit Senna

**Other common name(s):** Smooth Cassia

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Compound light green leaves with 5 leaflet pairs. Veined flowers are pale yellow in loose bunches. Formerly *Cassia pleurocarpa*.

**Use(s):** The leaves and pods are laxative. The plant is poisonous and included for interest only.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid mainland Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Sesbania sesban*

**Common name:** Sesbania

**Other common name(s):** Ngean-jerry

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Leaves are compound with 10 to 20 pairs of leaflets. The yellow flowers occur in pendulous bunches and the upper petal is purple.

**Use(s):** A poultice is made from the leaves, which are warmed and mixed in castor oil and applied to skin boils.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in tropical coastal Queensland and worldwide.

---

**Botanical name:** *Solanum capsiciforme*

**Common name:** Native pepper

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Narrow concave leaves, with light violet flowers about an inch in diameter. The green fruits resemble little capsicums.

**Use(s):** The plant is a source of solasodine, which is used to produce steroidal hormones in the medicine industry as contraceptives.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid areas of South Australia and Western Australia.

Drought tolerant, full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum aviculare*

**Common name:** Kangaroo Apple

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Long dark leaves on purplish stems. The flowers are mauve or purplish. The fruit is a pale orangish berry about 5cm in diameter.

**Use(s):** The plant is a source of solasodine, which is used to produce steroidal hormones in the medicine industry as contraceptives. The fruit is edible but not very tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs widely in southern states from Western Australia across to Victoria and also Tasmania. Prefers sheltered, moist locations.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum lasiophyllum*

**Common name:** Flannel Bush

**Other common name(s):** Grun Grun

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Leaves are green-grey and hairy, flowers are purple with yellow stamens in the centre.

**Use(s):** A poultice was made from the boiled roots and applied to treat leg swellings.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal southwestern Western Australia. Prefers sandy soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum simile*

**Common name:** Oondooroo

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small shrub. Dark green leaves are narrow. Small violet flowers.

**Use(s):** The plant is a source of solasodine, which is used to produce steroidal hormones in the medicine industry as contraceptives. The fruit is edible but not very tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate arid mainland Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum symonii*

**Common name:** Not known

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small shrub. Leaves are slightly concave. Flowers are about an inch in diameter. The fruit is under an inch in diameter, and green to white when ripe.

**Use(s):** The plant is a source of solasodine, which is used to produce steroidal hormones in the medicine industry as contraceptives. The fruit is edible but not very tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to southern temperate arid Australia from Western Australia to South Australia. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Sophora tomentosa*

**Common name:** Sea Coast Laburnum

**Other common name(s):** Golden Chain

**Description:** Shrub to 5m. Largish ovate leaves to 20cm in length, comprising 11 to 17 leaflets. The flowers are large and golden in clusters. Produces pods up to 18cm in length.

**Use(s):** The roots and seeds were used to treat liver problems. Note that the seeds are apparently highly toxic, and the plant is included for interest only.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal subtropical and tropical eastern Australia. Prefers sandy soil.

---

**Botanical name:** *Swainsona pterostylis*

**Common name:** Dampier Pea

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small semi-prostrate shrub. The leaves are compound. The beautiful flowers are violet, with a sweet fragrance.

**Use(s):** The whole plant was mashed up and a boiled poultice was made to treat bruising and inflammation.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to hot semi-arid areas of northern Western Australia and NW Northern Territory. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Tasmannia lanceolata*

**Common name:** Tasmanian Mountain Pepper

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 5m. Leaves are dark green, narrow and leathery on reddish stems. Small yellow creamy flowers. The fruit is small, dark red or black.

**Use(s):** The dried berries or leaves are used to make a very peppery seasoning. The bark has been used to treat scurvy and as a stomachic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Tasmania, also found occasionally in Victoria and southern New South Wales. Prefers to grow at altitude. Moist conditions.

**Note to US and Canadian customers:** If you live in the USA or Canada, we recommend that you order this plant from Horizon Herbs, our friends in Oregon ([www.horizonherbs.com](http://www.horizonherbs.com)), unless you require bulk quantities, in which case feel free to order from us.

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**Botanical name:** *Templetonia egena*

**Common name:** Desert Broombush

**Other common name(s):** Round Templetonia

**Description:** Medium to tall shrub, which is leafless, in that the leaves are reduced to scales on the thin cylindrical branches. The yellow-brown flowers are small and clustered on short stalks.

**Use(s):** The plant contains an alkaloid called sparteine, which as a sulfate compound has been used to induce labour.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to the inland areas of all mainland Australian states.

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**Botanical name:** *Thespesia populnea*

**Common name:** Tulip Tree

**Other common name(s):** Portia Tree

**Description:** Medium tree to 15m. Light to medium green leaves are heart-shaped, flowers are funnel-shaped and yellow with a purplish centre. Fruit is a hard capsule less than 2 inches in diameter.

**Use(s):** The juice from the unripe fruit has been used to treat skin diseases. A bark decoction was also used as a daily skin wash.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in along the coast in tropical areas of Queensland and the Northern Territory. Also occurs across Asia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Trichodesma zeylanicum* var *zeylanicum*

**Common name:** Cattle Bush

**Other common name(s):** Northern Bluebell

**Description:** Small herb to 1m. Hairy with striking blue flowers.

**Use(s):** The plant was boiled and rubbed on sores. The plant is reportedly diuretic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs over subtropical and tropical arid regions of mainland Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Ventilago viminalis*

**Common name:** Supplejack

**Other common name(s):** Vine-Tree

**Description:** Small tree to 6m. The bark is pale to darker brown and scaly. Starts as a climber and as a result the mature tree often has intertwined branches. The leaves are bright green, the flowers are dull yellow.

**Use(s):** The bark and roots were crushed together in water to treat toothache and rheumatism. The ashes of the plant were mixed with Pituri chewing tobacco to enhance the effect.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to subtropical and tropical semi-arid inland areas across mainland central and northern Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.



## Section 2: Bushtucker

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia aneura*

**Common name:** Mulga

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** One of the longer-living Acacias - some specimens are perhaps over 250 years old. Silver leaves, small yellow flowers, to 10m tall.

**Use(s):** Seeds mixed with water were ground into an edible paste. Also, the injured branches produce a sweet edible sticky substance called "bush lollies" which can either be eaten as is or mixed in water to make a sweet beverage.

**Habitat and conditions:** Full sun, drought resistant. Prefers sandy soil. Native to all mainland Australian states, occurs in arid areas. Reputedly hardy to -8 deg C.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia bidwillii*

**Common name:** Corkwood Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Dogwood

**Description:** Corky-barked small tree to 4m. Produces cream-coloured flowers.

**Use(s):** The roots of younger specimens were roasted for food.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid tropical inland Australia. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia colei*

**Common name:** Wattle

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tree to 6 m. Silvery leaves.

**Use(s):** Nutritious and tasty seeds. This plant has been exported to the Sahel semi-arid region of Africa and is looked upon with great promise as a local crop.

**Habitat and conditions:** Full sun, drought resistant. Sandy soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia coriacea*

**Common name:** Wirewood

**Other common name(s):** Desert Oak

**Description:** Tree to 8m. Yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The pods and seeds are ground & eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Northern arid Australia. Very drought tolerant. Prefers sandy soil and full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Acacia holosericea*

**Common name:** Velvet Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Candelabra Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 2.5m. Small yellow flowers occur on spikes.

**Use(s):** A water infusion was made with the pounded roots to treat throat disorders. The leaves exude a substance that disturbs or poisons fish in waterholes and rivers to make it easy to catch them. The roasted or boiled seeds are nutritious and tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Australia. Found along watercourses and in open forest areas. Full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia kempeana*

**Common name:** Witchetty Bush

**Other common name(s):** Wanderrie Wattle

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 4m. Greyish bark. Yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The roots of this tree are inhabited, in their native environment, by Witchetty Grubs. Thus this acacia is the host to probably the most famous bush tucker of them all! Not for the squeamish I'm afraid. For interest only - Witchetty Grubs not included.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to central Australia. Drought resistant; thrives in a variety of soils. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Acacia murrayana*

**Common name:** Colony Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Sandplain Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 4m. Clustered yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The seeds are nutritious. Closely related to *A. victoriae*.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to central Australia. Full sun. Sandy soil.

---

**Botanical name:** *Acacia retinodes*

**Common name:** Wirilda

**Other common name(s):** Swamp Wattle

**Description:** Also known as Water Wattle. Small tree to 6m. Blue-green leaves and yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** Seeds are edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate southern Australia and Tassie. Tolerates clay soils and poor drainage. Part to full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia tetragonophylla*

**Common name:** Prickly Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Dead-finish

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Myriad beautiful yellow flowers in globular clusters.

**Use(s):** Seeds are edible, both in the pod while still green, and dried, ground, mixed with water & baked in the earth. A root bark decoction was used to treat sores. The leaves were chewed to cure dysentery. An infusion was made from the cleaned inner bark and consumed for coughs. Wood ashes (minus bark) was used as an antiseptic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs widely throughout Central Australia. Extremely tough & drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia torulosa*

**Common name:** Wrinkly-Podded Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Torulosa Wattle, Deep-Gold Wattle

**Description:** Shrub to 3m. Profusions of golden flowers.

**Use(s):** Nutritious and tasty seed.

**Habitat and conditions:** Arid tropical and subtropical Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Acacia victoriae*

**Common name:** Elegant Wattle

**Other common name(s):** Bramble Wattle

**Description:** Prickly shrub, yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** Contains compounds called avicins which have been shown to inhibit inflammation and cancer in laboratory studies. For food, probably the most popular wattle seed source. Nutritious and tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in semi-arid and arid southern Australia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Adansonia gregorii*

**Common name:** Australian Baobab Tree

**Other common name(s):** Bottle Tree

**Description:** Tree to 15m. Deciduous in the dry season, extremely distinctive tree with swollen trunk (which can grow to more than 3m in diameter). Ovoid fruit is around 15cm long. Large creamy white flowers. Smaller than its Madagascan cousin. Also known as *Adansonia gibbosa*.

**Use(s):** The fruit pith & seed is edible - either roasted or raw.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical (and very hot) semi-arid regions of NW Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

---

**Botanical name:** *Aleurites moluccana*

**Common name:** Candlenut Tree

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Large evergreen tree to 20m. Hairy large leaves crowd near the ends of branches. Olive-coloured ball-shaped fruit, containing one or two seeds.

**Use(s):** The seeds yield oil that is inedible and POISONOUS. When roasted, the kernels are edible and have laxative and, reputedly, aphrodisiac effects. The pulped kernels have been used for headaches, fever and rheumatism.

**Habitat and conditions:** Northern NSW and SE Queensland. Variants are also native to many South Pacific and Asian equatorial countries. Prefers moist warm locations.

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**Botanical name:** *Alpinia coerulea*

**Common name:** Native Ginger

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Clumping native ginger with long glossy leaves, to 2m. White flowers cluster on the end of stems, replaced by small blue fruit about 1-2cm in diameter.

**Use(s):** The fruit flesh is edible and the seeds within, along with the young roots, taste like ginger. The leaves were wrapped around other food for cooking.

**Habitat and conditions:** Northern NSW, southern Queensland. Moist, well drained soil. Part shade. Frost tender.

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**Botanical name:** *Araucaria bidwillii*

**Common name:** Bunya Nut Pine

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Very large tree to 50m, with a single straight trunk and thin branches extending outwards in all directions with clumps of dark green leaves on the ends. Spectacular.

**Use(s):** The nuts of the Bunya Nut Pine fall to the ground in large coconut-sized cones, and taste great either raw or roasted.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Queensland. Hardy down to about -4 deg C. Prefers a warm subtropical or tropical climate. Likes regular rainfall.

---

**Botanical name:** *Austromyrtus dulcis*

**Common name:** Midgen Berry

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Glossy green leaves with white flowers turning to pinkish/white edible berries covered with spots.

**Use(s):** The berries are edible and sweet.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal northern NSW and southeast Queensland including Fraser Island. Full sun to part shade, good rainfall. Tolerates light frost.

---

**Botanical name:** *Backhousia citriodora*

**Common name:** Lemon Scented Myrtle

**Other common name(s):** Lemon Ironwood

**Description:** Small bushy tree to 8m, although can sometimes reach 15m in the wild. Green leaves smell strongly of lemon. The younger leaves are more reddish. Flowers are cream or white and occur profusely when in bloom.

**Use(s):** The leaves smell amazingly like lemon and are used as a spice. A tea can also be prepared which is said to have a relaxing effect.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal Queensland. Prefers rich, moist soil. Part to full sun. Hardy to -8 deg C once established. Keep warm when young though.

---

**Botanical name:** *Billardiera cymosa*

**Common name:** Sweet Appleberry

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small evergreen climber, beautiful purplish flowers, edible berries.

**Use(s):** The berries are sweet and highly regarded as bushfood.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to south eastern Australia, generally in forested coastal areas. Frost tolerant, prefers moist soil.

---

**Botanical name:** *Billardiera longifolia*

**Common name:** Purple Appleberry

**Other common name(s):** Cherry Berry

**Description:** Evergreen climber, produces beautiful pale green flowers followed by bright purple, edible fruit.

**Use(s):** The berries are edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to south eastern Australia, generally in forested coastal areas. Frost tolerant once established, prefers moist soil, full to part sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Brachychiton populneus*

**Common name:** Kurrajong Bottle Tree

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Usually a small tree but can reach 20m in the wild. The green leaves are glossy. Cream dumbbell-shaped flowers. Green/grey bark. Slightly swollen trunk in older specimens.

**Use(s):** Seeds can be ground into a spice that has been used as a coffee replacement and also to make bread. The tap root of this tree can also be eaten as a vegetable. The bark exudes an edible sap as well.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to eastern Australia from Victoria to northern

Queensland. Does well in a variety of well-drained soil types.

---

**Botanical name:** *Brachychiton rupestris*

**Common name:** Bottle Tree

**Other common name(s):** Queensland Bottle Tree

**Description:** Tree to 18m. Small bell-shaped flowers. Has a swollen trunk, hence the name. Older specimens are spectacular.

**Use(s):** Exudes a sweet edible jelly-like substance. In the desert, was a source of water contained between the inner wood and the bark. The seeds are edible either raw or roasted, and the tap root was eaten as a vegetable.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Queensland and New South Wales. Hardy to 0 deg C. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Buchanania obovata*

**Common name:** Green Plum

**Other common name(s):** Wild Plum

**Description:** Small deciduous tree to 6m. The fruit is a green berry resembling a plum. The bark is grey and rough. The leaves are light green.

**Use(s):** The green plum-like fruit was pounded up into a sweet edible paste. Cavities were treated with minced leaves and a gargled (not swallowed) mouthwash was prepared against toothache from an infusion of the inner bark and sapwood. The pure infusion was also used to bathe sore eyes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Northern Territory and Queensland near the Gulf of Carpentaria. Full sun, warm conditions.

---

**Botanical name:** *Capparis mitchellii*

**Common name:** Bush Orange

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Grey/green leaves. White flowers at several times throughout the year. Produces purple fruits about 7cm in diameter.

**Use(s):** The mature fruit is edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid parts of all mainland states. Full sun. Drought tolerant. Will grow in alkaline soils.

---

**Botanical name:** *Capparis spinosa* var. *nummularia*

**Common name:** Bush Passionfruit

**Other common name(s):** Australian Caper Bush

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Flowers range from white to pink. The green fruit ripens to yellow, usually off the bush.

**Use(s):** The ripe (yellow) fruit is edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Full sun, drought tolerant. The common species "spinosa" is apparently of Mediterranean origin; however a history of Aboriginal use of the "nummularia" variety may indicate that this variety is indigenous. One Central Australian name for this plant is "Akatyerre".

---

**Botanical name:** *Carpobrotus rossii*

**Common name:** Native Pigface

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Prostrate herb spreading to 3m. Thick, succulent spiky leaves often tipped reddish or purple. The flowers have a white centre surrounded by brilliant thin purple petals. The red fruit is fleshy.

**Use(s):** Was used in Tasmania as a purgative. Both the fruit and the leaves are edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native in all southern states including Tasmania, predominantly in sandy coastal areas. Well drained soil; part to full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Castanospermum australe*

**Common name:** Moreton Bay Chestnut

**Other common name(s):** Blackbean

**Description:** Strong, handsome tall tree to 40m in the wild; frequently 10 to 20m in cultivation. Shiny green leaves on low spreading branches. Produces arrays of beautiful small red and yellow flowers hidden under the foliage. Pods follow which are 15-20cm long.

**Use(s):** The seeds were sliced and washed, and then boiled or roasted and eaten. Note that under normal conditions, unless prepared properly, the seeds are poisonous. Parts of the tree contain chemicals which, after careful extraction, have been shown to have anti-cancer, anti-inflammatory, and anti-HIV properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal rainforests from northern NSW to northern Queensland. Prefers moist fertile and well-drained soils. Also found on some Pacific islands. Part to full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Cissus hypoglauca*

**Common name:** Native Grape

**Other common name(s):** Jungle Vine

**Description:** Tall evergreen woody climber. Clusters of yellow flowers. Very thick, strong vine.

**Use(s):** The dark blue berries are edible. The berries were also crushed and mixed in water and gargled, to treat sore throat.

**Habitat and conditions:** Forest areas of eastern Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Frost tender, shade to part shade, rich soil.

---

**Botanical name:** *Cleome viscosa*

**Common name:** Tickweed

**Other common name(s):** Sticky Cleome

**Description:** Annual herb covered in sticky hairs. Flowers are yellow. The entire plant is fragrant.

**Use(s):** The seeds can be used as a condiment, and also to relieve the symptoms of fever. The leaves, stems and flowers can be mashed and applied externally to relieve body aches and pains, headaches, and skin irritations.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in tropical Australia and worldwide. Tolerates a range of conditions.

---

**Botanical name:** *Clerodendrum floribundum*

**Common name:** Lolly Bush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tall shrub to 5m with tapered oval leaves and large heads of long white flowers, followed by black berries above an enlarged red calyx.

**Use(s):** A lotion from the branches or bark was used for bodily aches. The roots were boiled and eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native all across tropical Australia. Part to full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Cochlospermum fraseri*

**Common name:** Kapok Bush

**Other common name(s):** Cotton Tree

**Description:** Deciduous tropical small tree to 6m with starlike yellow flowers and green ovoid pods filled with cotton-like material.

**Use(s):** The cooked roots were eaten and also the flowers (cooked or raw). The leaves were used in a decoction to help fever.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical northern Australia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Cucumis melo ssp agrestis*

**Common name:** Ulcardo Melon

**Other common name(s):** Bush Cucumber

**Description:** An Australian variety of *C. melo*. Trailing, with yellow flowers.

**Use(s):** The ripe fruit is edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** The species occurs worldwide, and the Australian variety is widely distributed over arid and semi-arid regions. Drought tolerant. Central Australian name is "ilkartwe".



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**Botanical name:** *Davidsonia pruriens*

**Common name:** Davidson's plum

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. The ripe purple-blue fruit look like plums. Large glossy dark green leaves. Very ornamental.

**Use(s):** The ripe fruit is edible. They have also been used in jams and even to make wine!

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to subtropical and tropical east coast of Queensland and northern NSW (two different varieties for the southern and northern forms). Likes to be well watered with well drained soil.

---

**Botanical name:** *Elaeocarpus grandis*

**Common name:** Blue Quandong

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Large tree to 35. Stunningly coloured at different times: the leaves are dark green but also red depending on age; the dumbbell shaped flowers are cream; and the inch-long edible fruit is bright blue.

**Use(s):** The blue fruit is edible but sour. A more palatable past was made my mixing the pulps with water.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs along the east coast in subtropical and tropical areas and also in the Northern Territory. Prefers moist environments.

---

**Botanical name:** *Enchylaena tomentosa*

**Common name:** Ruby Saltbush

**Other common name(s):** Barrier Saltbush

**Description:** Small trailing evergreen plant to 1m. Small thin grey-green semi-succulent leaves, stems slightly hairy. Very small (0.5cm) berries ripen to red from green and yellow.

**Use(s):** The tiny red berries are edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to all arid and semi-arid temperate and subtropical and tropical parts of Australia. Prefers full sun, well drained.

---

**Botanical name:** *Eremophila debilis*

**Common name:** Winter Apple

**Other common name(s):** Amulla

**Description:** Small shrub, almost prostrate & trailing to 2m. Light green leaves; small white to mauvish flowers. The green to pink-purple fruit is succulent and bitter-tasting.

Also known as *Myoporum debile*.

**Use(s):** The plant was used as a treatment for venereal disease. The fruits were eaten and have a bitter taste.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal Northern NSW and SE Queensland.

---

**Botanical name:** *Ficus coronata*

**Common name:** Sandpaper Fig

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium fig tree to 12m. Broad dark-green leaves are rough on the top.

The edible fig is between 1 and 2cm in diameter and is dark purple when ripe.

**Use(s):** The milky sap of young stems is applied to wounds. A poultice is made from the bark too. The purple-black fruit are edible and sweet, once the hairy skin has been removed.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to rainforest environments near the coast, from eastern Victoria through to Queensland and into the Northern Territory. Prefers moist soil, part shade.

---

**Botanical name:** *Ficus macrophylla*

**Common name:** Moreton Bay Fig

**Other common name(s):** Australian Banyan

**Description:** Massive fig tree, can exceed 35m in height, with a canopy spread in excess of 55m. The leaves are large, glossy and dark green. The ripe fruit is reddish with spots. The trunk is wide and contains many nooks and crannies. Drops aerial roots when mature. Don't plant this one next to your house. One of those plants where the seed is hard to mentally associate with the grown tree!

**Use(s):** The soft, ripe fruit does not taste pleasant when eaten raw but can be mashed together with honey and flour, and then baked to make fig cakes.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs across the east coast of Australia. Prefers decent rain, full sun.

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**Botanical name:** *Ficus platypoda*

**Common name:** Native Rock Fig

**Other common name(s):** Small-leaved Moreton Bay Fig

**Description:** Small to medium multi-trunked fig to 15m with smooth gray bark and aerial roots. The fruit is orange to red and edible.

**Use(s):** The fruit is soaked in water and an edible pulp is prepared.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to northern Australia. These trees can grow on rocks and in the most unlikely places. Prefers moist location.

---

**Botanical name:** *Haemodorum spicatum*

**Common name:** Mardja

**Other common name(s):** Bloodroot

**Description:** Perennial stalky herb to 1m. The flowers are deep purple, almost black. The bulbs are red, hence the name.

**Use(s):** The bulbs were roasted and used as a spice. It also apparently treated dysentery.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Western Australia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Hibiscus tiliaceus*

**Common name:** Cotton tree

**Other common name(s):** Yellow Hibiscus

**Description:** Small tree to 9m. Round heart-shaped leaves are smooth and soft and profuse. The flower is a beautiful large yellow spiral funnel with a crimson centre.

**Use(s):** The leaves are wrapped around food before cooking to add flavour, and the flowers are edible. The bark and sap-wood are infused in water and poured over wounds as an antiseptic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in subtropical and tropical coastal regions of Australia, and worldwide.

---

**Botanical name:** *Ipomoea costata*

**Common name:** Native Sweet Potato

**Other common name(s):** Desert Yam

**Description:** Perennial climber, becomes medium shrub as it grows older. The flowers are beautiful pink-mauve circular funnels; the leaves too are (semi-) circular. A beautiful specimen.

**Use(s):** The large tuber is edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Western Australia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Kunzea pomifera*

**Common name:** Muntries

**Other common name(s):** Munthari

**Description:** Prostrate spreading woody shrub with small shiny leaves. The ripe berries are small and purple.

**Use(s):** The berries are very delicious and taste like apples without the acidity. They can be eaten raw or processed into a jam.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to the south and west coast of the continent, including Kangaroo Island. Prefers sandy well-drained soils. Full sun.

**Special note:** New seeds are now available!

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**Botanical name:** *Macadamia integrifolia*  
**Common name:** Smooth-shelled Macadamia

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small to medium tree to 15m. The leaves are glossy, medium to dark green. The white flowers occur in a long raceme. The fruit is, of course, the Macadamia Nut, with a smooth hard green shell about 2.5cm in diameter. It is this species which is the most widely cultivated.

**Use(s):** The nuts are edible and delicious, either raw or roasted. Australia's only major native edible commercial crop. The oil from the nuts can be prepared into a soothing skin lotion. When host to bees, the honey has antibacterial properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to a small area of southeastern Queensland. Subtropical rainforest, part to full sun. This tree is now cultivated all over the world. Many people mistakenly believe that it is native to Hawaii.

---

**Botanical name:** *Macadamia tetraphylla*  
**Common name:** Rough-shelled Macadamia

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small to medium tree to 18m. Glossy serrated leaves. New growth is reddish. Pink-purple flowers similar in form to *M. integrifolia*. The nut is brown, rough and hard. This is of course the other type of Macadamia Nut. Natural hybrids exist between this Macadamia and its sister species.

**Use(s):** Nuts are edible, but not as tasty when roasted as *M. integrifolia*.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to a small area of northern NSW and southern Queensland. This tree is now cultivated all over the world. Many people mistakenly believe that it is native to Hawaii.

---

**Botanical name:** *Marsdenia australis*  
**Common name:** Bush Banana  
**Other common name(s):** Cogla, Native Pear

**Description:** Long green edible fruit. Also known as *Leichardtia australis*.

**Use(s):** The fruit is edible and sweet.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in arid and semi-arid areas from Western Australia to the Northern Territory. Full sun, drought tolerant.

---

**Botanical name:** *Mentha australis*  
**Common name:** River Mint  
**Other common name(s):** Australian Mint, Native Mint

**Description:** Creeping herb with small tapered leaves, with the flowers blooming at leaf junctions. A much stronger mint than normal peppermint or spearmint.

**Use(s):** Makes an interesting mint tea, which is reputedly good for easing the effects of colds. The crushed leaves were sniffed to relieve headache.

**Habitat and conditions:** Shaded areas near waterways (usually inland) in all states.

**Availability:** We are now taking orders for small established plants available in October 2004.

---

**Botanical name:** *Morinda citrifolia*

**Common name:** Great Morinda

**Other common name(s):** Cheesefruit, Noni

**Description:** Large shrub or small tree to 12m. Large glossy oval leaves to 30cm. The small white flowers grow from a fleshy structure. The ripe fruit is green-white and ovoid, and smells like vomit!

**Use(s):** The fruit is bland but edible, raw or cooked, sometimes with salt. The young leaves can be eaten as a vegetable. The juice is high in Vitamin C and is marketed today as a tonic. An infusion of the rootbark was used as an antiseptic. A preparation of the roots and trunk has hypotensive properties. All in all, a very useful tree indeed.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs along the seashore of tropical Queensland and the Northern Territory, as well as over many Pacific islands and SE Asia. Prefers wet, swampy ground.

**Note:** We are temporarily out of seeds of *M. citrifolia*.

---

**Botanical name:** *Owenia acidula*

**Common name:** Emu Apple

**Other common name(s):** Sour Plum, Native Nectarine, Desert Plum

**Description:** Small tree. The leaves comprise many darker glossy mini-leaves. The fruit is reddish and succulent and very sour.

**Use(s):** The fruit is edible, but not particularly tasty - too sour. The wood was boiled and the cooled infusion was used to bathe sore eyes. Was used to treat malaria.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid Central Australia. Full sun, drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Owenia reticulata*

**Common name:** Desert Walnut

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small tree to 10m. Large leaves comprise smaller smooth leathery mini-leaves.

**Use(s):** The seeds were roasted and extracted, and applied to sores. A leaf infusion was used as a poultice. The nutty fruits were possibly eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Coastal areas of tropical Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Sandy soil. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** *Podocarpus elatus*

**Common name:** Plum Pine

**Other common name(s):** Brown Pine

**Description:** Large tree to 40m. Very fast growing. The fruit is actually a fleshy blue-black stem attaching the seed to the branch, as a conifer.

**Use(s):** The sweet fruit-stems were eaten.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to coastal rainforest areas right up the east coast of Australia.

---

**Botanical name:** *Prostanthera rotundifolia*

**Common name:** Round-leaf Mint Bush

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2.5m. Small medium-green rounded leaves, sometimes with a purplish hue, pink-purple flowers. Wonderfully scented!

**Use(s):** Is used along with *Mentha australis* to make a native mint tea. The volatile oil of *P. rotundifolia* has carminative properties.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs across the south-eastern side of Australia, including many areas of NSW and Victoria. Likes a sheltered position with adequate watering.

**Availability:** We are now taking orders for small established plants available in October 2004.

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**Botanical name:** *Santalum acuminatum*

**Common name:** Quandong

**Other common name(s):** Native Peach

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 8m but usually around 3m. The plant is parasitic, with its roots attaching themselves to the roots of another shrub, herb or grass. The leaves are distinctly grey-green and are leathery and variable in size. The flowers are small, white, and occur in clusters at the ends of branchlets. The greenish or yellow fruit is about 3cm in diameter and becomes bright red when ripe.

**Use(s):** The edible fruit is high in vitamin C and various minerals, and is made into jams, pies, or eaten raw. The ground seed kernels have been used as a liniment. The root was ground and an infusion was drunk to treat rheumatism. The leaves were crushed and a poultice was made to treat sores and boils.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid and arid regions of mainland Australia. Prefers full sun and sandy soils.

---

**Botanical name:** *Santalum lanceolatum*

**Common name:** Plumbush

**Other common name(s):** Northern Sandalwood

**Description:** Shrub or small tree to 7m. Rough grey bark and medium sized grey leaves with small clusters of cream flowers. The red berries are about 1cm in diameter and become dark purple or black when ripe.

**Use(s):** The sweet-tasting fruit was eaten raw. They are reputed to be slightly narcotic. A boiled infusion of the leaves and bark was consumed as a purgative. A poultice of the roots was applied to treat rheumatism.

**Habitat and conditions:** Widespread across Australia, throughout the inland as well as in drier coastal regions.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum centrale*

**Common name:** Bush Tomato, Bush Raisin

**Other common name(s):** Desert Raisin, Akudjura

**Description:** Small shrub. The leaves are pale green-grey with fine hairs. The green-purplish fruits, which are around an inch in diameter, dry out on the bush, turning yellowish and resembling raisins.

**Use(s):** The fruit tastes sweet when ripe with a tomato-like flavour. The fruit can be fully dried and stored.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to arid regions of central Australia from Western Australia across to South Australia and the Northern Territory. Full sun. Drought tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** *Solanum aviculare*

**Common name:** Kangaroo Apple

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 2m. Long dark leaves on purplish stems. The flowers are mauve or purplish. The fruit is a pale orangish berry about 5cm in diameter.

**Use(s):** The plant is a source of solasodine, which is used to produce steroidal hormones in the medicine industry as contraceptives. The fruit is edible but not very tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs widely in southern states from Western Australia across to Victoria and also Tasmania. Prefers sheltered, moist locations.

---

**Botanical name:** *Syzygium forte*

**Common name:** White Apple

**Other common name(s):** Flaky-Barked Satinash

**Description:** Medium tree. The new leaf growth is reddish. The fruit is whitish and edible.

**Use(s):** The fruit is edible and crunchy.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical mainland Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Syzygium leuhmannii*

**Common name:** Riberry

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tree to 30m, more commonly a shrub to 10m. The leaves are glossy and dark green, with new leaf growth a striking pinkish colour. The flowers are creamy white. The fruit is a reddish edible berry.

**Use(s):** The berries are edible and are used to make jams and even as an ice cream flavour.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to the subtropical and tropical eastern coast of Australia. Prefers a moist environment.

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**Botanical name:** *Syzygium oleosum*

**Common name:** Blue Lilly Pilly

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Medium tree to 15m. Leaves are profuse, dense and glossy. Small soft spiny white flower balls. The inch-wide fruit varies from pink to blue and is edible. Formerly known as *Syzygium coolminianum*.

**Use(s):** The berries are edible and very tasty.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to moist forested areas from the mid coast of NSW to the Northern Territory.

**Special note:** This species is currently only available as a young plant, within Australia. The seeds are due in Winter.

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**Botanical name:** *Tasmania lanceolata*

**Common name:** Tasmanian Mountain Pepper

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Shrub to 5m. Leaves are dark green, narrow and leathery on reddish stems. Small yellow creamy flowers. The fruit is small, dark red or black.

**Use(s):** The dried berries or leaves are used to make a very peppery seasoning. The bark has been used to treat scurvy and as a stomachic.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to Tasmania, also found occasionally in Victoria and southern New South Wales. Prefers to grow at altitude. Moist conditions.

---

**Botanical name:** *Terminalia canescens*

**Common name:** Native Almond

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Small clustered grey-green leaves.

**Use(s):** The fruit is edible.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to semi-arid Western Australia.



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**Botanical name:** *Terminalia carpentariae*  
**Common name:** Gulf Plum  
**Other common name(s):** Salty Plum  
**Description:** The ripe fruit is soft and pale green.  
**Use(s):** The fruit is edible.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical Queensland and the Northern Territory.

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**Botanical name:** *Terminalia catappa*  
**Common name:** Sea Almond  
**Other common name(s):** Tropical Almond  
**Description:** Medium deciduous tree to 30m. The overall shape resembles a pagoda. The large green leaves turn pinkish before falling. The nutty fruit is green and turns reddish-purple as it ripens.  
**Use(s):** The nuts are edible and taste like almonds.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Occurs in northern tropical Australia and surrounding islands, and throughout tropical Asia. Full sun, moist well-drained soil.

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**Botanical name:** *Terminalia ferdinandiana*  
**Common name:** Billygoat Plum  
**Other common name(s):** Kakadu Plum  
**Description:** Small deciduous tree to 10m. Large light green oval leaves. Small flowers are cream coloured and aromatic. Yellow-green almond-sized fruit.  
**Use(s):** The fruits were eaten raw and can be used to make jams too. Possibly the world's richest source of Vitamin C.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical northern Australia.

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**Botanical name:** *Terminalia platyphylla*  
**Common name:** Pear Tree  
**Other common name(s):**  
**Description:** Small tree. Large broad leaves. Cream coloured flower spikes.  
**Use(s):** The fruit is edible. Also, the hardened exudate from the trunk is eaten as toffee.  
**Habitat and conditions:** Native to tropical western Queensland and the Northern Territory. Often found along watercourses. Full sun.

---

**Botanical name:** Waterhousia floribunda

**Common name:** Weeping Lilly Pilly

**Other common name(s):**

**Description:** Tree around 8m, can reach 25m, with profuse small white flowers followed by round green edible fruit. Leaves have a drooping habit with colourful new growth. Formerly known as *Syzygium floribundum*.

**Use(s):** The berries are edible, but only just!

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to eastern Australia. Prefers a moist, well drained environment, full sun. Barely frost tolerant.

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**Botanical name:** Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata

**Common name:** Mount Lofty Grass Tree

**Other common name(s):** Rock Grass Tree

**Description:** Slow-growing plant to 2m, excluding the flowering stalk. The long vertical stalks end in flowering cones, especially 1 to 2 years after a fire has passed through. The long spiky leaves radiate in all directions. In its native environment, the trunks become gradually exposed with age & the passing of fires which burn the older bottom leaves off. An eye-catcher.

**Use(s):** The young leaves and roots are edible. A flour was made by grinding the seeds. When in flower, the nectar is sweet.

**Habitat and conditions:** Native to temperate arid regions in southern Australia. Full sun, well drained soil. Frost hardy.

## Section 3: Gift Packs

### 1. The Bushtucker Collection

Chosen as delicious representatives of Aussie native food

**Bush Tomato** (*Solanum centrale*)  
**Davidson's Plum** (*Davidsonia pruriens*)  
**Kakadu Plum** (*Terminalia ferdinandiana*)  
**Macadamia Tree** (*Macadamia integrifolia*)  
**Mulga** (*Acacia aneura*)  
**Muntries** (*Kunzea pomifera*)  
**Quandong** (*Santalum acuminatum*)  
**Rock Fig** (*Ficus platypoda*)  
**Wattle** (*Acacia colei*)  
**White Apple** (*Syzygium forte*)

### 2. The Medicinals Collection

Chosen for their traditional medicinal uses and for their ease of germination

**Cuthbertson's Wattle** (*Acacia cuthbertsonii*)  
**Desert Poplar** (*Codonocarpus cotinifolius*)  
**Early Black Wattle** (*Acacia decurrens*)  
**Leatherwood** (*Eucryphia lucida*)  
**Native Sassafras** (*Atherosperma moschatum*)  
**Rock Isotome** (*Isotoma petraea*)  
**Sticky Hopbush** (*Dodonaea viscosa*)  
**Tasmanian Blue Gum** (*Eucalyptus globulus*)  
**Tea Tree** (*Melaleuca alternifolia*)  
**Wilga** (*Geijera parviflora*)

### 3. The Eye-Catchers Collection

Chosen because of their spectacular appearance

**Australian Baobab** (*Adansonia gregorii*)  
**Blackbean Tree** (*Castanospermum australe*)  
**Bottle Tree** (*Brachychiton rupestris*)  
**Bunya Nut** (*Araucaria bidwillii*)  
**Cunjevoi** (*Alocasia brisbanensis*)  
**Moreton Bay Fig** (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
**Mount Lofty Grass Tree** (*Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata*)  
**Native Sweet Potato** (*Ipomoea costata*)  
**Scribbly Gum** (*Eucalyptus haemastoma*)  
**Tasmanian Blue Gum** (*Eucalyptus globulus*)