

Randwick City Council



Street Tree Identification Manual

Volume 5 - Tree Species M-R

Foreword

This manual is intended to give the reader an overview of the characteristics and cultural requirements of each of the tree species nominated in Randwick City Council's Street Tree Masterplan.

Each species is identified firstly by its Botanical name - with a phonetic spelling directly underneath – followed by the Common name in the top right hand corner of the page.

Underneath the Common name are details of the tree, including the origin of the species, the season in which it flowers (if appropriate) and a general description of its mature size and overall form.

A photograph of a typical example of each tree species is provided to allow readers the opportunity to get an idea of the mature dimensions and overall form of the subject tree/shrub.

The size dimensions specified in the manual are the average mature sizes that could be expected of nominated tree species growing within the City of Randwick and take into account various elements such as topography, exposure to wind, soil type, depth of soil, annual rainfall, etc.

A brief description of the tree's cultural requirements and preferred planting situation is also given – with particular emphasis placed on its suitability as a street and/or park tree and whether it is suitable for planting in confined areas or under overhead powerlines.

Immediately underneath this description are the designated precincts where the tree is nominated for planting within Council's Street Tree Masterplan.

Following the nominated precincts are photographs of the tree's fruit, flowers, leaves and bark – along with a brief description of each of these components.

At the rear of the manual is a matrix of all species - which includes the species name, average mature dimensions, whether it is native or exotic, evergreen or deciduous, the severity of any potential tree root damage, suitability under powerlines, fruit/leaf drop severity and estimated average lifespan.

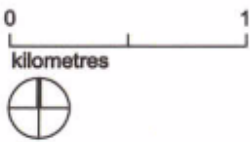
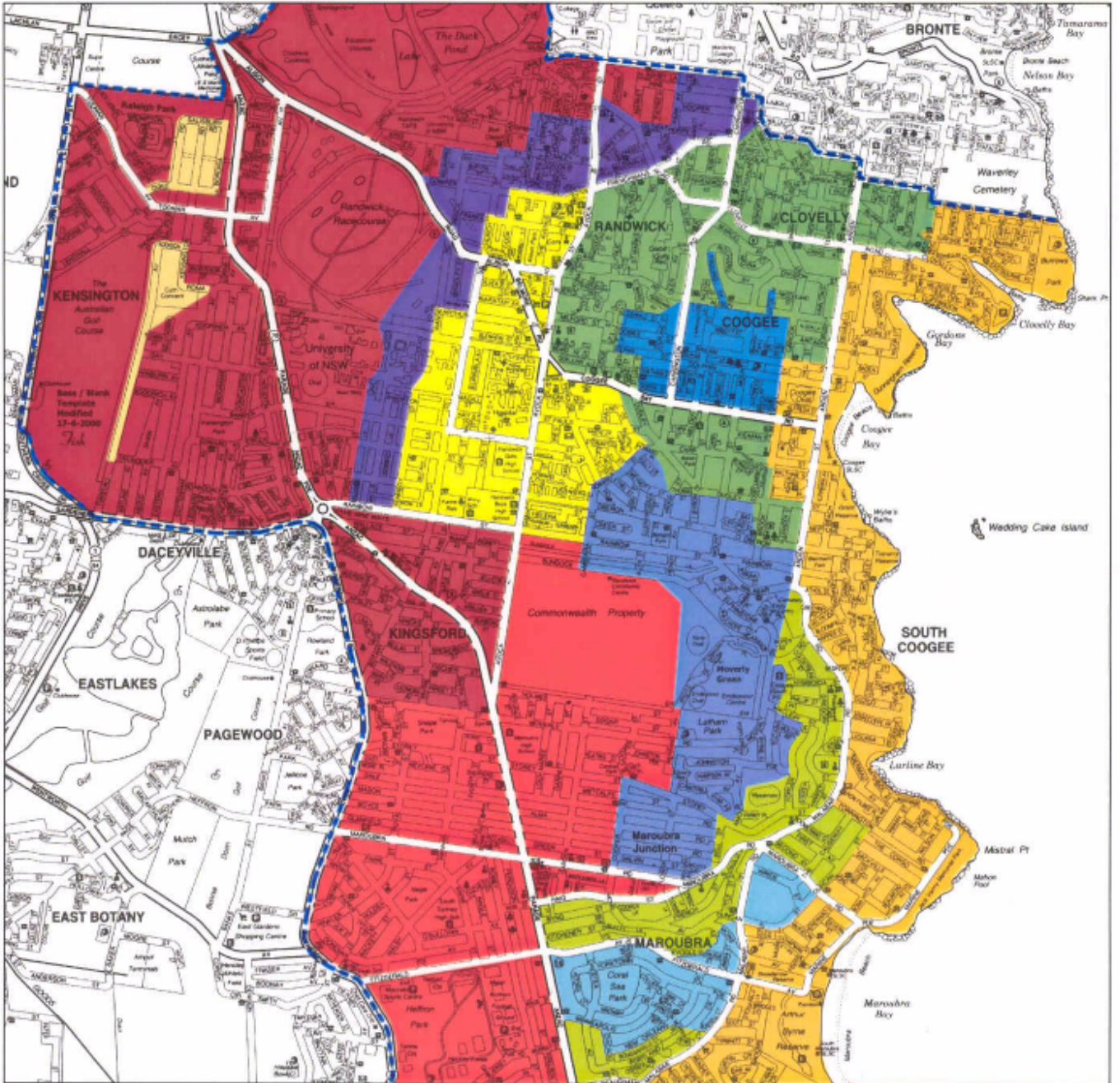
By far the majority of species contained in both the Street Tree Masterplan and the Street Tree Identification Manual are Australian natives or, where appropriate, species indigenous to the Randwick area.

The use of native/indigenous species is not just because of their appropriateness to the Randwick City area but also because it allows Council the opportunity to reinforce existing wildlife habitat corridors and buffer zones throughout the City – with particular emphasis on the sparsely planted exposed coastal strip.

Council is also committed to the removal and replacement of a variety of established street tree species that are either at the end of their Safe Useful Life Expectancy (S.U.L.E.) or which are manifestly inappropriate as street trees.

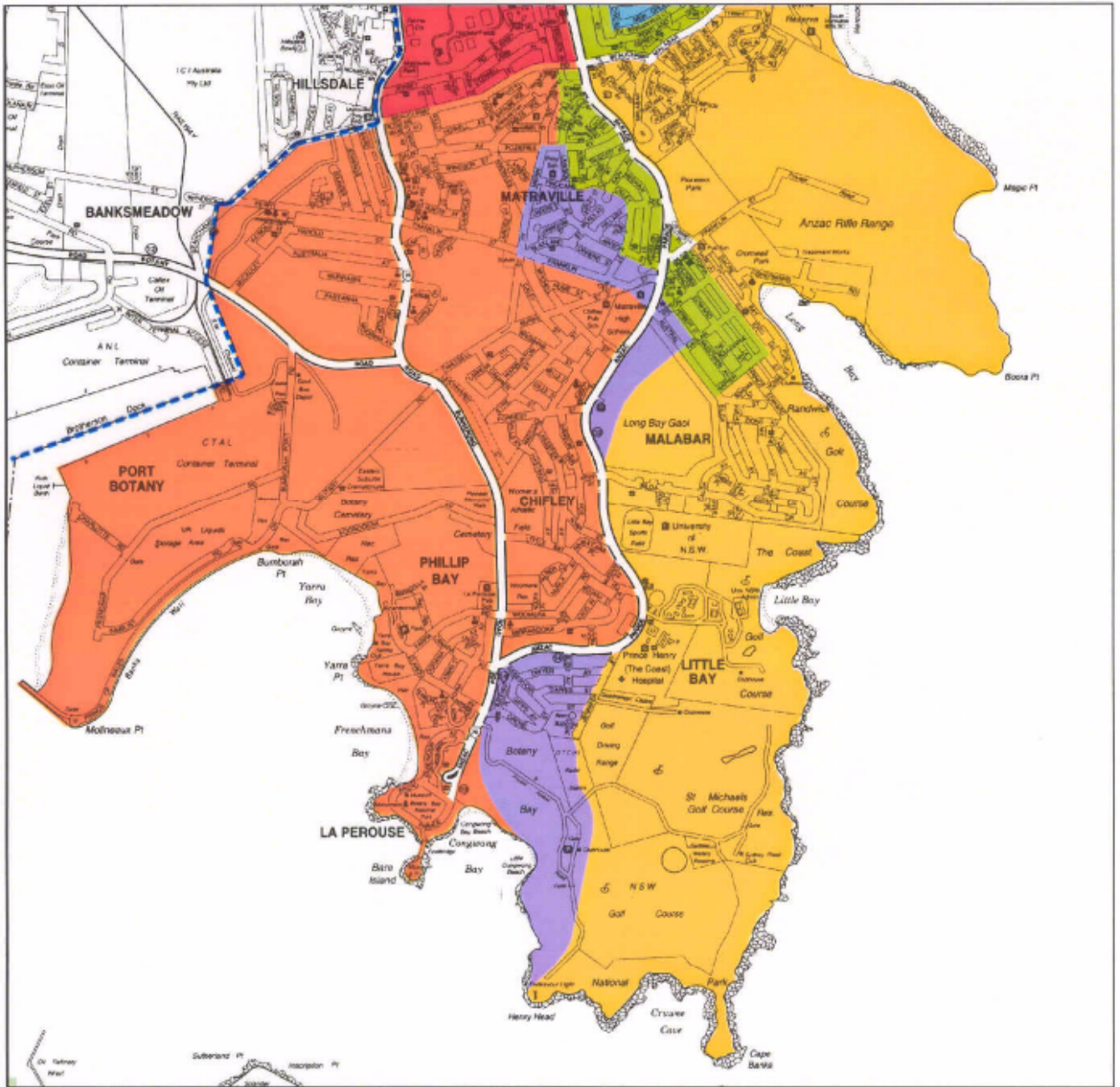
This removal/replacement strategy will allow Council to eventually achieve significant streetscapes of appropriate tree species that will cause minimal damage to private property and public infrastructure, while at the same time allowing Council the opportunity to create individual vegetative palettes quite distinctive to the Randwick City area.

Street Tree Masterplan Precincts



Remnant Dune Structures		Coogee Bay Coastal Slopes	
Northern Swamp Valley Floor		Maroubra Bay Coastal Slopes	
Central Swamp Valley Floor		Northern Leeward Slopes	
Southern Swamp Valley Floor		Central Leeward Slopes	
Coogee Bay Valley Floor		Southern Leeward Slopes	
Maroubra Bay Valley Floor		Coastal Strip	
Plateau		Council Boundary	

Street Tree Masterplan Precincts



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kilometres




Remnant Dune Structures		Coogee Bay Coastal Slopes	
Northern Swamp Valley Floor		Maroubra Bay Coastal Slopes	
Central Swamp Valley Floor		Northern Leeward Slopes	
Southern Swamp Valley Floor		Central Leeward Slopes	
Coogee Bay Valley Floor		Southern Leeward Slopes	
Maroubra Bay Valley Floor		Coastal Strip	
Plateau		Council Boundary	

Magnolia grandiflora

(Mag-nolia grand-i-flora)

Bull Bay Magnolia

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MAGNOLIACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Southern USA
	<u>Flowering</u>
	November to February
	<u>Size</u>
Up to 12 metres in height with a canopy spread of around 7-8 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Very large, broad-domed canopy with a single trunk	

<u>Description</u>	A majestic evergreen tree species that makes a superb feature specimen. Ideal for parks, large median strips, wide footpath areas. Not to be planted under wires
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<u>Nominated Precinct</u>	Swamp Valley Floor (north)
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<u>Fruit</u> Brownish-grey cone, up to 10cm long. Seeds scarlet with a long thread-like appendage	<u>Flowers</u> Very large, solitary white flower up to 20cm across. Highly perfumed
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<u>Leaves</u> Thick, leathery mid-green leaves. Furry, brown under	<u>Bark</u> Dark brown to grey, flaky
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Melaleuca armillaris

(Mela-leuca armil-laris)

Bracelet Honey Myrtle

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MYRTACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	NSW, Vic and Tas
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Spring to Summer
	<u>Size</u>
	Grows to 5-6 metres with a canopy spread of 4-5 metres
<u>Form</u>	
Broad-domed small native tree	

<u>Description</u>	An extremely useful tree for planting in harsh coastal environments. Fast growing and ideal for use as a street tree. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precincts</u>	Exposed Coastal Strip, Swamp Valley Floor (south)
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<u>Fruit</u>	Woody, grey capsules, borne on stem	<u>Flowers</u>	Creamy, bottlebrush-like spikes
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<u>Leaves</u>	Dark green, crowded, aromatic when crushed	<u>Bark</u>	Brown and stringy
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Melaleuca bracteata 'Revolution Gold'

Revolution Gold

(Mela-leuc-a brac-te-ata)

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MYRTACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Inland Australia
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Late Spring-Summer
	<u>Size</u>
Small tree growing to 5 metres with a canopy spread of 3 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Small erect tree with a conical crown	

<u>Description</u>	A small evergreen tree with gold foliage ideal for planting under powerlines. Very hardy once established. Ideal for planting under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precincts</u>	Plateau, Leeward Slopes (north), Swamp Valley Floor (south), Remnant Dunes (north/south)
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<u>Fruit</u> Grey-brown cup shaped capsules	<u>Flowers</u> Profuse white cylindrical spikes
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<u>Leaves</u> Narrow lanceolate, yellow-green	<u>Bark</u> Deeply furrowed grey-brown bark
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Melaleuca decora

(Mela-leuca de-cora)

White Cloud Tree

	Statistics
	Family
	MYRTACEAE
	Origin
	Native to NSW, NT and Tas
	Flowering
	Spring-Summer
	Size
8-10 metres tall with a spread of 4-6 metres	
Form	
Evergreen, upright with densely massed foliage	

Description

Attractive, densely flowering medium-sized tree ideal for planting in parks and wide nature strips. **Not to be planted under wires**

Nominated Precincts

Coogee Bay Coastal Slopes, Maroubra Bay Coastal Slopes

Fruit Grey, squat, 3-valved woody capsule



Flowers Whitish-cream cylindrical spike, loose, fluffy



Leaves Dark green, stiff, flat, linear




Bark Grey, papery and peeling



Melaleuca ericifolia

(Mela-leuca eric-i-fofia)

Swamp Paperbark

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MYRTACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	NSW, Qld, Vic and Tas
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Appearing in Summer
	<u>Size</u>
Generally 4-5 metres tall with a spread of 3-4 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Rounded small-medium tree with dense, twiggy crown	

<u>Description</u>	Good tree for planting in very confined spaces and under wires. Useful in sheltered coastal situations with abundant soil moisture. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precinct</u>	Swamp Valley Floor (south)
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<u>Fruit</u> Woody capsules, borne on stems	<u>Flowers</u> Creamy white to pink, dense ovoid spikes
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<u>Leaves</u> Greyish green, narrow, recurved, crowded	<u>Bark</u> Whitish, papery, corky with dark flakes
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Melaleuca hypericifolia

(Mela-leuca hy-peri-ci-fo-lia)

Red Flowering Paperbark

	Statistics
	Family
	MYRTACEAE
	Origin
	Native of NSW and Qld
	Flowering
	Appearing in Summer
	Size
Generally 2-3 metres tall and 2 metres across canopy	
Form	
Compact with a rounded crown	

Description	Small shrub with an open crown that is useful for planting in confined and difficult situations. Ideal for planting under powerlines
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Nominated Precinct	Exposed Coastal Strip
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Fruit Small, woody capsules	Flowers Orange-red spikes – quite large
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Leaves Bronze tipped when young – turning to green, broadly lanceolate	Bark Reddish-brown and stringy
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Melaleuca linariifolia

(Mela-leuca linarii-fofia)

Snow-in-Summer

	Statistics
	Family
	MYRTACEAE
	Origin
	Qld and NSW
	Flowering
	Summer
	Size
Generally 6-8 metres tall with a spread of 4-6 metres	
Form	
Upright medium-sized tree with slender open canopy	

Description	Useful bird attracting tree for planting in poor sandy soils – although it does prefer moisture. Not to be planted under wires
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Nominated Precinct	Coogee Valley Floor, Maroubra Valley Floor, Swamp Valley Floor (south)
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Fruit	Small woody capsules borne on stem
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Flowers	White, cylindrical spike. Masses of flowers - sweetly perfumed
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Leaves	Green and linear – soft to touch
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Bark	Creamy, papery and peeling in sheets
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Melaleuca styphelioides

(Mela-leuca styph-el-ioides)

Prickly Paperbark

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MYRTACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Native of NSW and Qld
	<u>Flowering</u>
	From Spring to Summer
	<u>Size</u>
Generally around 5-6 metres tall with a canopy spread of 4-5 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Erect, upright tree with a broad medium-domed canopy	

<u>Description</u>	Very hardy once established. Good for planting in harsh environments – particularly along the coast. Prickly leaves. Good street tree. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precinct</u>	Maroubra Bay Coastal Slopes, Swamp Valley Floor (south)
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<u>Fruit</u> Small, sessile woody capsules	<u>Flowers</u> Cream, cylindrical spikes. Dense and profuse
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<u>Leaves</u> Dark green, ovate to lanceolate with a twisted base. Prickly	<u>Bark</u> Grey, thick, papery and mottled
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Metrosideros 'Thomasii'

(Metro-sid-eros Thomas-ii)

New Zealand Xmas Tree

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MYRTACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	New Zealand
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Appear in Summer
	<u>Size</u>
Generally 5-7 metres tall with a spread of 3-4 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Upright habit with a dense crown	

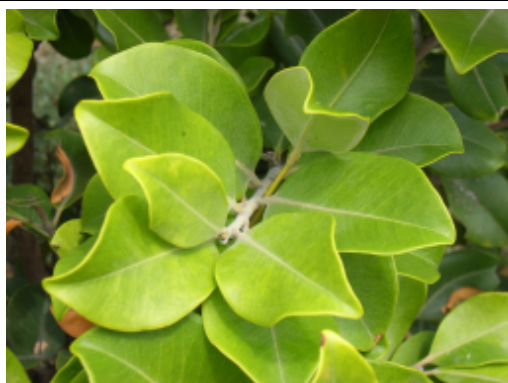
<u>Description</u>	Medium-sized cultivar that makes an ideal street tree in harsh coastal environments. Very good bird attracter. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precinct</u>	Exposed Coastal Strip
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<u>Fruit</u> Leather-skinned capsules borne in clusters	<u>Flowers</u> Reddish-orange and bottlebrush-like
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<u>Leaves</u> Light green at first turning to dark green; whitish undersurface. Ovate and recurved	<u>Bark</u> Dark grey-brown and flaky, fibrous
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Michelia champaca

(Mich-el-ia cham-paca)

Golden Champa

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	MAGNOLIACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Southern Asia
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Summer to mid-Autumn
	<u>Size</u>
Up to 8 metres in height and 4-5 metres across canopy	
<u>Form</u>	
Erect, upright tree with conical shaped canopy	

<u>Description</u>	Evergreen, upright tree with attractive foliage and highly perfumed flowers. Ideal specimen tree in sheltered/gully situations with good soil moisture. Not to be planted under wires
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<u>Nominated Precinct/s</u>	Coogee Bay Coastal Slopes, Coogee Valley Floor, Leeward Slopes (north)
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<u>Fruit</u>	Ovoid, pale green and spotted, becoming dark brown	<u>Flowers</u>	Conical, linear stamens, deep yellow/orange, highly perfumed
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<u>Leaves</u>	Simple, elliptical, bright green and shiny above, duller beneath. Undulated margin	<u>Bark</u>	Grey-brown and relatively smooth – uniformly mottled
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Myoporum acuminatum

(Myo-porum a-cumin-atum)

Western Boobialla

	Statistics
	Family
	MYRTACEAE
	Origin
	Native to NSW
	Flowering
	Late Spring to Summer
	Size
Generally 3-4 metres with a spread of 3 metres	
Form	
Erect, with spreading branches and rounded crown	

Description	Medium-sized hardy shrub ideal for coastal planting in confined spaces. Will withstand extreme coastal exposure and is drought tolerant. Ideal for planting under powerlines
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Nominated Precinct	Leeward Slopes (central)
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Fruit Small green fleshy berries, turning to blue	Flowers White, star-shaped and in clusters
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Leaves Light green and lanceolate	Bark Reddish-brown and fissured
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Nyssa sylvatica

(Nys-sa syl-vatica)

Tupelo

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	NYSSACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Eastern North America
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Late November
<u>Size</u>	
Generally 6-8 metres in height with a canopy spread of 4-5 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Erect trunk with horizontal laterals	

<u>Description</u>	Beautiful deciduous specimen tree that does best in a sheltered position with good soil moisture. Much smaller than normal in coastal situations. Not to be planted under wires
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<u>Nominated Precincts</u>	Plateau, Swamp Valley Floor (north)
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<u>Fruit</u> Small, fleshy green drupes, turning to dark blue-black. Inconspicuous	<u>Flowers</u> Greenish-white in small clusters
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<u>Leaves</u> Dark green, glabrous, shiny. Elliptical-oblongate	<u>Bark</u> Grey, smooth - becoming flaky
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Olea europa var. communis

(Ol-ea eur-opa)

European Olive

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	OLEACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Asia Minor and Syria
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Spring to Summer
	<u>Size</u>
Generally to 5-6 metres tall with a spread of 3-4 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Medium upright tree with dense canopy	

<u>Description</u>	Very hardy tree quite useful as a street tree. Planted in areas where there is a strong Mediterranean association. Ideal for planting under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precinct</u>	Swamp Valley Floor (north)
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<u>Fruit</u> Dark purple/green oblong/oval fleshy drupe. Edible and highly prized	<u>Flowers</u> Creamy white, axillary panicles. Small and fragrant
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<u>Leaves</u> Dark green above, silvery below. Oblong to lanceolate	<u>Bark</u> Pale grey and smooth
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Pistacia chinensis

(Pis-tacia chin-en-sis)

Chinese Pistachio

	Statistics
	<u>Family</u>
	ANARCARDIACEAE
	<u>Origin</u>
	Native of China
	<u>Flowering</u>
	Spring to Summer
<u>Size</u>	
Average 5-6 metres tall with spread of 3-4 metres	
<u>Form</u>	
Upright main trunk with broad-domed crown	

<u>Description</u>	Beautiful small deciduous tree ideally suited to park and/or street planting. Prefers moist soil and sheltered position. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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<u>Nominated Precincts</u>	Plateau, Leeward Slopes (north), Swamp Valley Floor (north)
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<u>Fruit</u> Small cluster of red berries, turning to blue	<u>Flowers</u> Reddish in clusters - inconspicuous
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INCONSPICUOUS


<u>Leaves</u> Green, compound – turning scarlet/crimson in Autumn	<u>Bark</u> Grey-brown, slightly furrowed
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Pittosporum rhombifolium

(Pittosporum rhombifolium)

Qld Pittosporum

	Statistics
	Family
	PITTOSPORACEAE
	Origin
	Native to NSW and Qld
	Flowering
	Appear in Summer
	Size
Average 7-8 metres with a spread of 3-4 metres	
Form	
Erect trunk and ascending branches, medium-domed canopy	

Description	Very good street tree for use in sheltered situations where there is good soil moisture. Can be spindly in exposed coastal situations. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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Nominated Precinct	Swamp Valley Floor (south)
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Fruit Bright orange, 2-celled globular capsule	Flowers Creamy white, bell-shaped, dense terminal clusters
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Leaves Glossy green, rhomboidal, leathery, serrated margin	Bark Grey-green, smooth, slight furrows
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Platanus x hybrida

(Plat-anus x hy-brid)

London Plane

	Statistics
	Family
	PLATANACEAE
	Origin
	Reputedly London – hybrid species
	Flowering
	Spring – of little decorative value
	Size
Generally up to 20-25 metres in height with a similar canopy spread	
Form	
Erect habit with a very broad, dense canopy	

Description	Very large deciduous tree suited only to park and main road planting. Hardy species amenable to severe branch and root pruning. Amenable to pruning around powerlines
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Nominated Precincts	Plateau, Leeward Slopes (north), Swamp Valley Floor (north) – Main Roads and Open Spaces only
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Fruit Pendulous, globose aggregate. Green at first but turning brown	Flowers Pale green pendulous cluster – of little decorative value
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Leaves Green – turning to dull yellow in Autumn. Palmately lobed, broadly ovate	Bark Pale green when young, then changing to olive green/grey/tan, patchy
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Polyscias elegans

(Poly-scias ele-gans)

Silver Basswood

	Statistics
	Family
	ARALIACEAE
	Origin
	North-east Qld to south-east NSW
	Flowering
	March-June
Size	
Bushy evergreen tree to 10-12 metres in height	
Form	
Usually single trunked. Broad domed, relatively dense crown	

Description	Fast growing, evergreen rainforest tree with long pinnate leaves. Commonly seen with a single straight trunk and dense, medium domed canopy. Prefers deep, friable, well drained soil. Useful where fast-growing species required. Not to be planted under wires
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Nominated Precincts	Coogee Valley Floor, Maroubra Valley Floor, Leeward Slopes (central)
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Fruit	Small, globular, fleshy, black fruit
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Flowers	Large, multi-branched panicles, purple in colour
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Leaves	Long, bipinnate, ovate-elliptical, dark green
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Bark	Grey-brown, with narrow, flaky fissures
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Pyrus calleryana

(Py-rus cal-leri-ana)

Callery Pear

	Statistics
	Family
	ROSACEAE
	Origin
	Eastern Asia
	Flowering
	Early Spring
	Size
Generally 6-7 metres tall and 4-5 metres in width	
Form	
Single trunked, upright with a conical canopy	

Description	Upright semi-deciduous tree with a relatively dense canopy. Can be planted under wires where they are 5-6 metres above ground. Leaves turning to crimson/ruby in Autumn. Amenable to pruning under powerlines
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Nominated Precinct/s	Plateau, Leeward Slopes (north)
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Fruit Small globular pome, dark brown-green with spots	Flowers Umbellate cluster of white petalled flowers
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Leaves Simple, ovate, bright green at first ripening to dark green	Bark Reddish-brown and fissured all over at maturity
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STREET TREE SPECIES - CHARACTERISTICS SUMMARY

Species	Dimensions (metres)	Native/ Exotic	Evergreen/ Deciduous	Root Problems	Under wires	Fruit/Leaf Drop Severity	Lifespan (years)
Magnolia grandiflora (Bull Bay Magnolia)	10m x 7m	Exotic	Evergreen	Moderate	No	Moderate	70+
Melaleuca armillaris (Bracelet Honey Myrtle)	5m x 4m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Pruning	Minor	<40
Melaleuca bracteata 'Revolution Gold'	5m x 3m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Yes	Minor	<40
Melaleuca decora (White Cloud Tree)	8m x 4m	Native	Evergreen	Moderate	No	Minor	40-70
Melaleuca ericifolia (Swamp Paperbark)	5m x 3m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Pruning	Minor	<40
Melaleuca hypericifolia (Red Flowering Paperbark)	2m x 2m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Yes	Minor	<40
Melaleuca linariifolia (Snow-in-Summer)	6m x 4m	Native	Evergreen	Moderate	No	Minor	40-70
Melaleuca styphelioides (Prickly Paperbark)	6m x 4m	Native	Evergreen	Moderate	Pruning	Minor	40-70
Metrosideros 'Thomasii' (New Zealand Xmas Tree)	7m x 4m	Native	Evergreen	Moderate	Pruning	Moderate	40-70
Michelia champaca (Golden Champa)	8m x 4m	Exotic	Evergreen	Moderate	No	Moderate	70+
Myoporum acuminatum (Western Boobialla)	4m x 3m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Yes	Minor	<40
Nyssa sylvatica (Tupelo)	8m x 5m	Exotic	Deciduous	Moderate	No	Moderate	40-70
Olea europa var. communis (European Olive)	5m x 3m	Exotic	Evergreen	Moderate	Yes	Moderate	70+
Pistacia chinensis (Chinese Pistachio)	6m x 3m	Exotic	Deciduous	Minor	Pruning	Minor	40-70
Pittosporum rhombifolium (Qld Pittosporum)	8m x 3m	Native	Evergreen	Minor	Pruning	Minor	40-70
Platanus x hybrida (London Plane)	20m x 15m	Exotic	Deciduous	Severe	Pruning	Severe	70+
Polyscias elegans (Silver Basswood)	10m x 5m	Native	Evergreen	Moderate	No	Moderate	70+
Pyrus calleryana (Callery Pear)	6m x 4m	Exotic	Deciduous	Moderate	Pruning	Moderate	40-70

