Plants of Columboola

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About Columboola

Columboola is a locality immediately north-east of Miles within the Murray-Darling Basin. The Barunggam people, part of the western arm of the Wakka Wakka nation, are the traditional custodians of this area.

In spite of much Indigenous resistance, Europeans settled in the district from the mid 1800s in the wake of exploration by Ludwig Leichhardt. Frontier conflict and disease led to the number of Barunggam people in the area declining dramatically over about 50 years.

European activities included felling timber for bridges and railway sleepers, grazing sheep and cattle, dairying and some limited cropping.

Nowadays gas and coal extraction, and more recently solar farms, are major economic and landscape features of the Columboola district.
Contents

TREES

BELAH (Casuarina cristata) .................................................................................................................. 7
BIMBLE BOX (Eucalyptus populnea) ..................................................................................................... 8
BLACK CYPRESS (Callitris endlicheri) ................................................................................................. 9
BLAKE’S WATTLE (Acacia blakel) ........................................................................................................ 10
BOOTLACE OAK (Hakea lorea) ............................................................................................................. 11
BOTTLE TREE (Brachychiton rupestris) ............................................................................................ 12
BRIGALOW (Acacia harpophylla) ........................................................................................................ 13
BUDGEROO (Lysicarpus angustifolius) ................................................................................................ 14
BULL OAK (Allocasuarina luehmannii) ............................................................................................... 15
CROW’S APPLE (Owenia venosa) ........................................................................................................ 16
EARLY-FLOWERING BLACK WATTLE (Acacia leioalyx) .................................................................... 17
EMU APPLE (Owenia acidula) ............................................................................................................ 18
FALSE SANDALWOOD (Eremophila mitchellii) ...................................................................................... 19
FOREST RED GUM (Eucalyptus teretecornis) .................................................................................. 20
GUMBI GUMBI (Pittosporum angustifolium) ....................................................................................... 21
Hairy OAK (Allocasuarina inophloia) .................................................................................................. 22
KURRAJONG (Brachychiton populneus) .............................................................................................. 23
LANEWOOD (Acacia shirleyi) .............................................................................................................. 24
LATE-FLOWERING BLACK WATTLE (Acacia crassa subsp. crassa) .................................................... 25
LIGHTWOOD (Acacia inplexa) ............................................................................................................ 26
LIMEBUSH (Citrus glauca) .................................................................................................................... 27
MELALEUCA SQUAMOPHLOIA ......................................................................................................... 28
MORETON BAY ASH (Corymbia tessellaris) ...................................................................................... 29
MYRTLE TREE (Psdrax oleifolica) ....................................................................................................... 30
NARROW-LEAF IRONBARK (Eucalyptus crebra) ............................................................................... 31
NARROW-LEAVED PAPERBARK (Melaleuca linearifolia) ................................................................. 32
PEPPER TREE (Schinus molle)* ......................................................................................................... 33
QUININE BERRY TREE (Petalostigma pubescens) ............................................................................ 34
RED ASH (Alphitonia excelsa) ............................................................................................................ 35
QUEENSLAND EBONY (Diospyros humilis) ....................................................................................... 36
RED-FRUITED OLIVE PLUM (Elaoedendron austrole) ........................................................................ 37
ROUGH-BARKED APPLE (Angophora floribunda) ............................................................................. 38
RUSTY GUM (Angophora costata) ..................................................................................................... 39
SWEET SUSIE (Psdrax odorata) ......................................................................................................... 40
SANDALWOOD (Santalum lanceolatum) ............................................................................................. 41
WESTERN TEA-TREE (Melaleuca lanceolata) .................................................................................... 42
WHITE CYPRESS (Callitris glaucophylla) .......................................................................................... 43
WHITEWOOD (Atalaya hemiglaucu) ................................................................................................... 44
WILGA (Geijera parviflora) .................................................................................................................. 45

SHRUBS

BENT-LEAF WATTLE (Acacia flexifolia) ......................................................................................... 46
BITTER BARK (Alstonia constricta) .................................................................................................. 47
BROOM BUSH (Apophyllum anomalum) ............................................................................................ 48
BUTTERFLY BUSH (Petalostylis labicheoides) .................................................................................. 49
COFFEE BUSH (Breynia oblongifolia) ............................................................................................... 50
COUGH BUSH (Cassinia laevis) ........................................................................................................ 51
CROWDED-LEAF WATTLE (Acacia conferta) .................................................................................... 52
CURRANT BUSH (Carissa spinarum) ................................................................................................ 53
DODONAEA BILOBA (Dodonaea biloba) ............................................................................................ 54
ELLANGOWAN POISON BUSH (Eremophila deserti) ....................................................................... 55
FERN-LEAF HOP BUSH (Dodonaea boronifolia) ............................................................................... 56
GLORY WATTLE (Acacia spectabilis) ............................................................................................... 57
GREEN WATTLE (Acacia deanei) ...................................................................................................... 58
HILL HIBISCUS (Hibiscus sturtii) ................................................................................................... 59
HOOKSWOOD (Acacia triptera) ......................................................................................................... 60
HOVEA (Hovea longipes) .................................................................................................................. 61
MOON WATTLE (Acacia semilunata) ................................................................................................. 62
MULLER’S WATTLE (Acacia muelleriana) .......................................................................................... 63
PEACH BUSH (Ehretia membranifolia) .............................................................................................. 64
PRETTY WATTLE (Acacia decora) ..................................................................................................... 65
SAGO FLOWER (Ozothamnus diosmifolius) ...................................................................................... 66
SCRUB BOONAREE (Alectryon diversifolius) .................................................................................... 67
SILVER SENNA (Senna artemisioides subsp. zygophylla) ................................................................. 68
SMALL-LEAVED CANTHIUM (Everistia vacciniifolia) ................................................................. 69
STICKY HOP BUSH (Dodonaea viscosa) ........................................................................................... 70
SWEET BURSARIA (Bursaria spinosa) ............................................................................................. 71
TRIANGLE LEAF HOP BUSH (Dodonaea triangularis) ..................................................................... 72
TWIN-FLOWERED BEARD HEATH (Leucopogon biflorus) ............................................................ 73
WATER BUSH (Myoporum acuminatum) ......................................................................................... 74
WILD ORANGE (Capparis mitchellii) .............................................................................................. 75
WILD MAY (Leptospermum polygalifolium) .................................................................................... 76

OTHER

ANNUAL SALTBUSH (Atriplex muelleri) .......................................................................................... 77
BLACK COTTON BUSH (Maireana decalvans) .................................................................................. 78
BLACK ORCHID (Cymbidium canaliculatum) .................................................................................. 79
BLUE FLAX LILY (Dianella brevipedunculata) ............................................................................... 80
BRIGALOW BURR (Sclerolaena tetracuspis) ..................................................................................... 81
BULL OAK MISTLETOE (Amyema linophylla subsp. orientalis) ......................................................... 82

5
DESERT JASMINE (Jasminum lineare) ............................................................... 83
GALVANISED BURR (Sclerolaena birchii) ......................................................... 84
GARGALOO (Parsonsia eucalyptophylla) ................................................................. 85
HEATH EVERLASTING (Ozothamnus diotophyllus) ............................................ 86
MAT RUSH (Lomandra spp.) ............................................................................. 87
MOTHER OF MILLIONS (Bryophyllum delagoense)* ......................................... 88
MULGA FERN (Cheilanthes sieberi) .................................................................. 89
PURPLE BURR-DAISY (Calotis cuneifolia) .......................................................... 90
SMOOTH FLAX LILY (Dianella longifolia) ............................................................ 91
SPLIT JACK (Capparis lasiantha) ......................................................................... 92
VELVET TREE PEAR (Opuntia tomentosa)* ......................................................... 93
BOX MISTLETOE (Ameyema miquelii) ................................................................. 94
GREY MISTLETOE (Ameyema quandang var. bancroftii) ...................................... 95
NEEDLE-LEAF MISTLETOE (Amyema cambagei) ............................................... 96
SQUARE-STEMMED MISTLETOE (Viscum articulatum) ...................................... 97
WONGA VINE (Pandorea pandorana) ................................................................. 98
VARIABLE MISTLETOE (Amyema congener) ...................................................... 99

Glossary ............................................................................................................. 100

Index of scientific names ................................................................................. 101

Note: * indicates an introduced (non-native) species
BELAH
(Casuarina cristata)

Distinguishing features

- Segmented needle-like foliage
- Leaf segments (‘articles’) 8-17mm long
- 8-12 leaf-teeth

Like all Casuarinas and Allocasuarinas, the Belah’s foliage consists of segmented branchlets. Each segment is called an ‘article’; the leaves are actually the tiny scales or ‘leaf-teeth’ between articles.
BIMBLE BOX
(Eucalyptus populnea)

Distinguishing features
• Adult leaves broad, sometimes almost circular, to 11cm x 7cm and more or less alternate
• Adult leaves glossy green on reddish branchlets
• Juvenile leaves dull grey-green
• Bark rough, fibrous

A beautiful tall tree of grassy woodlands in western areas of NSW and Qld. Food tree for koalas.
BLACK CYPRESS
CALLITRIS ENDLICHERI

Distinguishing features
• Foliage usually green rather than grey-green
• Scale-like leaves; leaf segments to 4mm long
• Cones split to the base in 6 sections: 3 wide, 3 narrow

Black Cypress is a conifer which grows to 15m tall and is a valuable food source for cockatoos. Its timber is not as termite-resistant and durable as that of White Cypress.

*Black Cypress is similar to White Cypress, but tends to have greener and coarser foliage. For other distinguishing features see White Cypress.*
BLAKE’S WATTLE
(Acacia blakei)

**Distinguishing features**

- Phyllodes variable (can be curved or straight)
- Phyllodes have many parallel (non-anastomosing) veins with three veins slightly more prominent
- Branchlets are mostly terete (circular in cross-section) but become angular towards tips

Shrub or small tree to 15m tall. Like many acacias, the mature leaves are actually flattened stems called phyllodes.

Veins which are strictly parallel and do not cross over are called ‘non-anastomosing’.
BOOTLACE OAK
(Hakea lorea)

**Distinguishing features**
- Drooping foliage with alternate leaves to 68cm long
- Leaves terete (circular in cross-section), tough and string-like
- Furrowed, grey/brown corky bark

Shrub or small tree to 10m tall.
The Bottle Tree is endemic to Queensland. Indigenous people made use of many parts of this tree for food, water and fibre.

**Distinguishing features**
- Distinctive swollen trunk on mature specimens
- Leaves alternate and shiny green
- Leaves variable in shape but mostly elongated
BRIGALOW
(Acacia harpophylla)

Distinguishing features

- Silvery-grey phyllodes to 20cm x 20mm
- Phyllodes falcate (curved) and tapering at both ends
- Bark fibrous, furrowed and brown/grey

A large tree to 25m tall. Its suckering habit and tendency to form dense thickets has seen it cleared from much pastoral land in Queensland.
BUDGEROO
*(Lysicarpus angustifolius)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Loose, soft, fibrous bark (similar to Hairy Oak)
- Leaves stiff and narrow, to 9cm long
- Leaves opposite or in whorls of 3

Tree to 10m tall. The timber is hard, heavy and termite-resistant.
BULL OAK
(*Allocasuarina luehmannii*)

- Rough corky bark
- Segmented needle-like foliage
- Leaf segments (‘articles’) 8-22mm long
- 9-12 leaf-teeth (between articles)

Small native tree with needle-like foliage and rough corky bark. Widespread along Australia’s east coast. Can improve fertility of soils by fixing nitrogen. An important food tree for the threatened Glossy Black Cockatoo.
CROW’S APPLE
(Owenia venosa)

Distinguishing features
- Bark scaly, grey
- Leaves have up to 7 pairs of leathery leaflets
- Leaflets to 8cm x 3cm, prominently veined below

Small to medium-sized tree with a dense, dark green crown and pinkish-red plum-like fruit.
EARLY-FLOWERING BLACK WATTLE
(Acacia leiocalyx)

Distinguishing features

- Phyllodes to 18cm x 35mm
- Phyllodes curved on the top edge, flatter on bottom
- Branchlets reddish and angular in cross-section
**EMU APPLE**

*(Owenia acidula)*

**Distinguishing features**

- Foliage bright green; weeping habit
- Up to 25 leaflets on each compound leaf
- Leaves stiff; leaflets to 4cm x 8mm

Tree to 10m tall with greenish flowers and red plum-like fruit.
FALSE SANDALWOOD
(Eremophila mitchellii)

Distinguishing features
- Rough grey bark which may flake into small pieces
- Crowd, narrow leaves to 5cm long
- Leaves alternate; aromatic when crushed

Shrub or small tree to 10m tall with sweetly scented white flowers, usually after rain.
FOREST RED GUM
*(Eucalyptus teretecornis)*

*Distinguishing features*
- Bark rough at the base shedding in strips or plates and smooth grey/white above
- Leaves to 20cm x 3cm, straight or falcate (curved)
- Flower buds have a cap longer than the base
- Seed capsule has valves protruding beyond the rim

Tall tree to 50m. Food tree for koalas.
A small native tree that is long-lived and widespread across Australia. It was used in traditional Indigenous medicine.

**Distinguishing features**
- Weeping habit; more upright & less dense than Wilga
- Leaves narrow, pendulous, to 10cm x 10mm
- Leaves alternate
HAIRY OAK
(Allocasuarina inophloia)

Distinguishing features
• Distinctive thread-like fibrous bark
• Segmented needle-like foliage
• Leaf segments (‘articles’) 4-7mm long
• 7-9 leaf-teeth

Tree to 10m. It is dioecious (male and female plants are separate); female flowers appear bright red in winter.
KURRAJONG
(\textit{Brachychiton populneus})

\textbf{Distinguishing features}
\begin{itemize}
  \item Distinctive shiny green leaf, often with 3-5 pointed lobes (lobes much reduced or absent in mature trees)
  \item Leaves alternate, on long petioles (stems) up to 10\text{cm}
  \item Mature specimens tend to have a dense crown
\end{itemize}
Distinguishing features

- Leathery phyllodes to 19cm x 11mm
- Phyllodes straight or with a slight curve
- Mid-vein visible, other veins obscure but parallel
- Branchlets yellow-brown and angular in cross-section

Tree to 15m tall with yellow flower spikes May-June.
LATE-FLOWERING BLACK WATTLE
(*Acacia crassa subsp. crassa*)

Distinguishing features

- Phyllodes curved, tapering, to 25cm x 25mm
- Three main veins, with minor veins crossing over
- Branchlets angular in cross-section
- Bark fissured and grey

Single-stemmed shrub or small tree to 12m tall. Yellow flower spikes Aug-Sept.
LIGHTWOOD
(Acacia implexa)

Distinguishing features
- Phyllodes green and curved, to 18cm x 25mm
- Branchlets mostly terete (circular in cross-section)
- Branchlets a light green/brown colour

Small tree to 12m with perfumed pale yellow ball flowers in summer.
Rigid, thorny shrub or small tree. Scented white flowers in spring are followed by yellowish-green fruit to 20mm in diameter which has a strong lime-like flavour and is a popular bush food.

**Distinguishing features**
- Thorns plentiful; can grow to 40mm long
- Oil dots visible on leaves, veins obscure
- Leaves thick; to 5.5cm x 12mm; widest towards tip
**MELALEUCA SQUAMOPHLOIA**

**Shrub or small tree to 7m tall.**

**Distinguishing features**

- Bark hard and scaly or fibrous
- Leaves bright green with a prickly tip
- Leaves alternate, to 12mm x 3.5mm
- Leaves have 3 – 15 (somewhat obscure) veins
MORETON BAY ASH
(Corymbia tessellaris)

A graceful tree to 30m tall.

**Distinguishing features**
- Tessellated bark on lower trunk
- Upper trunk and branches pale and smooth
- Leaves to 18cm x 15mm
- Caps on flower buds short, rounded
MYRTLE TREE
(Psydrax oleifolia)

Distinguishing features
- Branches stiff; many are more or less horizontal
- Leaves pale or yellowish-green, to 70mm x 25mm
- Leaves thick, leathery, opposite and often wavy

Drupe (berry) turns black when ripe.

Shrub or small tree to 7m tall. Juvenile plants may have spines.
NARROW-LEAF IRONBARK
*(Eucalyptus crebra)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Tough, grey/black bark covers trunk to branches
- Long trunk with crown of dull grey-green leaves
- Seed capsule has valves below the rim
- Leaves grey-green, to 14cm x 15mm

Tall tree to 35m. It is important in honey production and has durable timber, notably used for railway sleepers and fence posts. Food tree for koalas.
NARROW-LEAVED PAPERBARK
(*Melaleuca linearifolia*)

**Distinguishing features**
- Distinctive papery bark
- Leaves opposite
- Leaves to 45mm x 3.5mm

Shrub or small tree to 10m. Recorded in the Barakula district.
PEPPER TREE
(\textit{Schinus molle})\textsuperscript{*}

An upright tree to 10m tall with white flowers followed by red berries. Favoured by early Europeans settlers as a shade tree.

\textbf{Distinguishing features}
- Weeping habit
- Compound leaves; leaflets to 50mm x 10mm
- Leaflets lance-shaped and mostly alternate
QUININE BERRY TREE  
(*Petalostigma pubescens*)

A spreading small tree to 6m tall.

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves shiny green, to 5cm long
- Leaves ovate (widest towards the base)
- Leaves paler and densely hairy underneath
RED ASH  
*(Alphitonia excelsa)*

Distinguishing features

- Leaves alternate, to 14cm x 5cm
- Trunk pale grey and often blotchy
- Leaves discolourous (green above, whitish below)

Medium-sized tree of northern and eastern Australia. The crushed leaves can reportedly be used to produce a soap-like lather and to stun fish.
QUEENSLAND EBONY

(Diospyros humilis)

A small tree from the northern half of Australia. Host plant for various ant-butterfly species.

Distinguishing features

• Leaves small (to 4cm long) and stiff with a blunt tip
• Leaves alternate and elliptical (widest in the middle) to obovate (widest towards the tip)
• Leaves discolourous (paler below)
RED-FRUITED OLIVE PLUM
(Elaeodendron australe)

Distinguishing features
• Dark green leaves (paler below) to 7cm x 1cm
• Leaves opposite and sometimes bluntly toothed
• Leaves broadest towards tip, tapering to base

Small bushy tree or shrub. 4-petalled green flowers in spring are followed by orange-red fruit in autumn.
ROUGH-BARKED APPLE
*(Angophora floribunda)*

Distinguishing features
- Bark rough, grey/brown, persistent to small branches
- Leaves opposite and mostly lance-shaped
- Mature leaves to 15cm x 5cm

Large, spreading tree to 30m tall; white flowers in summer.
Distinguishing features

- Bark smooth and pink, rusty-coloured or grey
- Leaves opposite and mostly lance-shaped
- Mature leaves to 17cm x 3.5cm

Large tree to 30m tall; white flowers in summer. Also known as Smooth-barked Apple.
SWEET SUSIE
*(Psydrax odorata)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves broad, shiny green (paler below)
- Leaves opposite, to 6cm x 25mm
- Leaf veins visible above, obscure below
- Branches and branchlets stiff, twiggy

Shrub or small tree to 8m with tiny white fragrant flowers in summer.
SANDALWOOD
(Santalum lanceolatum)

Distinguishing features
• Leaves grey-green or mid-green
• Leaves opposite, to 9cm x 25mm
• Weeping habit

Small tree with drooping branches, grey-green leaves and white star-shaped flowers. A root parasite: roots attach to other plants (not harming their host). Indigenous Australians are known to have burnt the leaves and branches as an insect repellent.
WESTERN TEA-TREE
(Melaleuca lanceolata)

Distinguishing features
• Bark dark and hard
• Leaves alternate, narrow, to 12mm x 1mm
• Leaves aromatic when crushed

Tree to 7m tall with dense spikes of white flowers in summer.
WHITE CYPRESS
(Callitris glaucophylla)

A member of the conifer family, White Cypress grows to 20m tall and is a valuable food source for cockatoos.

The single column-like structure at the base of open cones distinguishes this species from Black Cypress, which has a variable structure with 3 or 4 lobes or parts. Black cypress also generally has greener and slightly coarser foliage.

Distinguishing features
- Foliage often bluish-grey, many-branched
- Scale-like leaves; leaf segments to 3mm long
- Cones split to the base in 6 sections: 3 wide, 3 narrow
WHITEWOOD
*(Atalaya hemiglauc*a)

*Distinguishing features*

- Leaves consist of 1 – 3 pairs of narrow leaflets
- Leaflets blue-grey, narrow, to 11cm x 15mm
- Juvenile leaflets to 20cm long; may have lobes

Tree to 6m tall with cream flowers in winter/spring.

*Photo: Mark Marathon (Creative Commons)*
WILGA
*(Geijera parviflora)*

**Native shrub or small tree to 10m.**

**Distinguishing features**
- Drooping foliage often reaching the ground
- Leaves long and narrow, to 18cm x 7mm
- Leaves green, alternate; berries have one black seed
BENT-LEAF WATTLE

(*Acacia flexifolia*)

**Distinguishing features**

- Phyllodes narrow, linear and often slightly curved; to 2cm x 2mm
- The main vein is off-centre (nearer to one edge)
- Phyllodes have a small mucro (stiff pointy tip)

A spreading shrub to 1.5m tall.
BITTER BARK  
(*Alstonia constricta*)

Distinguishing features

- Leaves opposite, to 13cm x 2.5cm
- Juvenile leaves have a soft texture
- Milky sap when leaves are pulled off stem
A mostly leafless shrub to 6m tall. Fruits turn black when ripe. Host plant for the Caper White Butterfly.

**Distinguishing features**
- Upright habit
- Mature branches leafless; occasional thorns in pairs
- Branches smooth, green and circular in cross-section
BUTTERFLY BUSH
(Petalostylis labicheoides)

Distinguishing features
• Up to 15 leaflets per leaf, each up to 20mm long
• Leaflets mostly arranged alternately
• Branchlets yellow-green with a waxy surface

Open shrub to 2m tall with showy golden flowers in spring and summer.
COFFEE BUSH
(Breynia oblongifolia)

Distinguishing features
• Leaves mid- to dark green; to 4cm x 2cm
• Leaf apex rounded
• Leaves alternate and oval in shape

Erect open bush to 3m tall.
COUGH BUSH
(*Cassinia laevis*)

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves alternate; stems whitish
- Leaves crowded, linear, less than 2mm wide
- Leaves have curry-like/unpleasant odour

Upright native shrub to 2.5m tall.
CROWDED-LEAF WATTLE
(\textit{Acacia conferta})

\textbf{Distinguishing features}
- Small phyllodes crowded on thin branchlets
- Phyllodes to 12mm x 1.5mm; green with a sharp tip
- Phylloide stem less than 1mm long

Shrub to 3m tall with fluffy yellow flower balls.
CURRANT BUSH
(\textit{Carissa spinarum})

A low-growing, prickly and often dense native shrub offering good shelter for wildlife.

\textit{Distinguishing features}

- Leaves ovate (widest less than half way from base) or broadly elliptic (widest in middle)
- Leaves glossy, tough and mostly opposite
- Spines up to 25mm long on twigs
DODONAEA BILOBA
(Dodonaea biloba)

Distinguishing features
- Bright green foliage; leaves to 1cm long
- Leaves broadly triangular and mostly 2-lobed
- Leaves crowded on stems

Spreading, rigid ground-covering shrub to 70cm tall.
ELLANGOWAN POISON BUSH  
(*Eremophila deserti*)

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves alternate, narrow, elongated to 50mm x 4mm
- Petiole (leaf stem) very short or absent
- The thin branches may feature small warty lumps

A native shrub to 3m tall. The small yellow fruits are eaten by emus and bustards.
FERN-LEAF HOP BUSH  
(_Dodonaea boroniifolia_)  

**Distinguishing features**

- Fern-like leaves consisting of 3-6 pairs of leaflets
- Leaflets up to 7mm long with toothed apex
- Leaflets obovate (widest towards the tip)

Shrub to 2m tall with bright green foliage and colourful red seed capsules.
GLORY WATTLE
*(Acacia spectabilis)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves fern-like, opposite, to 10mm x 3mm
- Leaves oblong to oblanceolate (widest towards tip)
- Leaves have a broadly rounded tip
- White, powdery stems

Shrub to 4m tall with showy yellow flower balls Aug-Sept.
GREEN WATTLE
(Acacia deanei)

Distinguishing features
• Bright green foliage with ferny appearance
• Fine, crowded leaflets to 4mm long
• Bark smooth, green or grey-brown
**HILL HIBISCUS**  
**(Hibiscus sturtii)**

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves soft, to 5cm x 3cm
- Leaves alternate; margins crenate (bluntly toothed)
- Leaves ovate (widest towards the base)

Shrub to 60cm tall with pink flowers in summer.
HOOKSWOOD
(Acacia triptera)

Distinguishing features
• Phyllodes curved and rigid with a very prickly tip
• Phyllodes attached to the stem by part of their blade
• Phyllodes to 5cm long; have many parallel veins, rarely anastomosing

Dense wattle shrub to 3m tall with yellow flowers Aug-Sept.

Photo: C. O’Connor
HOVEA
(Hovea longipes)

A beautiful native shrub. The purple pea flowers sometimes age to very pale or white.

Distinguishing features
- Leaves discolourous (dark green above, yellowish and ageing to grey below)
- Leaves alternate and small, to 35mm x 9mm
- Leaf margins slightly recurved (curved downwards)
MOON WATTLE
(Acacia semilunata)

Distinguishing features
• Silvery-grey phyllodes to 3cm x 9mm, curved more on one edge than the other
• Phyllodes somewhat crowded on branchlets and mucronate (with a stiff pointy tip)
• Branchlets terete (circular in cross-section)
MULLER’S WATTLE
(Acacia muelleriana)

Distinguishing features
• Fern-like leaves; leaflets to 1cm x 1.5mm
• Main vein on leaflets is more or less centred
• Branchlets mostly terete (circular in cross-section)
• Leaflets have no mucro (no stiff pointy tip)

Rounded, bushy green shrub to 5m tall.
PEACH BUSH
*(Ehretia membranifolia)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Smooth, pale grey bark
- Leaves alternate and light green in colour
- Leaf stem (petiole) 5 – 20cm long

Native shrub or small tree. Leaves resemble those of a peach bush.
PRETTY WATTLE
(Acacia decora)

Distinguishing features
• Phyllodes blue-green and up to 6cm long
• Phyllodes more or less elliptic (widest in middle)
• Phyllodes have one prominent mid-vein
SAGO FLOWER
(Ozothamnus diosmifolius)

Distinguishing features
• Small dark green leaves to 15mm x 2mm
• Leaves crowded along branches
• Leaves alternate

Erect shrub to 2m tall with white papery flowers in spring.
SCRUB BOONAREE

(Alectryon diversifolius)

Distinguishing features

• Leaves dark green, alternate, to 5cm long
• Leaves leathery, stiff, often with sharp points
• Leaf shape varies from rounded (usually obovate: widest towards the tip) to holly-like (sharply toothed)

Dense, prickly shrub to 3m tall.
SILVER SENNA
(Senna artemisioides subsp. zygophylla)

Shrub to 2m tall.

Distinguishing features
• Silvery-grey foliage
• 2-6 pairs of narrow, softly-hairy leaflets per leaf
• Leaves alternate; leaflets opposite, often in-rolled
SMALL-LEAVED CANTHIUM
(Everistia vacciniifolia)

A rigid, much-branched shrub or small tree to 10m tall. Berries turn black when ripe.

Distinguishing features
• Branches layered, entangled, more or less horizontal
• Branches slightly zig-zag and prickly
• Leaves tough, oval, glossy dark green, to 1cm long
STICKY HOP BUSH
*(Dodonaea viscosa)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves and seeds sticky
- Leaves light or dark glossy green, to 5.5cm long
- Leaves mostly oblanceolate (widest towards the tip, tapering to the base) with margins slightly toothed

Slender, upright shrub to 3m tall.
SWEET BURSARIA
(Bursaria spinosa)

Distinguishing features

- Leaves obovate (widest towards tip)
- Leaves small, to 40mm x 12mm
- Leaves often clustered at the base of spines

Rigid, prickly shrub to 3m tall with small, sweetly scented white flowers in summer.
TRIANGLE LEAF HOPBUSH
*(Dodonaea triangularis)*

**Distinguishing features**

- Leaves broad, to 25mm x 14mm, triangular
- Leaves have a broad apex, usually 3-toothed
- Branchlets reddish-brown

Bushy shrub to 3m tall. Thin papery (hop-like) flowers are followed by solid green triangular seed capsules.
TWIN-FLOWERED BEARD HEATH
(Leucopogon biflorus)

Distinguishing features
• Leaves to 12mm x 3mm with a spiny tip
• Leaves oblong, discolourous (paler below)
• Leaves sessile (no stem)
• Fine parallel veins obvious on lower leaf surface

Prickly shrub to 1m tall with white tubular flowers in pairs in winter-spring.
**WATER BUSH**  
*(Myoporum acuminatum)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves smooth, to 10cm long
- Leaves taper to a point at both ends
- Mid-vein more prominent on underside of leaf

Shrub to 3m tall with white flowers and berries that are pink when mature anytime after rain.
WILD ORANGE
(*Capparis mitchellii*)

Also known as Bumble Tree, this dense shrub or small tree begins life as a scrambling climber, which may explain the thorns.

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves grey-green and alternate
- Mature leaves tough, to 65mm x 35mm
- Curved thorns in neat pairs (when present)
WILD MAY
(Leptospermum polygalifolium)

Distinguishing features
• Leaves more or less elliptic (widest in the middle)
• Leaves to 20mm x 5mm
• Petiole (leaf stem) more or less absent

Large shrub to 4m tall. Common near water courses.
ANNUAL SALTBUSH
(Atriplex muelleri)

Annual herb to 40cm tall with fan-shaped fruit.

Distinguishing features
• Grey-green foliage
• Leaves alternate and succulent
• Leaf margins sinuate (deep wave-like indentations)
BLACK COTTON BUSH
(Maireana decalvans)

Distinguishing features

- Leaves tiny, succulent, to 10mm long
- Leaves club-shaped and circular in cross-section
- Seeds circular, papery pink-white when mature

Spreading plant to 50cm tall.

Flowers
BLACK ORCHID
*(Cymbidium canaliculatum)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Clumping habit
- Leaves long (to 60cm), rigid and channelled
- Leaves alternate and sessile (no leaf stem)

A native orchid typically growing on large trunks or logs. An extensive root & rhizome system helps this epiphyte reach nutrients deep in decaying wood and helps protect it from desiccation and heat in dry areas.
BLUE FLAX LILY
(Dianella brevipedunculata)

Distinguishing features
• Green strap-like leaves to 1m x 2cm
• Leaves have a distinct mid-rib vein
• Leaves conduplicate (folded together lengthwise)
• Tangled mess of flower stems shorter than leaves

Tufting native plant to 50cm tall with small purplish blue flowers followed by bright purple/blue berries in summer.

Mid-rib vein raised on underside of leaf. Dianellas, in contrast to Lomandra species, all possess this mid-rib vein.
BRIGALOW BURR
(Sclerolaena tetracuspis)

A prickly, mat-forming native herb to 25cm tall.

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves mid-green, cylindrical, succulent; to 10mm
- Spines usually 4 in number, regularly spaced
- Leaves not petiolate (have no leaf stem)
BULL OAK MISTLETOE
(Amyema linophylla subsp. orientalis)

A spreading/drooping mistletoe with coral-pink flowers found exclusively on casuarinas / allocasuarinas (notably Bull Oak).

**Distinguishing features**

- Needle-like leaves to 12cm long (mimicking host)
- Flowers in 3 groups of 3
- Flower buds covered in whitish down
DESER T JASMINE
(Jasminum lineare)

Distinguishing features
• Leaves mostly opposite
• Leaves consist of 3 narrow leaflets, with the centre (terminal) leaflet largest
• Largest leaflets to 10cm x 5mm

Tangled, scrambling shrub or climber. White tubular flowers are followed by pairs of black berries.
GALVANISED BURR
(Sclerolaena birchii)

Distinguishing features

- Grey-green foliage; leaves to 15mm long
- Leaves and branches covered in white, woolly hairs
- Fruit has spines in sets of 5 (sometimes 4)

A prickly perennial shrub to 70cm tall.
GARGALOO
(Parsonsia eucalyptophylla)

Distinguishing features
- Leaves long and thin, resembling eucalypt leaves (usually more than 8 times as long as wide)
- Leaves opposite
- Watery sap

A scrambling native climber.
HEATH EVERLASTING
(*Ozothamnus diotophyllus*)

_Distinguishing features_
- Straggly appearance
- Tiny leaves to 5mm long which lie close to branches
- Branches whitish, woolly

Shrub to 90cm tall with yellow flower heads Sept - Nov.
MAT RUSH
(Lomandra spp.)

Distinguishing features
• Grow as tussocks
• Long strap-like leaves
• Leaves have no midrib vein (unlike Dianellas)
MOTHER OF MILLIONS
(Bryophyllum delagoense)*

Distinguishing features

- Erect habit
- Fleshy, succulent leaves which are terete
- Mottled camouflage-like pattern on leaves

An invasive plant which is poisonous to stock and considered a significant environmental weed in Queensland. Native to Madagascar.

Distinguishing features

- Erect habit
- Fleshy, succulent leaves which are terete
- Mottled camouflage-like pattern on leaves
MULGA FERN
*(Cheilanthes sieberi)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Fronds crowded; frond segments deeply lobed
- Stipe (stem) red- to dark-brown
- Hairless

Drought-resistant fern to 30cm tall.
PURPLE BURR-DAISY  
*(Calotis cunefolia)*

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves more or less fan-shaped
- Leaves have a broad, toothed apex
- Leaves alternate up the stem

Perennial to 60cm tall. The flower has white/lilac petals and a yellow centre.
SMOOTH FLAX LILY
(Dianella longifolia)

Distinguishing features
- Grey-green strap-like leaves to 85cm x 15mm
- Leaves conduplicate (folded together lengthwise)
- Flower stems held above foliage

Tufting or clumping native plant to 1m tall with blue flowers in spring/summer followed by purplish berries.

Mid-rib vein, raised on underside of leaf. Lomandras can look similar to Dianellas but Lomandras lack this mid-rib vein.
SPLIT JACK
(*Capparis lasiantha*)

**Distinguishing features**
- Grey-green leathery leaves to 9cm x 20mm
- Some branches slightly zig-zag in form
- Curved thorns in pairs to 4mm long

Climber or scrambling shrub to 3m with fragrant white flowers aging to yellow.
VELVET TREE PEAR
(Opuntia tomentosa)*

Distinguishing features
• Single woody main stem
• Segments usually obovate (widest towards the tip)
• Much-branched; occasionally spines to 25mm long

A prickly invasive cactus to 6m tall. Native to Mexico.
BOX MISTLETOE
(Ameyema miquelii)

Distinguishing features
- Long drooping branches
- Leaves to 25cm long
- Flowers in 3-7 groups of two or three

A weeping mistletoe growing on Eucalypt and Acacia species.
GREY MISTLETOE
(Ameyema quandang var. bancroftii)

Distinguishing features
- Leaves grey-green, leathery
- Leaves often opposite, broad, to 12cm x 4.5cm
- Flowers in 2 groups of 3; centre flower stalkless

A pendulous, branching mistletoe which grows on Acacia (wattle) species. The threatened Painted Honeyeater relies on the fruit of this species, along with Needle-leaf Mistletoe, during breeding.
NEEDLE-LEAF MISTLETOE
(Amyema cambagei)

Distinguishing features
• Needle-like leaves to 15cm long x 1.5mm diameter
• Leaves terete (circular in cross-section)
• Stems, leaves and fruit finely downy
• Flowers in 3 groups of 3; centre flower stalkless

A mistletoe which uses Casuarina and Allocasuarina host plants almost exclusively. Like many mistletoes, its leaves resemble those of the host plant.
SQUARE-STEMMED MISTLETOE
(Viscum articulatum)

Distinguishing features
• Pendulous habit
• Appears leafless (leaves reduced to tiny limbs)
• Stems consist of squarish jointed segments

A mistletoe which is parasitic on other mistletoes as well as on plants in the Santalaceae family (e.g. Sandalwood).
WONGA VINE
(Pandorea pandorana)

A vigorous twining plant with showy flowers in winter-spring.

**Distinguishing features**
- Leaves mostly opposite
- Adult leaves compound with 5-9 leaflets
- Juvenile leaves fern-like with much smaller leaflets
VARIABLE MISTLETOE
(Amyema congener)

Distinguishing features

- Leaves rounded, mostly obovate (widest near tip)
- Leaves leathery, to 11cm x 4cm
- Leaf veins obscure
- Flowers in 3-5 groups of three; centre flower stalkless

Often found on Acacia (wattle) and Casuarina species.
# Glossary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alternate leaves</td>
<td>Leaves borne singly and spaced alternately along or around a branchlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anastomosing</td>
<td>Having leaf veins which cross over (i.e. are not all strictly parallel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apex</td>
<td>Tip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article</td>
<td>Segment of branchlet on Casuarina and Allocasuarina species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compound leaf</td>
<td>Leaf consisting of 2 or more leaflets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concolourous</td>
<td>Both sides of a leaf blade are the same shade or colour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conduplicate</td>
<td>Having leaf veins which are all strictly parallel (i.e. do not cross over)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioecious</td>
<td>Male and female unisexual flowers on different plants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discolourous</td>
<td>Each side of the leaf blade is a different shade or colour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliptic</td>
<td>Leaf shape which is widest in the middle, more or less like a football</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falcate</td>
<td>Curved or sickle-shaped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lanceolate</td>
<td>Lance-shaped; elongated leaf shape which is widest towards the stem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf-teeth</td>
<td>True leaves between articles on Casuarina and Allocasuarina species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margin</td>
<td>Edge of leaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mucro / mucronate</td>
<td>Stiff or sharp, short terminal projection of the mid-vein (i.e. a pointy tip)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-anastomosing</td>
<td>Having leaf veins which are all strictly parallel (i.e. do not cross over)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oblanceolate</td>
<td>Elongated leaf shape which is widest towards the tip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obovate</td>
<td>Leaf shape which is widest towards the tip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposite leaves</td>
<td>Leaves borne in pairs, each leaf on opposite sides of a branchlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovate</td>
<td>Leaf shape which is widest towards the stem (e.g. egg-shaped)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petiole / petiolate</td>
<td>Leaf stem / possessing a leaf stem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phyllole</td>
<td>A leaf stem (petiole) which has taken over the photosynthetic function and usually the appearance of a leaf. On many Acacias the leaves appear only on juvenile plants; mature plans have phyllodes rather than leaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sessile</td>
<td>Having no leaf stem; arising directly off a branchlet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinuate</td>
<td>With deep wave-like indentations along the margin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Succulent</td>
<td>Fleshy, juicy, soft in texture and usually thickened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tessellated</td>
<td>Shapes arranged in small squares so as to give a tiled or chequered appearance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terete</td>
<td>Cylindrical; circular in cross-section (like a pencil)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valve</td>
<td>One part of a split seed capsule</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Index of scientific names

- Acacia blakei, 10
- Acacia conferta, 52
- Acacia crassa subsp. crassa, 25
- Acacia deauii, 58
- Acacia decora, 65
- Acacia flexifolia, 46
- Acacia harpophylla, 13
- Acacia implexa, 26
- Acacia leiocalyx, 17
- Acacia muelleriana, 63
- Acacia semiunata, 62
- Acacia shirleyi, 24
- Acacia spectabilis, 57
- Acacia triptera, 60
- Alectryon diversifolius, 67
- Allocasuarina inophloia, 22
- Allocasuarina luehmannii, 15
- Alphitonia excelsa, 35
- Alstonia constricta, 47
- Ameyema miquelii, 94
- Ameyema quandang var. bancroftii, 95
- Amyema cambagei, 96
- Amyema congener, 99
- Amyema linophylla subsp. orientalis, 82
- Angophora costata, 39
- Angophora floribunda, 38
- Apophyllum anom, 48
- Atalaya hemiglauca, 44
- Atriplex muelleri, 77
- Brachychiton populneus, 23
- Brachychiton rupestris, 12
- Breynia oblongifolia, 50
- Bryophyllum delagoense, 88
- Bursaria spinosa, 71
- Callitris endlicheri, 9
- Callitris glaucophylla, 43
- Calotis cunefolia, 90
- Capparis lasiantha, 92
- Capparis mitchelli, 75
- Carissa spinarum, 53
- Cassinia laevis, 51
- Casuarina cristata, 7
- Cheilanthes sieberi, 89
- Citrus glauca, 27
- Corymbia tesselaris, 29
- Cymbidium canaliculatum, 79
- Dianella brevipedunculata, 80
- Dianella revoluta, 91
- Diospyros humilis, 36
- Dodonaea biloba, 54
- Dodonaea boronifolia, 56
- Dodonaea triangularis, 72
- Dodonaea viscosa, 70
- Ehretia membranifolia, 64
- Elaeodendron australis, 37
- Eremophila deserti, 55
- Eremophila mitchellii, 19
- Eucalyptus crebra, 31
- Eucalyptus populnea, 8
- Eucalyptus teretecornis, 20
- Everistia vaccinii, 69
- Geijera parviflora, 45
- Hakea lorea, 11
- Hibiscus sturtii, 59
- Hovea longipes, 61
- Jasminum lineare, 83
- Leptospermum polygalifolium, 76
- Leucopogon biflorus, 73
- Lomandra spp., 87
- longifolia, 91
- Lysicarpus angustifolius, 14
- Maireana decalvans, 78
- Melaleuca lanceolata, 42
- Melaleuca linearifolia, 32
- Melaleuca squamophloia, 28
- Myoporurus acuminatum, 74
- Opuntia tomentosa, 93
- Owenia acidula, 18
- Owenia venosa, 16
- Ozothamnus diosmifolius, 66
- Ozothamnus diospyllus, 86
- Pandorea pandorana, 98
- Parsonia eucalyptophylla, 85
- Petalastigma pubescens, 34
- Petalostylis labicheoides, 49
- Pittosporum angustifolium, 21
- Psydrax odorata, 40
- Psydrax oleifolia, 30
- Santalum lanceolatum, 41
- Schinus molle, 33
- Schlerolaena tetracuspis, 81
- Sclerolaena birchii, 84
- Senna artemisiae subsp. zygophylla, 68
- Viscum articulatum, 97