Minimise the risk of introducing garden escapees

Many common plants have jumped the garden fence and become invasive weeds. Using local native plants in your garden not only reduces the risk of introducing further garden escapees, but also helps maintain the special and unique identity of the area - our sense of place. Local native plants attract native insects, small birds and marsupials, providing important refuges in a rapidly developing area.

Like many of the exotic species we know well, local natives grow quickly, flower beautifully at different times of the year and come in a variety of colours, foliage textures and scents.

The plants suggested here make up a small selection of the hundreds of beautiful flowering plants found in this region. For a comprehensive guide to local flowering plants, see references listed in this brochure.



Ficina nodosa Photo by C. Jury



Juncus pallidus Photo by C. Jury



Melaleuca huegelii Photo by F. Humphreys ANBG



Olearia axillaris Photo by H. Rolfe



Verticordia plumosa Photo by M. Moir



Acacia browniana Photo by M. Moir



Boronia megastigma Photo by M. Fagg ANBG



Hibbertia cuneiformis Photo by C. Jury



Anigozanthos flavidus Photo by C. Jury





Hypocalymma angustifolium Photo by C. Jury





Beaufortia sparsa Photo by D. Rooks

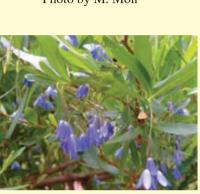


Darwinia citriodora Photo by C. Jury



Kennedia prostrata Photo by M. Fagg ANBG





Billardiera fusiformis Photo by C. Jury

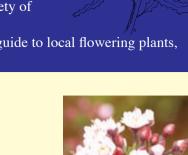


Hardenbergia comptoniana Photo by Monterey Bay Nursery



Orthrosanthus polystachyus Photo by C. Jury









Conostylis aculeata Photo by M. Fagg ANBG





Patersonia occidentalis Photo by C. Jury

Pimelea ferruginea Photo by M. Fagg ANBG

Templetonia retusa Photo by C. Jury



Thysanotus multiflorus Photo by C. Jury

The Margaret River Region - a Biodiversity Hotspot

Biodiversity is the diversity of all living things. The south west of Western Australia is renowned internationally for having very high species diversity with particularly high numbers of endemic species (species that occur here and nowhere else). The international label of "Biodiversity Hotspot" not only implies an amazing variety of plants and animals, but also a high level of threat from development, changing land use and feral plant and animal species. Help us to preserve our biodiversity by using plants native to the region in your garden.

Native Plant Information

Botanical Name	Common Name	Flowers	Description	situation
Acacia browniana		Cream, yellow Aug-Oct	Erect spreading shrub to 2m. Sand, gravel and lateritic soils.	Most
Anigozanthos flavidus (Margaret River variety)	Tall Kangaroo Paw	Red Aug-Dec	Local variety has tall red flowers with tufty foliage. Adaptable and hardy plant on sand clay or gravel.	Wet/Most
Beaufortia sparsa	Swamp Bottlebrush	Red Jan-Apr/Sep-Nov	Erect shrub to 3m. Prefers sand or swampy areas. Shire emblem.	Wet
Billardiera fusiformis (Sollya heterophylla)	Australian Bluebell	Blue all year (mostly Nov-Feb)	Sturdy, long-flowering, twining shrub to 2m. Found on a variety of soils.	Most
Boronia megastigma	Scented Boronia	Yellow/brown Jul-Oct	Beautifully scented slender shrub to 1m. Prefers peaty sand and winter wet areas. Likes shade.	Wet
Conostylis aculeata	Prickly Conostylis	Yellow/green Aug-Nov	Hardy, small tufty plant suitable to most soils.	Most
Darwinia citriodora	Lemon Scented Darwinia	Yellow, green, red May-Dec	Erect or sprawling shrub to 1.5m with bell-shaped flowers. Hardy plant found on laterite, granite and sloping soils.	Most
Ficina nodosa (prev.Isolepis)	Knotted Club Rush	Brown Aug-Apr	Attractive, salt tolerant and hardy rush to 1m.	Coastal/Most
Hardenbergia comptoniana	Native Wisteria	Purple Jul-Oct	Hardy, vigorous climber suitable to most soils.	Most
Hibbertia cuneiformis	Cutleaf Hibbertia	Yellow Jan-Mar/Jun-Nov	Long-flowering, hardy, medium shrub suitable to most soils.	Most
Hypocalymma angustifolium	White Myrtle	White, pink Jun-Nov	Small shrub to 1m. Flowers range from white to pink.	Wet/Most
Juncus pallidus	Pale Rush	Brown Oct-Dec	Robust rush to 2m. Common in wet areas.	Wet
Kennedia prostrata	Scarlet Runner	Red Apr-Nov	Prostrate or twining shrub with red flowers. Prefers sandy or gravel soils. Excellent ground cover.	Most
Melaleuca huegelii	Chenille Honeymyrtle	White and Pink Oct-Jan	Hardy spreading shrub or tree. Found on a variety of soils but prefers coastal limestone soils.	Coastal/Most
Olearia axillaris	Coastal Daisy Bush	Green/yellow Jan-Jul/Nov-Dec	Compact rounded shrub to 2m. Striking grey/green, aromatic foliage.	Coastal
Orthrosanthus polystachyus	Morning Iris/ Many Spike Orthrosanthus	Blue Sep-Nov	Tufty foliage with a profusion of blue flower spikes to 1m. Clayey loam, laterite, sandy soils.	Most
Patersonia occidentalis	Purple Flag	Purple Sep-Jan	Tufted perennial to 70cm with broad spreading leaves.	Most
Pimelea ferruginea		Dark pink Aug-Feb	Low erect shrub with striking pink flowers. Often wind pruned along the coast. Sandy limestone or granite soils.	Coastal/Most
Templetonia retusa	Cockie's Tongue	Red Apr-Nov	Long-flowering shrub to 2-3m. Prefers limestone soils.	Coastal/Most
Thysanotus multiflorus	Many-flowered Fringed Lily	Lilac Aug-Jan	Silvery-grey buds and stems with purple flowers. Grows on sandy, laterite or granitic soils.	Most
Verticordia plumosa	Plumed feather flower	Pink Nov-Jan	Low growing spreading shrub under 1m. Found on a variety of soils.	Most

Important tips

- **1. Plan and understand your garden.** Choose plants that will do well on your site and with your particular soils.
- 2. Plant at the right time of year. Planting from the end of autumn after the first good rains through to mid winter will give the plants time to establish before the summer months.
- **3. Only use low phosphorus fertilisers** suitable for native plants (sparingly if at all). Alternatively, a layer of organic mulch will provide enough nutrients; be sure to leave space around stems and trunks to prevent fungal problems.
- 4. Water native plants weekly during their first summer. Unless they are wetland plants, they should only need occasional watering once they are established.

Where can you get help?

Local nurseries grow or can order a selection of local natives:

Everyday Potted Plants Ph: 9757 7424

Geographe Community Landcare Nursery Ph: 0409 376 976 or BDEC Ph: 9754 2049

Margaret River Nursery and Irrigation Ph: 9757 2691

Nuralingup Garden Nursery Ph: 9757 7587

The Tube Nursery Ph: 9755 5509

Please contact the Cape to Cape Catchments Group (9757 2202) for advice.

Local Native Plants of the **Margaret River Region** Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin

Plant This Instead

5. Order your plants early (Jan/Feb). If your chosen plant is difficult to source, look elsewhere or replace it with another local native (there are plenty to choose from). Local nurseries are usually happy to order plants in for you if they don't have them in stock – if in doubt, ASK!

REFERENCES

Scott, J. and Negus, P. 2002, <u>Field Guide to the Wildflowers of</u> <u>Australia's South West Augusta-Margaret River Region</u>, Cape to Cape Publishing, WA

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Paczkowska, G. and Chapman, A.R. 2000, <u>Western Australian Flora, A Descriptive Catalogue</u>, Wildflower Society of Western Australia, Western Australian Herbarium, the Department of Conservation and Land Management and the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, WA Permission to use the design of this leaflet was made possible by the Serpentine Jarrahdale LCDC.

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Monterey Bay Nursery http://montereybaynsy.com/

Australian National Botanic Gardens http://www.anbg.gov.au/

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anthorrhoea preissii - photo courtesy of C. Jury

Local native plants are the essence of our region's beauty and biodiversity. Plant them in your garden to maintain our unique sense of place, save water, minimise the risk of introducing garden escapees and to enjoy the natural wonder of wildflowers.