

Edible/useful (mostly) local species

COMMON NAME	SPECIES	Av. Ht	Wet feet	Form	Frost	Growth Rate	Best eating	Windbreak	Sun	Butterfly	Birds	Flowers	Uses/Comments	Medicinal uses	
Coastal / open forest species															
Hickory Wattle	<i>Acacia aulacocarpa</i>	>10		T	L	fast	x	wb	fs	f		x	Edible gum & seeds. Wood used for boomerangs & clubs		
Flat-Stemmed Wattle	<i>Acacia complanata</i>	2-4m		S	H	fast	x	wb	fs			x	Edible seeds. Inner bark used for twine		
Black Wattle	<i>Acacia concurrens</i>	4-6m		S	M	fast	x	wb	fs	b		x	Young roots & seeds eaten. Source of wood & fibre	Bark infusion for coughs	
Brisbane Golden Wattle	<i>Acacia fimbriata</i>	4-6m		S	M	fast	x	wb	fs	b	S	x	Edible seed		
Black Wattle	<i>Acacia leiocalyx</i>	1-6	o	S		fast	x	wb	fs	f		x	Edible seed & gum.		
Coastal Wattle	<i>Acacia sophorae</i>	2-4m		S	H	fast	x	wb	fs	m		x	Best quality edible seed. Mostly eaten roasted green in pods		
Beach Acronychia	<i>Acronychia imperforata</i>	4-6m		S/T					fs/ps				Edible fruits		
Beach Bird's Eye	<i>Alectryon coriaceus</i>	4-6m		S					fs/ps	b	F		Edible fruits		
Sea Celery	<i>Apium prostratum</i>	<1m		H					fs				Celery flavoured leaves		
Midyim	<i>Austromyrtus dulcis / glabra</i>	1m		S	H	slow	x		fs/ps		F		Highly edible berries. Excellent groundcover & edge plant.		
Banksia	<i>Banksia (integrifolia/aemula/oblongifolia/spinulosus/robur)</i>								fs		N		Flowers steeped in water for nectar. Avoid phosphorus		
Swamp Waterfern	<i>Blechnum indicum</i>	<1	x	F	N	slow	x		ps/sh				Important food source for edible rhizome. Likes boggy soil.		
Pigface	<i>Carpobrotus glaucescens</i>	<1m		H					fs			x	(including sunburn)	Crushed leaves used to treat bites, stings & burns	

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Winter Apple	<i>Eremophila debilis</i>	<1m		H		slow			fs/ps				Edible fruits	
Gum Trees	<i>Eucalyptus species (racemosa/crebra/intermedia)</i>										N		Host food to many species (possum, koala, bees, lerps, grubs)	
Sword Grass	<i>Gahnia aspera / sieberiana</i>	1-2m	x	G/S E					fs	b			Seed can be ground into flour. Leaf bases chewed	
Cotton Tree	<i>Hibiscus tiliaceus</i>	6m		S/T		fast		wb	fs			x	Important fibre plant	Inner bark infusion used to wash wounds/bark used to wrap wounds
Goats Foot	<i>Ipomea pes-caprae</i>	<1m		V					fs				Tuber/taproot eaten roasted.	Leaves heated & applied to wounds/stings/bites
Cabbage Palm	<i>Livistona australis decora</i>	>10 m	x	P					ps				Palm heart eaten. Palm killed in process	
Paperbark	<i>Melaleuca quinquinervia</i>	>10 m	x	T	H	fast		wb	fs		N		Nectar source. Bark used for huts/bedding/cooking/etc	Leaves were chewed & crushed for colds.
Blue tongue	<i>Melastoma affine</i>	2m	x	S	N	fast			fs/ps	b	?	x	Edible fruits	
Geebung	<i>Persoonia stradbrokeensis / virgata</i>	2-3m		S					fs/ps		F		Edible fruits. Hard plant to source	
	<i>Podocarpus spinulosus</i>	2m		S			x		fs				Delicious edible fruits	
Scaevola	<i>Scaevola calendulacea</i>	<1m		H					fs	f		x	Edible fruits	
Warrigal Greens	<i>Tetragonia tetragonioides</i>	<1m		H			x		fs				Leaves edible when cooked (popular European vegetable). Annual.	
Grass Trees	<i>Xanthorrhoea johnsonii / fulva / latifolia</i>	2-4m		G/S E		slow			fs		N		Edible nectar, seeds & leaf bases. Source of resin/flower spikes used in firemaking	

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Rainforest margins														
Lemon Scented Myrtle	<i>Backhousia citriodora</i>	3-6m		S/T	L	slow	x	wb	fs/ps			x	Leaves are aromatic & have a variety of culinary uses. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak.	
Cinnamon Myrtle	<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>	3-5m		S	L	slow	x	wb	fs/ps			x	Aromatic leaves . Wood used for axehandles. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak.	
Little Kurrajong	<i>Brachychiton bidwillii</i>	3-6m		S		fast			fs/ps			x	Edible seeds (after hairs are removed)	
Native Yam	<i>Dioscorea transversa</i>	V		V	N		x		ps				Edible tubers	
Koda	<i>Ehretia acuminata</i>	>10		T	L	fast			fs/ps	f	F*		Edible fruits	
Little Bolwarra	<i>Eupomatia bennettii</i>	<1		S	N	slow	x		ps		F	x	Edible fruits	
Copper Laurel	<i>Eupomatia laurina</i>	2-4m		S	N		x		ps		F	x	Edible fruits	
Creek Sandpaper Fig	<i>Ficus coronata</i>	6m	o	S/T	L	fast	x	wb	fs/ps	f	F*		Edible fruits. Leaves used as sandpaper. Fibre source	
Native Rosella	<i>Hibiscus heterophyllus</i>	3-6m		S	L	fast	x		fs/ps		N	x	Important fibre plant. Edible young shoots, roots, leaves & flowers	
Creek Mat Rush	<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	1m	x	G/S E	H			wb	fs/ps	f			Edible leaf bases & nectar from flowers. Leaves used to make dillies	
Long Mat Rush	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	1.2m	x	G/S E	H			wb	fs/ps	f			Edible leaf bases & nectar from flowers. Leaves used to make dillies	
Smooth Psychotria	<i>Psychotria daphnoides</i>	1-2m		S	N	slow			ps		F		Edible fruit. Attractive foliage	
Hairy Psychotria	<i>Psychotria loniceroides</i>	1-2m		S	N	slow			ps		F		Edible fruit. Attractive foliage	

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Native Raspberries	<i>Rubus rosifolius/moluccanus/moorei/parviflorus</i>						x	wb	fs/ps		FH		Delicious edible fruits	
Native Violet	<i>Viola betonicifolia</i>	<1		H	H				ps/sh	f		x	Edible flowers.	
Ivy Leaf Violet	<i>Viola hederacea</i>	<1		H	M				ps/sh			x	Edible flowers. Excellent spreading groundcover	

Bushy edge plants under 2m

Ginger	<i>Alpinia arundelliana</i>	1m		H	N-reco vers	slow	x		ps/sh		F		Edible rhizomes, stems, leaves & fruit. Leaves tenderise meat	
Native Ginger	<i>Alpinia caerulea</i>	2m		H	N-reco vers		x		ps/sh		F		Edible rhizomes, stems, leaves & fruit. Leaves tenderise meat	
Creek Mat Rush	<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	1.2m	x	G/S E	H			wb	fs/ps	f			Edible leaf stalk bases. Good edge plant	
Long Mat Rush	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	1m	x	G/S E	H			wb	fs/ps	f			Edible leaf stalk bases. Good edge plant	
Smooth Psychotria	<i>Psychotria daphnoides</i>	1-2m		S	N	slow			ps		F		Edible fruit. Attractive foliage	
Hairy Psychotria	<i>Psychotria loniceroides</i>	1-2m		S	N	slow			ps		F		Edible fruit. Attractive foliage	

Waters edge

Picabeen Palm	<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i>	10m +	x	P					ps/sh		F		Fruit not edible. Leaf sheath used as a container and palm heart eaten killing tree	
Swamp Waterfern	<i>Blechnum indicum</i>	<1	x	F	N	slow	x		ps/sh				Important food source for edible rhizome. Likes boggy soil.	
Tree Ferns	<i>Cyathea cooperi</i>	5-10m	x	F					ps/sh				Fern heart eaten after leaching tannins. Fern killed on harvest	
Rainforest Spinach	<i>Elatostema reticulatum</i>	<1m		H					ps/sh				Leaves eaten. Best when cooked.	

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Long Mat Rush	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	1.2m	x	G/SE	H			wb	fs/ps	f			Edible leaf stalk bases. Good edge plant	

In the water

Water Chestnut	<i>Eleocharis dulcis</i>	1m	x	G/SE			x		fs				Delicious edible tubers. Best in about 200mm of water.	
Water Lillies	<i>Nymphaea species</i>		x						fs/ps				Edible tubers, seeds, flowers & stalks	

Bushy Shrubs

Narrow-leaf Lilly Pilly	<i>Syzygium smithii var. minor</i>	3-5m		S	L			wb	fs/ps		F	x	Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Rose Myrtle	<i>Archirhodomyrtus beckleri</i>	2-4m		S	M			wb	fs/ps		F	x	Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Scrub Ironwood	<i>Gossia acmenoides</i>	3-6m		S		slow		wb	fs/ps		F		Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Python Tree	<i>Gossia bidwillii</i>	3-6m		S		slow		wb	fs/ps		F		Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Scaly Myrtle	<i>Gossia hillii</i>	3-6m		S				wb	fs/ps		F		Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Thread-Barked Myrtle	<i>Gossia inophloia</i>	2-4m		S		slow		wb	fs/ps		F		Attractive bushy foliage. Suitable as an edge plant or windbreak. Edible fruits.	
Native Current	<i>Carrissa ovata</i>	2-4m		S/V		slow		wb	ps		F		Sweet edible fruit	

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Finger Lime	<i>Citrus australasica (Microcitrus)</i>	2-4m		S/T		slow	x	wb	fs/ps	f	H		Prickly - not too close to paths. Edible fruits	
Native Lime	<i>Citrus australis (Microcitrus)</i>	3-6m		S/T	L	slow	x	wb	fs/ps	f	H		Prickly - not too close to paths. Edible fruits	

Small trees - canopy forming or spreading

White Lilly Pilly	<i>Acronychia oblongifolia</i>	6-10m		S/T	L		x		fs/ps		F*		Fruit edible. Best in cooking. Attractive foliage	
Hairy Acronychia	<i>Acronychia pubescens</i>	4-6m		S/T			x		ps		F		Fruit edible. Best in cooking. Attractive foliage	
Silver Aspen	<i>Acronychia wilcoxiana</i>	6-10m		S/T			x		fs/ps		F		Fruit edible. Best in cooking. Attractive foliage	
Wild Quince	<i>Alectryon subcinereus</i>	6-10m		S/T	N				fs/ps	b	F		Fruit edible.	
Brush Cherry	<i>Syzygium australe</i>	5-10m		S/T	H		x	wb	fs/ps		F	x	Fruit edible. Cuttings will usually only grow 3-5m and seedlings to 10m.	

Small trees - upright and not spreading

Davidson Plum	<i>Davidsonia pruriens / jerseyana / johnsonii</i>	6-10m		S/T	L	med	x		fs/ps				Edible fruit with many culinary uses.	
Red Bopple Nut	<i>Hicksbeachia pinnatifolia</i>	6-10m		S/T		slow	x		fs/ps		N?		Edible nuts. Attractive foliage.	

Larger trees

Bunya Pine	<i>Araucaria bidwillii</i>	>10m		T	H		x	wb	fs/ps		H		Large upright tree. Edible nuts. Dangerous cones	Cultural values.
Aniseed Tree	<i>Backhousia anisata</i>	>10m		T		slow	x	wb	fs/ps			x	Nth NSW local. Aromatic leaves.	
Flame Tree/Kurrajong/Lacebark	<i>Brachychiton/populus/discolor</i>	>10m		T		fast			fs/ps	b			Edible seeds (once hairs are removed). Kurrajong's tuberous roots eaten. Fibre source. Deciduous	
Native Tamarind	<i>Diploglottis cunninghamii</i>	>10m		T	N	slow	x		fs/ps		F		Edible fruit.	

Small Leaved Tamarind	<i>Diploglottis campbellii</i>	>10 m		T	N	slow	x		fs/ps		F		Edible fruit.	
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Blue Quandong	<i>Elaeocarpus grandis (angustifolius)</i>	>10 m	o	T	L	fast			fs/ps		F	x	Large upright tree with buttresses. Edible fruit, best prepared/cooked	
Macadamia, Bush Nut	<i>Macadamia integrifolia/tetraphylla</i>	8-12m		T	M		x		fs	f	B?	x	Grafted tree will be smaller and fruit much quicker.	
Corduroy Tamarind	<i>Mischarytera lautereriana (Arytera)</i>	>10 m		T	N		x		fs/ps		F		Beautiful foliage & edible fruit.	
Brown Pine	<i>Podocarpus elatus</i>	>10 m		T	M	slow	x	wb	fs/ps	f	B		Edible fruit. bushy, hardy tree. Male & female on separate trees.	
Peanut Tree	<i>Sterculia quadrifida</i>	6-10m		T	L	fast	x		fs/ps				Edible tasty nuts. Deciduous.	
Sour Cherry	<i>Syzygium corynanthum</i>	10m		T	N		x	wb	fs/ps		F	x	Edible fruit.	
Cherry Satinash	<i>Syzygium luehmannii</i>	10-20m		T	N		x	wb	fs/ps		F	x	Edible fruit. Bushy, attractive foliage.	
Blue Lilly Pilly	<i>Syzygium oleosum</i>	6-10m		T	N			wb	fs/ps		F	x	Aromatic edible fruits	
Plants requiring some shade														
Ginger	<i>Alpinia arundelliana</i>	1m		H	N-reco vers	slow	x		ps/sh		F		Edible rhizomes, stems, leaves & fruit. Leaves tenderise meat	
Native Ginger	<i>Alpinia caerulea</i>	2m		H	N-reco vers		x		ps/sh		F		Edible rhizomes, stems, leaves & fruit. Leaves tenderise meat	
Native Caper/Pomegranate	<i>Capparis arborea / velutina</i>	2-4m		S	N	slow			ps/sh	f		x	Edible buds (capers) and fruits. Prickly. Very slow grower	
Walking Stick Palm	<i>Linospadix monostachys</i>	3-4m		P	N	slow			sh				Edible fruits	
Giant Pepper Vine	<i>Piper novae-hollandiae</i>	V		V	N		x		ps		F	x	Native pepper vine. Real peppercorns	
Native	<i>Sambucus</i>	2m		S					ps		F		Edible fruits	

Elderberry	<i>australasica</i>														
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Brush Pepperbush	<i>Tasmannia insipida</i>	2-4m		S	H	slow			ps/sh				Seeds used as pepper		
Native Violet	<i>Viola betonicifolia</i>	<1		H	H				ps/sh	f		x	Edible flowers.		
Ivy Leaf Violet	<i>Viola hederacea</i>	<1		H	M				ps/sh			x	Edible flowers. Excellent spreading groundcover		
Vines															
Climbing Caper	<i>Capparis sarmentosa</i>	V		V		slow			ps				Excellent fruit, but rare fruiting. Edible buds (best pickled)		
Lawyer Cane	<i>Calamus muelleri</i>	V		V	N	slow			ps		H		Canes/leaves used for baskets & shelters. Scant edible fruits. Prickly	Young shoots chewed & swallowed for dysentery.	
Kangaroo Vine, Native Grape	<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	V		V	N				fs/ps				Larger vines yield fresh water when cut. Fruit edible		
Water Vine	<i>Cissus hypoglauca</i>	V		V	M				fs/ps			x	Larger vines yield fresh water when cut. Fruit edible		
Climbing Pandanus	<i>Freycinetia scandens</i>	V		V		slow			ps/sh		F		Attractive scrambling vine. Edible fruit		
Zig Zag Vine	<i>Melodorum leichhardtii</i>	V		V		slow			fs/ps	f			Edible fruit. Can be grown as a shrub with some pruning		
Native Passionfruit	<i>Passiflora herbertiana</i>	V		V			x		fs/ps	b	F		Sweet edible pulp.		
Giant Pepper Vine	<i>Piper novae-hollandiae</i>	V		V	N				ps		F	x	Native pepper vine. Real peppercorns		