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Other plants in this series

- Cotton palm
- Date palm
- Lippia
- Oleander

More information

For more information about these plants, appropriate control methods or native plant availability, contact:

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This series is produced by



Department of
Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future 



Photos – Alison McGilvray/DEC except where otherwise acknowledged

What to grow instead of **Leucaena**

If you grow me in the wrong place,
I can be an **INVASIVE WEED**



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The legacy of *Leucaena*...

Leucaena displaces native vegetation, degrades habitat for native animals and chokes waterways, increasing risk of new infestations.

Also known as lead tree or coffee bush, *Leucaena leucocephala* produces suckers and seeds throughout the year. It spreads easily through creeks and drainage lines, invading river systems and conservation areas. *Leucaena* is native to Central and South America.

Leucaena is quick growing, flowering in its first year and producing large numbers of seeds by the second. Seeds remain viable in the soil for at least 10 years.

If you grow these plants, ensure they are **well contained within your garden** and remove suckers by hand or with an approved herbicide.

Plant us instead, we're locally native and non-invasive

Consider growing these plants as an environmentally responsible alternative.

White dragon tree

Sesbania formosa

A fast growing tree which can reach 10 metres height within 12 months. It has bright green foliage that provides good shade and grows well in natural soak areas. It produces white flowers which are the largest of any Australian pea plant.



Photos - Eddy Wajon

Weeping wirewood

Acacia coriacea subsp. *pendens*

A long-lived tree to about six metres with weeping foliage. It has striking seeds and pods and grows well on hard soils.



Photo - Louise Williams

Holly grevillea

Grevillea wickhamii

A compact or spreading shrub one to four metres high. Birds are attracted to the red, pink or orange flowers. It grows in a variety of sandy, loamy or stony soils.



Photos - Eddy Wajon

Why locally native plants?

Local indigenous plants bring a sense of uniqueness and identity to a region. They require little maintenance, fertiliser, water, and give multiple environmental benefits – providing wildlife habitat, contributing to a balanced ecosystem and maintaining local biodiversity.

Try us, we're bird friendly!