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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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Chichester Range.

Photo - Cliff Winfield/DEC

## Other plants in this series

- Cotton palm
- Date palm
- Leucaena
- Oleander

## More information

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

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Department of  
Environment and Conservation

Our environment, our future



  
Rangelands NRM  
Western Australia

Photos - Alison McGilvray/DEC except where otherwise acknowledged

What to grow instead of  
**Lippia**

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



Photo - Mohammad Fatemi



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## The problem with Lippia...

Lippia quickly forms a dense matting which out-competes native vegetation and its extensive root system can be the cause of river and bank erosion.

*Phyla canescens* or *Phyla nodiflora*, commonly known as Lippia, was planted as a lawn species and to stabilise soil and prevent bank erosion in river systems. However, its scrambling growth and deep tap roots have led to river bank destruction and, in the Murray-Darling Basin, Lippia is considered a noxious pest.

Lippia secretes toxic substances which can lead to the degradation of soil, water and the displacement of native flora.

If you grow these plants, ensure they are **well contained within your garden** and monitor regularly for escaping plants. Remove by digging or with an approved herbicide. Plants can be contained by using root and weed barriers like kerbing, concrete pathways or weed-free mulch.

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

Consider growing these plants as an environmentally responsible alternative.

### Saltwater couch

*Sporobolus virginicus*

Saltwater couch is a ground covering, soil binding plant that slows wind and water erosion. It has a similar appearance to the common couch grass, but requires less water and care!



Photos - Ben Byrne/DEC

### Morning glory

*Ipomoea muelleri*

This is a dense groundcover that will climb with encouragement. It has large showy purple flowers which flowers in summer, spreading up to five metres. Morning glory dies back in winter to root stock. It grows well in sandy soils.



### Gregory's wattle

*Acacia gregorii*

A prostrate spreading shrub, generally less than 10 centimetres high with a spread of up to two metres. Gregory's wattle is hardy and drought resistant. It grows well in sandy soils in coastal areas.



## 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.

**So try us out!**

