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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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Deep Reach, Millstream-Chichester National Park.

## Other plants in this series

- Cotton palm
- Leucaena
- Lippia
- Oleander

## More information

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

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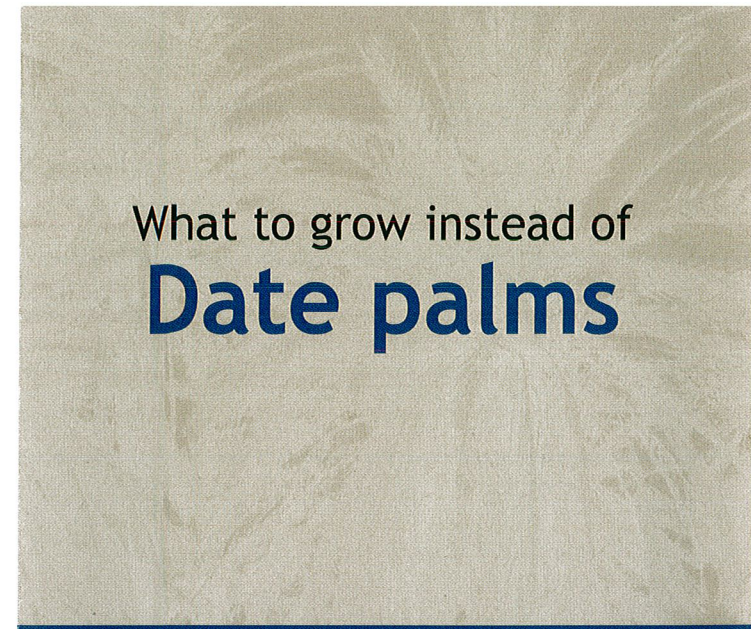


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Photos – Alison McGilvray/DEC except where otherwise acknowledged



## What to grow instead of **Date palms**

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



20090604-0509-500



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# The destructive date palm...

Date palm forms dense thickets and displaces the native Millstream fan palm and other wetland plants. It chokes waterways, impeding flows and increasing risk of new infestations and fire.

The date palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*) is native to the Middle East and North Africa. In Australian ecosystems, the natural controllers of the plant are absent, and it forms dense thickets along waterways of the arid zone.

The fleshy fruits can be widely dispersed by wildlife. Birds and bats may spread the fruits to areas currently free of date palms. Fruit bats can travel up to 50 kilometres in a night, dispersing seed.

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

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

Consider growing these plants as an environmentally responsible alternative.

## Millstream fan palm

*Livistona alfredii*

A slow growing but very attractive plant well suited for sheltered areas. Millstream fan palm grows well in pots indoors and outdoors. It is endemic to a small number of river sites in the Pilbara.



Photo - Ben Byrne/DEC

## Silver cadjeput

*Melaleuca argentea*

A large tree to 15 metres with white papery bark and weeping green foliage. It has creamy golden flower spikes up to 20 centimetres in length. It attracts birds when flowering from about March to October.



Photo - Joy McGilvray

Photo - Ben Byrne/DEC



## 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 what's stopping you?**

