

Information Sheet

No.1-88



Trees and Tall Shrubs of Perth

by Robert Powell

Introduction

Locally native trees and shrubs are able to withstand the harsh natural conditions of Perth, provide food and shelter for native birds and insects, and have a striking variety of forms and textures.

More and more people, and often local authorities, are recognising the role these local plant species play in nature conservation. Local species are those that grow or used to grow naturally on the site concerned. Because they have evolved with native fauna, such as birds and insects, they provide valuable habitat for these.

This Information Sheet is a guide to the trees and tall shrubs that occurred naturally on the various soils and landforms in the Perth metropolitan area before European settlement. It should not be confused with the more common guides to planting Western Australian and Australian natives in your garden.

To re-establish local plants on your block or in your park, you need to know what species grew there before European settlement. The main table of this Information Sheet lists the 75 species of trees and tall shrubs of the metropolitan area that commonly grow to 3m or more, and indicates for each its natural soil or landform. They are just a few of the nearly 1500 plant species that grew here originally.

How to Find the Local Species

Examine the soil. To determine its colour, dig a small hole or look at the soil brought up around ants' nests. The surface soil is often discoloured by humus.

Classify the soil or landform according to the table. Some examples of localities are given as a guide.

Then read off from the main table the names of the trees and tall shrubs that are listed for that soil-type or landform. Both the common and the scientific names of the plants are given.

Source of Plants

Seedlings or seeds of some local plant species can be bought from native-plant nurseries or seed suppliers. Note, however, that some of these may be cultivars or non-local forms of the species, which may be less suited to withstanding natural conditions, and of less value to conservation. A good way of obtaining many local species is to collect your own seed (see Information Sheet 5-87, Native Seed Collection and Storage) and seed directly, or germinate seedlings for transplanting. You may need a licence (on public lands) or the owner's permission (on private land) for seed collection. Some nurseries will grow seedlings from the seeds you collect, especially for large orders.

Further Information

The Local Plants Group existings specifically for the person committed to the biological and aesthetic value of local plant species. Other groups can also assist. Try your local branch of the Wildflower Society, Greening Australia (W.A.), or the Tree Society.

The book Perth's Trees and Tall Shrubs, a guide to the identification of local species, is in preparation and is expected to be available soon.

Advisory publications on planting, natural regeneration, direct seeding, and creating a seed orchard are available from CALM.

Soils & Landforms of Perth Metropolitan Area

Classification	Soil or Landform Description	Example Suburbs/Places							
Quindalup	White sand of the coastal dunes	Rockingham, Mullaloo							
Cottesloe	Brown or rich yellow sand with limestone near the surface	Cottesloe, Wembley Downs, Spearwood							
Cottesloe ridges	Limestone cropping out at the surface	One Tree Hill (Nowergup), Reabold Hill, Mt Brown (Henderson)							
Herdsman	Dark peaty sand round lakes and swamps	Lake Joondalup, Herdsman Lake, Bibra Lake							
Karrakatta	Yellow sand, no limestone near surface	Girrawheen, Subiaco, Melville							
Bassendean	Pale grey or grey sand	Morley, Victoria Park							
Bassendean swamps	Dark peaty sand round swamps or in depressions within the Bassendean belt	Gnangara Lake							
Vasse	Estuarine soils: low-lying areas beside the Swan Estuary	Matilda Bay, Point Waylen							
Swan	Alluvial soils along the upper reaches (on the coastal plain) of the Swan and Canning Rivers	Swan River upstream of the Causeway, Canning River upstream of Shelley Bridg							
Beermullah	Clayey salty soils in flat plain	East of Warbrook, south-east of Forrestdale							
Guildford	Clayey soils in flat plain	Cannington, Midland to Millendon							
Forrestfield	Gravelly and sandy soils alongside the Darling Scarp	Maida Vale							
Darling Scarp	The steep slopes of the Scarp	Gooseberry Hill							
Darling Plateau (laterite)	The gravelly (lateritic) uplands of the Darling Plateau	Kalamunda, Mundaring							
Darling Plateau (valleys)	The valleys of the Darling Plateau, including both major and minor valleys	The Avon Valley, the Helena Valley							
Darling Plateau (granite)	Shallow soils over granite hills on the Darling Plateau	Mt Dale, Sullivan Rock							

Trees & Tall Shru	bs of Perth Botanical Name	Ouin	Correction	off	Herdsman	Karrakari	Bassendean	Vassendean Su.	Swamps	1 2 mg	Guila	For	Sarlield	Darling Scarp	Darling Plates	Daring Plateau (vallevie) Szig Plateau (granite)
red-eyed wattle	Acacia cyclops		/ 	<u> </u>	× 💮	<i></i> _		/							~	shrub 2-7m
summer-scented wattle	A. rostellifera		X	· ·	^ 🤃	Š.	150	<u> </u>		x				3		tree to 10m
coojong	A. saligna	×.	x		x ×	٥,		×	×		×	x	×	X	X	x tree 2-6m
white-stemmed wattle	A. xanthina	6030h 60365	x	×												shrub 2-4m
swamp cypress	Actinostrobus pyramidalis								×	х	×					shrub to 4m
woollybush	Adenanthos cygnorum		į		*	٠,	(х	*	x		shrub to 3.5m
peppermint	Agonis flexuosa	*	х					×								tree to 12m
swamp peppermint	A. linearifolia	330	9		30				×	х	χ		X		Ň.	shrub to 4m
slender banksia, candle bank	sia Banksia attenuata	X	X		×	į >	(<u> </u>					Х		-		tree to 10m
bull banksia, mangite	B. grandis		X		**	>	(300 () ()					Х		X		tree to 10m
holly-leaf banksia	B. ilicifolia	- 6916 14176			х 3	ું }						х		3		tree to 10m
swamp banksia	B. littoralis	880	3		x 🗒	61 33	Х		×		*			- 3	×	tree to 12m
menzies banksia, firewood banksia	B. menziesii		x		×	,	()					x		1		tree to 8m
acom banksia, saw-tooth banksia	B. prionotes		4		×					:				- 1		tree to 10m
native willow, wonnich	Callistachys lanceolata		- 1			Š			-33							tree to 6m
lesser bottlebrush, toobada	Callistemon phoeniceus		- 3		34		-27								Χ,	shrub to 4m
Rottnest cypress	Callitris preissii		1	X										1		shrub/tree 5-12m
common sheoak	Casuarina fraseriana	Ŋ.	X.		3.8	. >	(- 3		х	\$ in	X.		tree to 12m
rock sheoak	C. huegeliana					à.							×			tree to 9m
dune sheoak	C. lehmanniana	×	X				38			-				- 1		shrub 3.5m
swamp sheoak, salt sheoak	C. obesa		1			ġ		X	1	X				1	¥	tree to 10m
tree-smokebush	Conospermum triplinervium	33	X	15							X	Х	X			shrub 1.5-4.5m

Trees & Tall Shru	bs of Perth	/.	Gullehup	Correspond	He rida	Kar Kanan 388	Bassakata	Bassendean	Vasse Swa	Sdumps		Guild	lord /	Darlield	18 Scar	Darling Plates	Darling Plateau (laterite) Size Si
Common Name	Botanical Name					K. 7.		Bass			Rep.			Dari.			Size
coast hop-bush Perth hop-bush parrotbush	Dodonaea aptera D. hackettiana Dryandra sessilis	* *	×	8	×	/ Х Ж	×						×	<i></i>			shrub to 3.5m shrub to 4.5m shrub/tree 2-5m
pingle powderbark marri limestone marlock toolamook narrow-leaved red mallee,	D. squarrosa Eucalyptus accedens E. calophylla E. aff. conglobata E. decipiens E. aff. falcata E. foecunda		×	X		×	x				:	8	х	X	x x x	×	shrub to 3.5m tree to 30m tree to 35m mallee to 4m tree 8-15m mallee to 5m
Fremantle mallee tuart mountain marri butter gum, Darling Range ghost gum	E. gomphocephala E. haematoxylon E. laeliae	**************************************	х			ж.			x					×			tree to 35m tree 6·10m x tree 10·25m
salmon white gum jarrah bullich blackbutt, yarri flooded gum pricklybark	E. lane-poolei E. marginata E. megacarpa E. patens E. rudis E. todtiana		X		X	**	×		x		x	X	×	X	х	* X X X	tree 10·15m tree 15·30m tree to 25m tree to 35m tree 15·25m tree 9·15m
wandoo broom ballart heart-leaf poison smooth grevillea corkybark	E. wandoo Exocarpos sparteus Gastrolobium bilobum Grevillea diversifolia G. glabrata Gyrostemon ramulosus	XX	×		x x				X		:	×		X X X		X X X	tree to 30m shrub to 4m shrub to 4m shrub 1.5-5m shrub to 4m tree 3-8m
snail hakea, holly-leaf hakea sea-urchin hakea harsh hakea	Hakea cristata H. petiolaris H. prostrata		x			×					x	¥	х	X	x x	X	x shrub to 3.5m x shrub/tree 2.5m shrub/tree to 6m
two-leaf hakea	H. trifurcata Jacksonia furcellata	Š	X	*	х	×	x			X X			x	8	х	X	x shrub to 3.5m shrub/tree 3-8m
stinkwood black gin spearwood salt-water paperbark	J. sternbergiana Kingia australis Kunzea ericifolia Melaleuca cuticularis		X		x x x		Х	***	×	***	X :	* * *	Х	à	х	×	x shrub/tree to 7m shrub to 3.8m shrub to 5m shrub/tree
chenille honey-myrtle grey honey-myrtle Rottnest tea-tree, moonah	M. huegelii M. incana M. lanceolata	\$ 0.00 \$. X								:	***				X	3-7m shrub 3-8m shrub to 3.5:n shrub/tree 5-12m
stout paperbark freshwater paperbark, swamp paperbark	M. lateriflora M. preissiana M. rhaphiophylla M. teretifolia				x x			×	x x	*	×	X X		×		×	shrub/tree to 6m tree 10-15m tree to 10m
	м. teretyona M. viminea				X			***	x	- N - X	x	×		×		.	shrub/tree 2·5m shrub/tree 3·7m
Christmas tree albizia	Nuytsia floribunda Oxylobium lineare Paraserianthes lophantha		Х	**	x x x	**	х	×	x x	* *		*	х	X X X	x	3 38 38	x tree to 8m shrub to 3.5m shrub/tree to 8m
geebung snottygobble native apricot	Persoonia elliptica P. longifolia Pittosporum phylliraeoides									\$ \$1 \$1 \$1			×		x x	**	tree 3.8m shrub/tree 2.5m tree to 5m
quandong basket bush swishbush blackboy woody pear	Futosporum priguraediaes Santalum acuminatum Spyridium globulosum Viminaria juncea Xanthorrhoea preissii Xylomelum occidentale		×		x x		х		X X		x		x x		X	***	tree to 5m tree to 4m shrub 2-5m shrub to 5m x shrub to 5m tree to 5m