

Drought tolerant plants suitable for water saving & Xeriscape Gardens



LOCAL NATIVE PLANTS FROM THE ACT REGION

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	COMMENTS	FLOWERING TIME
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GROUND COVERS/ PROSTRATE SHRUBS

<i>Acacia gunnii</i>	Ploughshare wattle	Tiny yellow pompom of flowers	Spring
<i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i>	Billy button	Tiny button yellow flower	Spring
<i>Dillwynia phyllicoides</i>	Parrot pea	Red and yellow, prickly	Spring
<i>Einardia nutans (syn.Rhagodia nutans)</i>		Grey leaf, salt tolerant, red or yellow fruit	Insignificant
<i>Grevillea juniperina 'Ginindera Falls'</i>		Prickly, red spider flower	Spring
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	False sarsparilla	Purple pea flower	Spring
<i>Hibbertia obtusifolia</i>	Guinea flower	Yellow flower, grey foliage	Spring
<i>Pultenaea procumbens</i>	Egg and bacon	Yellow and red, prickly	Spring

GRASSES AND STRAP LEAF PLANTS

<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Blue flax lily	Bright blue fruit and berry	Spring/summer
<i>Joycea pallida</i>	Red anther wallaby grass	Showy flower spikelets	Spring/summer
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Matrush	Variable height, separate male and female	Spring
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i>	Small matrush	Short clumps, takes shade	
<i>Notodanthonia spp.</i>	Wallaby grass	Good accent, short clump	Spring/summer
<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Snow grass	Good accent, short clump	Spring/summer
<i>Stipa scabra</i>	Slender spear grass	Attractive seed heads	Spring/summer
<i>Stypandra glauca</i>	Nodding blue lily	Blue flower, attractive foliage	Spring/summer
<i>Themeda australis</i>	Kangaroo grass	Showy flower spikelets, reddish	Spring/summer
<i>Wahlenbergia stricta</i>	Tall bluebell	Pale blue bells	Spring/summer

SMALL SHRUBS

<i>Crowea</i>		Good under eucalypts	Spring
<i>Cryptandra amara</i>	Bitter cryptandra	Earliest of flowers in bush, white	Late winter
<i>Daviesia mimosoides</i>	Bitter pea	Tall orange and yellow pea	Spring
<i>Grevillea alpina</i>	Grevillea	Only local grevillea, red/orange	Spring
<i>Hakea decurrens</i>	Needle bush	Low prickly, aromatic white flower	Winter
<i>Leptospermum multicaule</i>	Tea tree	Low spreading, white	Spring
<i>Mirbelia oxylloboides</i>	Egg and bacon	Showy pea flower	Spring
<i>Olearia microphylla</i>	Dusky daisy bush	Tiny white daisy flowers	Spring
<i>Olearia tenuifolia</i>	Purple dusky daisy	Purple daisy	Spring
<i>Pimelea linifolia</i>	Rice flower	Good in filtered shade, white	Spring

MEDIUM SHRUBS

<i>Acacia genistifolia</i>	Early wattle	Earliest wattle in flower, prickly	Winter
<i>Acacia lanigera</i>	Hairy wattle	Soft grey foliage	Spring
<i>Indigofera australis</i>	Australian indigo	Pink/purple pea	Spring
<i>Kunzea parvifolia</i>	Purple kunzea	Purple , showy	Spring

TALL SHRUBS

<i>Acacia buxifolia</i>	Box leaf wattle	Small grey foliated wattle	Spring
<i>Acacia dawsonii</i>		Cream, narrow foliage	Winter/spring
<i>Acacia rubida</i>	Red stemmed wattle	Interesting foliage, red stems	Spring
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver banksia	Tall banksia, small yellow spikes	Winter
<i>Bursaria lasiophylla</i>	Buckthorn	Prickly, scented white, nesting for birds	Spring/summer
<i>Grevillea juniperina</i>		Orange or red	Winter/spring

TREES			
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver wattle	Grey green foliage, quick growth	Spring
<i>Acacia implexa</i>	Hickory wattle	Curly seed pods, pale flower	Late summer
<i>Acacia paramattensis</i>	Parramatta green wattle	Soft green foliage	Summer
<i>Acacia pravissima</i>	Ovens wattle	Quick growth, prickly foliage	Spring
<i>Acacia pycnantha</i>	Golden wattle	Australia's floral emblem	Spring
<i>Callitris endlicheri</i>	Black cypress pine	Good vertical accent tree, conifer	Na
<i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	Snow gum	Lovely bark and stems, white flower	Variable
<i>Eucalyptus rossii</i>	Scribbly gum	Large tree, not for small yards	Variable
<i>Eucalyptus spp</i>		Use with consideration to size and limb drop	

MISCELLANEOUS			
<i>Bracteantha viscosa</i>	Paper daisy	Yellow paper daisy	Spring
<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Clematis	Keep rootzone cool/ white climber	Spring
<i>Melichrus urceolatus</i>	Urn heath	Tiny yellow tube flower	Winter

OTHER AUSTRALIAN NATIVE PLANTS

GROUND COVERS/ PROSTRATE SHRUBS

<i>Acacia</i>	Wattle	Yellow, good cascade	Spring
<i>Acacia 'Kuranga Cascade'</i>	Wattle	Yellow, good cascade	Spring
<i>Acacia pravissima 'Golden Carpet'</i>	Wattle	Yellow, good cascade	Spring
<i>Allocasuarina nana</i>	Dwarf she oak	May get to 1 m high	
<i>Atriplex spp</i>	Saltbush		
<i>Banksia 'Birthday Candles'</i>		Other ground cover cultivars also good	Winter
<i>Brachyscome multifida</i>		Blue daisy	Spring/ summer
<i>Calocephalus brownii</i>		Silver foliage	Inconspicuous
<i>Chrysocephalum semipapposum</i>		Small yellow button	Spring
<i>Correa 'Dusky bells'</i>	Native fuchsia	Pink bells, takes shade	Autumn/winter
<i>Correa</i>	Native fuchsia	Red, any ground cover correa usually good	Autumn/winter
<i>Grevillea 'Royal Mantle'</i>		Large spread	Spring
<i>Grevillea 'Bronze Rambler'</i>		Large spread	Spring
<i>Grevillea</i>		Most prickly leaved ground covers good	
<i>Grevillea curviloba subsp incurva</i>		White, prune upright stems to keep low	Spring
<i>Grevillea juniperina 'Molonglo'</i>		Apricot, wide spread	Spring
<i>Hardenbergia 'Mini Ha Ha'</i>	Dwarf false sarsparilla	Purple pea	Spring
<i>Homoranthus papillatus</i>		Strong smell, yellow	Spring
<i>Leptospermum juniperinum horizontalis</i>		White, showy	Spring
<i>Leptospermum 'Merinda'</i>		Most in this series good/stunning pink flower spring	
<i>Leptospermum 'Pink Cascade'</i>		Stunning pink flower	Spring
<i>Micromyrtus ciliata</i>	Fringe myrtle	Pink and white long season	Winter/ spring
<i>Muehlenbeckia axillaris</i>		Vigorous, may be invasive	Inconspicuous
<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>	Creeping boobialla	White star flower	Spring
<i>Rhodanthe anthemoides</i>	Paper daisy	White and pink, cultivars good	Spring
<i>Rulingia hermanifolia</i>		White flowers.	Spring

SMALL SHRUBS

<i>Astartea fascicularis</i>		Delicate pink flower, semi shade	Spring
<i>Banksia</i>	Hairpin banksia	Showy spikes orange/red	Winter
<i>Correa x</i>	Native fuchsia	Red bells, long flowering, variable height	Autumn/winter
<i>Correa x</i>		Most species good in semi shade	Autumn/winter
<i>Crowea 'Festival'</i>		Good for semi shade pink	Most of year
<i>Eremophila maculata</i>	Emu bush	Red, some species not frost hardy	Spring, summer
<i>Grevillea 'Canterbury Gold'</i>		Wide spread, yellow	Spring
<i>Grevillea</i>		Fine foliage, red	Winter/spring
<i>Grevillea lanigera 'Kangarutha'</i>		Woolly grey leaf, red and cream	Spring/summer
<i>Philotheca myoporoides</i>	Wax flower	Was called eriostemon, white	Spring
<i>Philotheca verrucosa</i>	Wax flower	White, 'j semmens' good cultivar	Late winter, spring
<i>Pimelea ferruginea</i>	Pink rice flower	Showy hybrid available pink	Spring
<i>Rhagodia spinescens</i>	Salt bush	Most salt bushes useful, grey foliage	Inconspicuous

MEDIUM SHRUBS

<i>Callistemon pinifolius</i>	Bottlebrush	Red or green flower	Spring
<i>Callistemon subulatus</i>	Bottle brush	Deep red flower	Late spring
<i>Calothamnus villosus</i>	Net bush	Red one sided bottlebrush	Spring
<i>Correa alba</i>	White correa	Grey foliage, pink or white, can be hedged	Autumn, winter
<i>Correa reflexa</i>		Many forms available, red or green	Autumn, winter
<i>Grevillea 'Scarlet Sprite'</i>		Most small grevillea species good	Spring
<i>Grevillea</i>	Holly grevillea	Grey foliage, crimson toothbrush	Spring
<i>Grevillea arenaria</i>		Orange, red or yellow	Spring
<i>Grevillea lavandulacea</i>	Lavender leaf grevillea	Grey foliage, red flower	Spring
<i>Grevillea prickly narrow leaved cultivars</i>		Many available	Spring
<i>Hakea nodosa</i>	Needle bush	Yellow	Spring
<i>Isopogon anethifolius</i>	Drumsticks	Unusual yellow flower spikes	Spring
<i>Leptospermum 'Aphrodite'</i>	Ti tree	Any bywong series very good	Spring
<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusky daisy bush	White and purple forms	Spring
<i>Telopea 'Braidwood Brilliant'</i>	Waratah	Showy red, other good cultivars available	Spring
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	Native rosmary	White, tolerant of salt	Most of year
<i>Westringia 'Wynabbie Gem'</i>		Mauve form, other cultivars useful	Most of year
<i>Zieria cytisoides</i>		Star shape, white	Spring

TALL SHRUBS

<i>Acacia boormanii</i>	Snowy river wattle	Early flower, may sucker	Late winter
<i>Acacia covenyi</i>	Blue bush	Quick screen, blue foliage	Spring
<i>Acacia cultriformis</i>	Knife leaf wattle	Sculptural growth	Spring
<i>Acacia iteaphylla</i>	Flinders ranges wattle	Soft purple new leaves	Autumn
<i>Banksia ericifolia</i>	Heath banksia	Cultivars also good, golden spikes	Winter
<i>Callistemon 'Kings Park Special'</i>	Bottle brush	Tolerant of poor drainage	Spring
<i>Grevillea 'Poorinda Peter'</i>		Quick screen, other prickly cultivars useful	Spring
<i>Hakea laurina</i>	Pincushion hakea	Showy red and white globular flower	Spring
<i>Hakea salicifolia</i>		Good screen, white	Spring
<i>Hakea sericea</i>	Silky needle bush	White or pink, good habitat	Spring
<i>Melaleuca hypericifolia</i>		Red, like a bottle brush	Spring
<i>Persoonia pinifolia</i>	Geebung	Conifer like foliage, yellow flower	Spring

TREES

<i>Acacia aneura</i>	Mulga	Extremely tough	Spring
<i>Acacia pendula</i>	Weeping myall	Graceful, weeping silver leaves	Spring
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black she oak	Dark large fruits	Separate male and female
<i>Allocasuarina torulosa</i>	Forest oak	Corky bark	Separate male and female
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping she oak	Ultra hardy, salt tolerant	Separate male and female
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast banksia	Yellow flowers, salt tolerant	Winter
<i>Callitris glaucophylla</i>	White cypress pine	Grey foliage, termite resistant	Na
<i>Callitris rhomboidea</i>	Port jackson pine	Upright habit	Na
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i>	Yellow gum	Yellow 'rosea' form has red flower	Spring
<i>Eucalyptus moorei</i>	Narrow leaved sallee	Multiple trunks, masses tiny white flowers	Spring
<i>Eucalyptus pulverulenta</i>	Powdered gum	Unusual silver leaves	Spring
<i>Eucalyptus spp</i>		Use with consideration to size and limb drop	
<i>Eucalyptus stricta</i>	Spinning gum	Unusual silver leaves	Spring

ACCENT PLANTS, STRAP LEAVES ETC

<i>Anigozanthos flavidus</i>	Kangaroo paw	Many cultivars available	Summer
<i>Dianella spp</i>	Flax lily	Blue flowers and fruit	Spring/summer
<i>Lomandra spp</i>	Mat rushes	Variable forms available	Spring/summer
<i>Xanthorrhoea spp</i>	Grass trees	As tub or feature plants	After disturbance

CLIMBERS

<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> 'Happy Wanderer'		Purple, other colours forms available	Spring
<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	Running postman	May be invasive, red pea flower	Spring

EXOTIC (NON NATIVE) PLANTS

GROUND COVERS

<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i>	Dyer's chamomile	Yellow, quick spread	Spring/summer
<i>Antirrhinum</i> 'Avalanche'	Perennial snapdragon		Spring/summer
<i>Arctotis</i> spp	African daisy	Many colours, grey leaved plant	Summer
<i>Armeria maritima</i>	Sea thrift	Clumps spiky leaves, pink flower	Spring/summer
<i>Aubretia</i> sp	Rock cress	Purple flower, neat spread	Spring/summer
<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>	Snow in summer	Grey foliage, large spread	Spring/summer
<i>Cistus</i> 'Sunset'	Rockrose	Bright pink	Spring
<i>Convolvulus mauritanicus</i>		Mauve funnel shape flower	Spring/summer
<i>Dianthus</i> spp	Pinks	Many rockery cultivars available	Spring/summer
<i>Dimorphotheca exklonis</i>	African daisy	Purple, white and many cultivars available	Summer
<i>Erica x darleyensis</i>	Darley dale heath	Pink or white, 4 months flowering	Autumn/winter
<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>	Seaside daisy	Pink and white, small flower. Self seeds	Spring/summer
<i>Gazania hybrids</i>	Gazania	Many colours and forms	Spring/summer
<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>	Small rock rose	Wide range colours	Spring/summer
<i>Helichrysum argyrophyllum</i>	Paper daisy	Yellow, silver foliage	Winter/spring
<i>Helichrysum petiolare</i>		Large furry grey leaves, yellow, vigorous	Inconspicuous
<i>Iberis sempervirens</i>	Perennial candytuft	White, takes shade	Spring
<i>Indigofera decora</i>		Suckering, for shade or part sun	Spring
<i>Juniperus conferta</i>	Shore juniper	Other ground cover conifers also good	Na
<i>Nepeta faassennii</i>	Catmint	Blue, good for border	Spring
<i>Origanum species</i>	Oregano & marjoram	Ornamental forms also available	Spring
<i>Rosa</i> spp	Ground cover roses	Many available, 'flower carpet' series good	Spring/summer
<i>Rosmarinus</i> 'Blue Lagoon'	Rosmary	Superior blue flower	Winter/spring
<i>Rosmarinus lavandulaceus</i>	Prostrate rosmary	Good trailer over wall	Winter/spring
<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>	Santolina	Good for edge, grey foliage	Spring
<i>Satureja montana</i>	Winter savory	White, dense mat formed	Spring/summer
<i>Stachys lanata</i>	Lamb's ear	Furry grey leaf, purple flower	Summer
<i>Thymus</i> spp	Thymes	Many forms available, aromatic	Spring
<i>Verbena rigida</i>	Perennial verbena	Mauve	Most of year

SMALL SHRUBS

<i>Abelia schumannii</i>	Abelia	Mauve flower	Spring/summer
<i>Arctostaphylos manzanita</i>	Manzanita	White urn shape flower, red bark	Early spring
<i>Argyranthemum</i> spp	Marguerite daisy	Many cultivars and colours available	Summer/autumn
<i>Cistus</i> 'Brilliantcy'	Rock rose	Wide spread, large pink flower	Spring
<i>Coleonema pulchrum</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf diosma	Variety of forms available	Most of year
<i>Erica mediterranea</i>	Heath	Purple	Autumn/winter
<i>Felicia amelloides</i>	Blue marguerite	Neat round habit, blue daisy	Spring /summer
<i>Lavandula angustifolia</i>	English lavender	Good for hedge, varied forms available	Spring/summer
<i>Lavandula dentata</i>	French lavender	Soft grey green	Summer/autumn
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	Italian lavender	Dark purple, may self seed	Spring/summer
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i> v.pedunculata	Spanish lavender	Showy flower, many forms available	Spring/summer
<i>Nandina domestica</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf sacred bamboo	Grown for red foliage	Na
<i>Pelargonium hortorum</i>	Geranium	Many forms and colours available	Spring-autumn
<i>Pelargonium scented forms</i>	Scented geraniums	Geraniums will survive winter if placed on wall	
<i>Phlomis fruticosa</i>	Jerusalem sage	Grey leaf, yellow flower	Summer/autumn
<i>Punica granatum</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf pomegranate	Ornamental red flower and fruit	Spring-autumn
<i>Raphiolepis</i> 'Springtime'		Prolific pink flower	Spring/summer
<i>Raphiolepis umbellata</i>	Yeddo hawthorn	White flower, attractive foliage, blue fruit	Spring/summer
<i>Rosa species</i>	Landscape and hybrid tea roses, many available		Spring-autumn
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosmary	Good for hedge, pale blue flower	Winter/spring
<i>Salvia hybrids</i>	Many forms of s. Greggii and others now available		Autumn
<i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Common sage	Purple flower	Spring/summer

MEDIUM SHRUBS

<i>Abelia x grandiflora</i>	Glossy Abelia	for screen or hedge, white	most of year
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Barberry	Prickly, deciduous, purple form useful	berry winter
<i>Ceanothus 'Blue Pacific'</i>	Blue Pacific	deep blue	spring
<i>Chaenomeles speciosa</i>	Japonica	deciduous, prickly, pink, red or white	winter
<i>Choisya ternata</i>	Mexican Orange Blossom	white scented	spring
<i>Erica arborea</i>	Tree Heath	purple	autumn
<i>Escallonia spp</i>	Escallonia	white, pink and red forms available.	summer
<i>Euryops pectinata</i>	Euryops	yellow daisy	winter/spring
<i>Leucadendron spp</i>		red, green or yellow bracts are showy	summer/autumn
<i>Leucospermum reflexum</i>	Pincushion Bush	showy yellow flower	spring
<i>Lonicera nitida</i>	Box Honeysuckle	may be hedged or shaped	NA
<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Oregon Grape	yellow flower, blue fruit	spring-autumn
<i>Mahonia lomariifolia</i>	Mahonia	tough, prickly, striking flower	autumn/winter
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Sacred Bamboo	red berry follows white flower	most of year
<i>Photinia cultivars</i>	Photinia	several cultivars available	spring
<i>Protea 'Pink Ice'</i>	Protea	hardy cultivar, pink flower	winter
<i>Spiraea cantoniensis</i>	May	semi deciduous..white flower	spring
<i>Tamarix parvifolia</i>	Tamarisk	soft tiny pink flower, deciduous	spring
<i>Teucrium fruticans</i>	Tree Germander	grey leaf, quick hedge, purple flower	spring

LARGE SHRUBS

<i>Azara microphylla</i>	Azara	vanilla scented yellow flower, tiny leaf	spring
<i>Elaeagnus pungens 'Variegata'</i>	Silverberry	vigorous, large spread, thorny, aromatic flower- autumn	
<i>Feijoa (syn Acca) sellowiana</i>	Pineapple Guava	red flower, edible green fruit	summer-autumn
<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	Tassel Tree	male tree with long drooping flower spikes	winter
<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	Laurustinus	hedging, screen	winter

TREES

<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Irish strawberry tree	attractive fruit, may self seed	winter
<i>Arbutus x andrachnoides</i>	Strawberry Tree	white flower, attractive bark	winter
<i>Cupressus arizonica</i>	Smooth Arizona Cypress	grey aromatic leaves	NA
<i>Cupressus sempervirens 'Stricta'</i>	Pencil Pine	tall columnar tree	NA
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	evergreen, scented flower, edible fruit	autumn-summer
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i>	Desert Ash	deciduous	inconspicuous
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	Crepe Myrtle	many colours, deciduous, bark a feature	summer
<i>Laurus nobilis</i>	Bay tree	evergreen, can be shaped	spring
<i>Olea europea</i>	Olive	fruiting, may be shaped, evergreen	summer-autumn
<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>	Canary I. Date Palm	large hardy palm	most of year
<i>Pinus patula</i>	Mexican Weeping Pine	large, weeping conifer	NA
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holm Oak	evergreen, slow growing	acorn winter
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	evergreen, slow growing, cork bark	acorn winter
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Cotton Palm	large, palm, spiky leaf stems	NA

SHRUBS FOR SHADE

<i>Camellia sasanqua</i>	Autumn Camellia	many cultivars available	autumn/winter
<i>Choisya ternata</i>	Mexican Orange Blossom	white	spring
<i>Daphne odora</i>	Daphne	scented flower	winter
<i>Fatsia japonica</i>	Fatsia	large tropical-looking leaf	summer
<i>Osmanthus heterophyllus</i>	Chinese holly	scented flower, holly like leaf	autumn

CLIMBERS

<i>Campsis grandiflora</i>	Trumpet Vine	deciduous, needs strong support, red	summer
<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper	Rootzone best in shade, can mark surfaces	autumn foliage
<i>Parthenocissus tricuspidata</i>	Boston Ivy	Rootzone best in shade, can mark surfaces	autumn foliage
<i>Pelargonium peltatum</i>	Ivy leaf Geranium	For warm wall, limited spread	
<i>Rosa banksiae</i>	Banksia Rose	white or yellow, vigorous, few if any thorns	spring
<i>Rosa, climbing varieties</i>	Climbing Roses	many available, thorns	spring/summer
<i>Vitis vinifera</i>	Grape	Both ornamental and fruiting good	autumn

ANNUALS/ BEDDING PLANTS			
<i>Alyssum hybrids</i>	Sweet Alice	Many forms available	most of year
<i>Begonia semperflorens</i>	Bedding Begonia	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Brachyscome annual hybrids</i>	Brachyscome	Native hybrid	summer/autumn
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	English marigold	Many forms available	winter/spring
<i>Dorotheanthus hybrids</i>	Livingstone Daisy	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Petunia hybrids</i>	Petunia	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Portulaca hybrids</i>	Portulaca	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Tagetes erecta</i>	African marigold	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Tagetes patula</i>	French marigold	Many forms available	summer/autumn
<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	Zinnia	Many forms available	summer/autumn

PERENNIALS AND BULBOUS PLANTS			
<i>Amaryllis belladonna</i>	Belladonna lily	pink flower, before leaf	summer
<i>Aster nova-belgiae</i>	Easter daisy	many colours, spreads	autumn
<i>Bilbergia nutans</i>	Bilbergia	bromeliad that is usually hardy in shade	spring
<i>Bulbinella floribunda</i>	Bulbinella	yellow	late winter
<i>Dietes bicolor</i>	Dietes	strap leaf, yellow iris like	summer
<i>Dietes grandiflora</i>	Wild Iris	white, flecked purple	spring/summer
<i>Erica cerinthoides</i>	Red Heath	showy red bells	winter
<i>Festuca glauca</i>	Blue Fescue	blue ornamental grass, low clumps	summer
<i>Freesia hybrids</i>	Freesia	scented, many cultivars available	spring
<i>Gladiolus species</i>	Glads	many species and hybrids	summer
<i>Iris tall bearded hybrids</i>	Bearded Iris	many colours available	spring/summer
<i>Iris unguicularis</i>	Winter iris	mauve and white available	winter
<i>Ixia hybrids</i>	Corn Lily	tall spike, pink or cream flowers	spring
<i>Kniphofia species</i>	Red hot poker	many colours available	summer
<i>Lachenalia pearsonii</i>	Lachenalia	bright orange/ yellow bells	spring
<i>Lychnis coronaria</i>	Rose campion	bright magenta/ self seeds	summer
<i>Lycoris africana</i>	Spider lily	red or orange or yellow	autumn
<i>Miscanthus sinensis 'Variegata'</i>	Miscanthus	tall grass to 2m, may spread to big clump	`
<i>Nerine bowdenii</i>	Nerine	Pink, white, range of cultivars	autumn
<i>Watsonia hybrids</i>	Watsonia	tall, pink or white, may self seed	spring
<i>Zephyranthes candida</i>	Storm Lily	white, shiny short leaf	autumn

SUCCULENTS			
<i>Agave spp</i>	Agave	some very large, spiky	depends on species
<i>Aloe spp</i>	Aloe	softer, less spiky, not all frost hardy	spring
<i>Cactaceae Family</i>	Cactus	many will survive outside, watch spines	spring
<i>Crassula spp</i>	Stone crops	many available, often yellow flower	spring
<i>Euphorbia wulfenii</i>	Euphorbia	Green flower, poisonous white sap	spring
<i>Lampranthus spp</i>	Pigface	brilliant colour forms available	spring/summer
<i>Mesembryanthemum spp</i>	Iceplant	brilliant colour forms available	spring/summer
<i>Sedum spp</i>	Jelly bean plants	not all frost hardy	summer
<i>Sempervivum spp</i>	House leeks	rosettes, spread well	spring
<i>Yucca gloriosa</i>	Spanish dagger	stunning flower, leaf has dangerous point	spring

CONTAINER PLANTS
Many of the plants listed in all of the above categories could be grown in a container, if the following factors are considered
1 Shade areas will provide less heat stress on container plants
2 Use a container size in proportion to expected height and width of plant
3 use a Premium potting mix that conforms to Australian Standards
4 ensure that container has several drainage holes
5 place mulch on top of pot
6 for sunny spots use only the hardiest sun loving plants such as succulents, prickly leaved natives, Mediterranean herbs, strap leaf plants and native grasses

GLOSSARY

Ground covers and prostrate shrubs	plants that are low growing with more width than height
Rockery plant	low plants that may trail or form dense mat
Small shrubs	to 1.5m
Medium shrubs	1.5-2.5m
Tall shrubs	2.5-6m
Trees	above 6m
Flowering time	when plant is at peak, but may vary due to seasonal or cultivar variations
Cultivar	stands for 'cultivated variety'. For example Grevillea 'Scarlet Sprite'
sp	species singular
spp	species plural
subsp	subspecies
Perennial	grows for many years
Annual	grows for one year
Bulbous	has swollen underground food store

For the latest information consult your local nurseries to find out about new plants as they become available.

Plant selection for drought tolerance.

Introduction

There are many plants that survive on little water, but there are several factors to take into account when selecting plants for drought tolerance.

These are:

- All plants need some water, especially when first planted or when in a hot sunny position. They should be carefully monitored until established.
- Follow water restriction guidelines and consult your local water authority or industry specialists about the water efficient irrigation products on the market, and how to use them.
- Try not to plant new plants out in the hottest months, or if you do, plant at night and consider a temporary shade structure
- Utilise the shade of the surrounding plants, buildings and structures. Some plants will only be drought tolerant if planted in the shade. Make a shade map of your garden, and erect structures or grow trees to increase the shaded areas.
- Know your aspect. Check where the desirable northerly winter sunshine and the harsh summer westerly sunshine is going to fall and choose plants accordingly. Deciduous trees and slightly tender trees such as citrus are ideal for the north, while tall hardy plants to provide shade should go on the west.
- Know your soil and how it drains or holds water. Adding compost and organic matter is one of the best ways to increase water retention, plus there are commercial water saving products available.
- Mulch is valuable in many ways. Local landscape supply businesses can advise you on the many types available.
- Select plants that come from parts of the world that are also hot and dry. Some of these may be Australia, the Mediterranean, and the dry parts of Africa, Mexico or the Middle East.
- Do not presume that just because a plant is an Australian native, it is drought tolerant. Many come from high rainfall zones or cool mountain forests.
- Look for plants that have adaptations that enable them to withstand drought. Some of these are:
 - Small narrow leaves
 - Grey or silver foliage
 - Furry texture
 - Water retaining succulent leaves or stems
 - Modified or absent leaves
 - Summer dormancy
- Visit local public gardens that have a range of drought tolerant plants. Some good examples can be found at the National Botanic Gardens and the National Gallery of Australia sculpture garden. Groups such as the Australian Plant Society (Society for Growing Australian Plants) also have excellent information on hardy native plants

- Visit local nurseries to see what new cultivars are for sale, and obtain advice from professionals. There are many improved and selected forms of drought tolerant plants being introduced into the garden centres each year.
- Look around your neighbourhood, both at wild bush plants and garden plants, to see what seems to be surviving in dry areas.
- Be alert to weed species, many are very drought tolerant but also undesirable.

The plant list table

This list is not conclusive, but may act as a guide to plant selection. The plants listed have been included because they are usually available from local suppliers and have been tried and tested in many local gardens. For many of the plants, there may be a range of species and cultivars available. These have not all been listed individually but your local nursery will be able to advise as to what is now available.

Latin names have been used to reduce confusion, as common names vary from region to region. A common name will usually only be listed if there is one in use. The plants have been grouped into local ACT native species, Australian native species and exotic (introduced) species, then put into subsets according to their main garden function. Don't be afraid to experiment with other plants using some of the guidelines already mentioned.

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