

Fact Sheet #3 - Attracting Wildlife to your Garden

Watching birds and other wildlife going about their daily routine is a delight that can be shared by home gardeners. By providing natural food and shelter for local birds and small animals you can also have the economic advantage of not needing the regular use of pesticides.

A large outbreak of pests is rarely seen in the bush because occasional explosions of a pest species are brought under control by the natural predators of that species. By attracting wildlife to your garden, especially birds, it can gradually be returned to the process of natural management of these pests.

Planning your wildlife garden

Your garden should include a range of plants to provide for a variety of visitors. Understanding the birds and their diets will help you plan a successful garden. The shape of a bird's beak is a good indication of the of food it eats.

- Carnivores have very large strong beaks usually with a hooked tip. Kookaburras, Butcherbirds, Currawongs, Magpies and birds of prey. Food: Small animals, reptiles, small birds, frogs, large insects and snails.
- Insectivores have pointed beaks. Whipbirds, Cuckoo-shrikes, Robins, Wrens, Flycatchers and Fantails. Food; Mosquitoes, flies, moths, beetles, ants, termites, spiders, caterpillars and insect larvae.
- Nectivores have long slender beaks or brush-tipped tongues. Honeyeaters, Spinebills, Wattlebirds, Friarbirds, Noisy Miners and Lorikeets. Food: Pollen, nectar, soft fruit, berries, wattle sap, lerps and insects.
- Granivores have short, stout beaks. Finches, Firetails, Doves, Pigeons, Rosellas, Corellas, Galahs and Cockatoos. Food: Seeds of native trees, shrubs and grasses. Fruit and berries.
- Frugivores have solid deep beaks. Bowerbirds, Catbirds, Orioles, Figbirds and Fruit-doves. FOOD; Native fruit and berries, insects.

Helpful hints

- A graded garden of trees, large shrubs then low shrubs in a sunny position works well to produce masses of flowers.
- Include shrubs which have continuous foliage reaching the ground to provide shelter for birds that forage in the undergrowth, e.g. Wonga pigeons, Bowerbirds.
- It is important that the garden contains a balance of plants providing foods for all species of birds. An excessive quantity of nectar-rich plants in a suburb can lead to an increase of the more aggressive honeyeaters which discourages the smaller birds.
- Prickly shrubs provide good shelter and nesting sites, safe from predators.
- A supply of cool, fresh water placed off the ground and close to shrubs or trees is essential.

- Native grasses, which will provide seed for Parrots, Pigeons and small birds, are an attractive addition to the garden and can be an alternative to lawn.
- Nesting boxes can be placed in existing trees. Old trees with hollows should be retained as these are natural homes for birds and possums.
- A pond stocked with native frog-friendly fish can also be home to local frogs. NEVER release any fish into dams or waterways, especially Gambusia. They are a fierce predator of many aquatic animals.
- Birds, animals and insects are the natural pollinators of many plants.
- Lizards and frogs help to control insects and mosquitoes.

Do NOT feed the birds directly, tempting though this may be.

Feeding can cause;

- rotting beaks - too much sugar.
 - over breeding - can create an imbalance of a particular species,
 - nests to become disease carriers - from too many birds,
 - dependence of birds on human feeders and lack of variety in their diet,
 - destruction of house timbers - Cockatoos can do a lot of damage in a short time.
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- **Chart A** Plants for Seed Eaters & Fruit Eaters
 - **Chart B** Plants for Seed Eaters & Fruit Eaters (Continued)
 - **Chart C** Nectar & Pollen Eaters
 - **Chart D** Nectar & Pollen Eaters (Continued)

Fact Sheet 3		Chart A						
Species Name	Common Name	Flowering	Position			Sun		
Plants for Seed & Fruit Eaters - Grasses & Ground Covers			Moist	Open	Shltr	Full	Part	Shde
<i>Restio tetraphyllus</i>	Tassel Rush	Sep-Nov	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Pennisetum alopecuroides</i>	Swamp Foxtail	Dec-Mar	-	Open	-	-	-	-
<i>Themeda australis</i>	Kangaroo Grass	Sep-Mar	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge	Oct-Dec	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Danthonia</i> -all species	Wallaby Grass	Sep-Apr	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	Meadow Rice Grass	Sep-Mar	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Blue Flax Lily	Oct-Feb	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>	Creeping Boobiella	Sep-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Scaevola aemula</i>	Fairy Fan Flower	Feb-Mar	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Plants for Seed & Fruit Eaters-Small Shrubs								
<i>Scaevola albida</i>	Pale Fan Flower	Nov-Feb	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Austromyrtus dulcis</i>	Midyin	Dec-Feb	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Austromyrtus 'Copper Tops'</i>	-	Dec-Feb	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Dampiera diversifolia</i>	-	Sep-Feb	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Common Correa	May-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Correa 'Dusky Bells'</i>	-	May-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Syzygium 'Tiny Trev'</i>	-	Jan-Apr	Moist		Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Acacia myrtifolia</i>	Myrtle Wattle	May-Aug	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Plants for Seed & Fruit Eaters-Medium Shrubs								
<i>Acacia sophorae</i>	Coastal Wattle	Jul-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	Coastal Rosemary	All Year	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Westringia longifolia</i>	Long leaf Westringia	Jul-Dec	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Grevillea speciosa</i>	Spider Flower	Jun-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Grevillea rosmarinifolia</i>	-	All Year	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
<i>Leptospermum rotundifolium</i>	Tea Tree	Nov-Dec	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Banksia robur</i>	Swamp Banksia	Jan-Jul	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Hakea gibbosa</i>	-	Jun-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	-	-
<i>Cordyline stricta</i>	Slender Palm Lily	Nov-Jan	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-

Fact Sheet 3		Chart B						
Species Name	Common Name	Flowering	Position			Sun		
Plants for Seed & Fruit Eaters - Large Shrubs			Moist	Open	Shltr	Full	P/Sun	Shde
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia	Feb-Jul	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Banksia ericifolia	Heath Banksia	Apr-Aug	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia serrata	Saw Banksia	Jan-Apr	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia spinulosa	Hairpin Banksia	Mar-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Hakea sericea	Needlebush	Jun-Sep	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Acacia longifolia	Sydney Wattle	Jun-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Acacia floribunda	Sally Wattle	Aug-Sep	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea banksii	Banks Grevillea	all year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Orange Marmalade'	-	all year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea longifolia	-	Jul-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Dodonaea triquetra	Hop Bush	Jul-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Eupomatia laurina	Bulwarra	Dec-Jan	Moist	-	Shltr	-	P/Sun	Shde
Clerodendrum tomentosum	Hairy Clerodendrum	Oct-Nov	Moist	-	Shltr	-	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium wilsonii	Powderpuff Lilly Pilly	Sep-Jan	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Plants for Seed & Fruit Eaters - Trees								
Callitris rhomboidea	Port Jackson Pine	Aug-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Casuarina cunninghamia	River Oak	May-Aug	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Casuarina glauca	Swamp Oak	May-Aug	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Allocasuarina distyla	Scrub She Oak	Jul-Sep	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Allocasuarina torulosa	Forest Oak	Sep-Dec	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Elaeocarpus reticulatus	Blueberry Ash	Oct-Dec	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Elaeocarpus 'Prima Donna'	-	Oct-Dec	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Acmena smithii	Lilly Pilly	Nov-Feb	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium australe	Bush Cherry	Jan-Apr	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium luehmannii	Riberry	Sep-Feb	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium paniculatum	Magenta Lilly	Dec-Feb	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Cupaniopsis anacardioides	Tuckeroo	May-Jul	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde

Fact Sheet 3		Chart C						
Species Name	Common Name	Flowering	Position			Sun		
Nectar & Pollen Eaters Small Gardens & Rockeries			Moist	Open	Shltr	Full	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium 'Tiny Trev'	-	Jan-Apr	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Banksia 'Birthday Candles'	-	Mar-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Banksia spinulosa 'Honeypots'	-	Mar-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Banksia ericifolia Dwarf	-	Apr-Aug	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Grevillea austriflora 'Old Gold'	-	May-Aug	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Ruby Red'	-	Sep-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea juniperina	-	Aug-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Anigozanthos - all species	Kangaroo Paw	Jul-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Austromyrtus dulcis	Midyin	Dec-Feb	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Austromyrtus 'Coppertops'	-	Dec-Feb	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Nectar & Pollen Eaters Small Shrubs								
Correa reflexa 'Marions Marvel'	-	May-Sep	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Syzygium 'Aussie Boomer'	-	Dec-Feb	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Syzygium 'Royal Flame'	-	Dec-Feb	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	Shde
Callistemon 'White Anzac'	Bottlebrush	Sep-Mar	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Melaleuca hypericifolia	Paperbark	Oct-Nov	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Melaleuca thymifolia	Thyme Honey Myrtle	Sep-Dec	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Grevillea 'Scarlet Sprite'	-	Sep-Nov	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Kunzea capitata	Pink Kunzea	Sep-Nov	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Nectar & Pollen Eaters Medium Shrubs								
Grevillea 'Mason's Hybrid'	-	all year	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Grevillea 'Superb'	-	all year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon'	-	all year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Callistemon 'Rose Opal'	-	Sep-Nov	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Callistemon pinifolius	Bottlebrush	Sep-Nov	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Acacia linifolia	Flax Wattle	Jan-Apr	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	-	-
Kunzea ambigua	Tick Bush	Oct-Dec	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	-	-
Lambertia formosa	Mountain Devil	Sep-Mar	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia marginata	Silver Banksia	Feb-Jul	-	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Banksia robur	Swamp Banksia	Jan-Jul	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-

Fact Sheet 3		Chart D						
Species Name	Common Name	Flowering	Position			Sun		
Nectar & Pollen Eaters - Large Shrubs			Moist	Open	Shltr	Full	P/Sun	Shde
Banksia integrifolia	Coast Banksia	Jan-Jun	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia spinulosa	Hairpin Banksia	Mar-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia serrata	Saw Banksia	Jan-Apr	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Banksia ericifolia	Heath Banksia	Apr-Aug	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Callistemon pinifolius	Pineleaved B.brush	Sep-Nov	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Callistemon 'Kings Park Special'	-	Aug-Oct	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Callistemon 'Western Glory'	-	Aug-Oct	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Melaleuca fulgens	Honey Myrtle	Sep-Dec	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	--
Melaleuca lateritia	Robin Redbreast	Oct-Jan	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Melaleuca nesophylla	-	Oct-Jan	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Callistemon 'Harkness'	-	Oct-Jan	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Callistemon 'Taree Pink'	-	Aug-Oct	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Sylvia'	-	most of year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Moonlight'	-	most of year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea 'Honey Gem'	-	most of year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Grevillea banksii	Banks Grevillea	all year	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Buckinghamia celsissima	Ivory Curl	Jan-Jun	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Nectar & Pollen Eaters - Trees: Small to Large								
Eucalyptus exima 'Nana'	-	Aug-Oct	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Callistemon salignus	Willow Bottlebrush	Sep-Oct	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Backhousia myrtifolia	Grey Myrtle	Nov-Dec	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	-	-
Angophora hispida	Dwarf Myrtle	-	-	Open	-	F/Sun	--	-
Eucalyptus haemastoma	Scribbly Gum	Nov-Mar	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Eucalyptus eximia	Yellow Bloodwood	Sep-Nov	-	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Eucalyptus robusta	Swamp Mohogany	Apr-Sep	Moist	Open	-	F/Sun	-	-
Syzygium 'Aussie Southern'	-	Dec-Mar	Moist	Open	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-
Syzygium luehmannii	Riberry	Sep-Feb	Moist	-	Shltr	F/Sun	P/Sun	-