



*Allocasuarina luehmannii*

## APS Melton & Bacchus Marsh Inc

Soil Type - In the Melton area, soils are generally loams. Melton is open plain, exposed to drying winds, so that soils dry out quickly. At Bacchus Marsh, soils are alluvial on the river flats, but most housing developments are on the surrounding hills with a variety of soil types.

Botanical Name	Common Name	H x W (m)	Flowering	Colour	Description and notes
<i>Alyogyne huegeli</i> 'West Coast Gem'	Native Hibiscus	3 x 2	Most of the year	Striking purple	Fast growing shrub that likes full or partial sun and good drainage. Frost resistant. Flowers prolifically.
<i>Chamelaucium uncinatum</i> 'Purple Pride'	Geraldton Wax	2-5 x 1-2	Spring	Deep pink	Likes reasonable drainage and a full sun or part sun position. Hardy to most frosts and drought.
<i>Correa pulchella</i>		0.1-1.5 x 1	Winter	Orange or pink	Prostrate to small shrub. Likes a well-drained light to heavy soil, and full sun to part shade. Tolerates frost, drought and limestone soils.
<i>Eremophila glabra</i>	Common Emu-bush	1 x 2	Most of the year	Yellow, orange or red	A variable species with shrub and prostrate forms. It has silvery grey-green leaves, likes reasonable drainage, most soils and full sun. Tolerates frost and drought.
<i>Eremophila maculata</i>	Spotted Emu - bush	0.9 x 1	Spring	Red, yellow, pink or orange	Has tubular flowers. Prefers heavier soils and a full sun position. Frost and drought-tolerant.
<i>Eremophila subteretifolia</i>	Lake King Emu-bush	Prostrate x 2-5	Spring	Yellow-orange	Tubular flowers with bright green foliage. Likes good drainage, a full or part sun position and tolerates drought and some frosts.
<i>Eucalyptus forrestiana</i>	Forrest's Marlock	3-7 x 3	Buds/fruit through the year	Red	A highly ornamental tree with showy red flowers, buds and fruit. Tolerates drought, most frosts and limited water-logging.
<i>Grevillea</i> 'Superb'		1-1.5 x 2	All year	Pinkish yellow	Likes full sun and is frost-tolerant. Large flowers.
<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>	Running Postman	Groundcover	Spring	Red	Needs fairly good drainage and a full or partial sun position. Hardy to most frosts and drought.
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	5-8 x 5-8	Spring	Purple & white	Deciduous, shade tree with an umbrella-shaped crown. Yellow berries follow the flowers and are poisonous. Hardy to most frosts and drought when established.

This region is particularly well suited to dry country plants such as eremophilas and Western Australian eucalypts. Bacchus Marsh is partly sheltered by the surrounding hills, so that soil moisture is better retained than in Melton. The use of superphosphate on former orchards and market gardens at Bacchus Marsh has produced high residual phosphorus levels on some properties, leading to poor results with phosphorus sensitive plants such as banksias and grevilleas. Some hillside areas in Bacchus Marsh have underlying limestone which also adversely affects banksias and grevilleas. The region is noted for low rainfall (around 500mm average but often much lower), low humidity and frost. It is best regarded as a dry country climate and plants selected accordingly. It has a dry summer, moist winter climate and is therefore well suited to growing plants from Western Australia and South Australia, as well as western Victoria.

#### Books and References

SGAP Keilor Plains Group. (1995). *Plants of Melbourne's Western Plains : A Gardener's Guide to the Original Flora*  
Trigg, Clive & Merle. (2000). *Wildflowers of the Brisbane Ranges*. CSIRO Publishing

#### Nurseries

Glenleith, John Mahoney, 275 Whites Rd, Mt Duneed. Telephone: 5264 1091 (10 min south of Geelong)  
Melton Native Nursery (John Forrester), 505 Harkness Road, Melton. Telephone: 9747 8884  
Newport Lakes Native Nursery, 2 Margaret St, Newport. Telephone: 9391 0044 (Discount to APS members, indigenous flora)  
Suntuff Natives, Barb & David Pye, 1220 Bacchus Marsh Road, Bullengarook. Telephone: 5428 9369 (Ring first)  
Vaughan's Australian Plants, 1060 Port Arlington Road, Curlewis. Telephone: 5250 5592  
Western Plains Flora (Ian Taylor), 628 Wildwood Road, Wildwood. Melways 383 K2. Telephone: 9740 3178  
Wild about Wattle, Wattle Display Garden. (West Melton) By appointment only. Call Esther: 0411 148 874 (Plants for sale, orders welcome.)

#### Contact Person

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