

# Common Local Native Species of the Adelaide Plains

### 💥 Upper Storey - Small to Tall Trees

#### Golden Wattle 🖓 🙅 Acacia pycnantho

**Description**: A small to medium sized upright tree. It is reasonably fast growing, but can be short-lived 10 – 15 yrs. Large attractive glossy leaves especially in the earlier years of growth. Fast growth provides good coverage for a new garden. A non-invasive species suitable for small gardens, and allows for under planting of small shrubs and groundcover species

Height & width: Height 5-8m x Width 2-3m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open sunny position, & suits most well drained soils

Flowers: Attractive golden yellow flowers in late winter to early spring

Maintenance: Low water use once established. Fast growing small tree beneficial as part of a screen with more compact shrub species planted in between

Habitat Value: Nectar provides food for birds. Naturally occurs throughout a wide range of habitats throughout the Adelaide Hills & Plains.









City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters

### Common Local Native Species of the Adelaide Plains

denbergia violaceo

#### Swamp Wattle 🗳 Acacia retinodes

**Description:** A small open tree. As the name suggest this small tree prefers swampy or boggy conditions. It is a fast growing small tree with long dull green leaves. May be short-lived 10 – 15 yrs. Fast growth provides good coverage for a new garden. A non-invasive species suitable for small gardens, and allows for under planting of small shrubs and groundcover species Height & width: Height 5-8m x Width 2-3m

Preferred Position: Prefers a semi shady - open sunny position, & suits most boggy soils.

Flowers: Attractive pale yellow globular flowers in spring to early summe

Maintenance: Low water use once established and will tolerate extended dry periods during summer months if boggy conditions exist during the winter

months. Fast growing small tree beneficial as part of a screen with more compact shrub species planted in between.

Habitat Value: Flowers and seed pods attract both birds and insects. Naturally occurs along the riparian zone and wetter areas of the Adelaide Plains and

# Drooping Sheoak 💥

### Allocasuarina verticillata

Description: A medium sized upright tree that is reasonably fast growing. Drooping needles form the plants eaves. Fast growth provides good coverage for a new garden. A noninvasive species suitable for medium sized gardens, and allows for under

planting of small shrub and groundcover species.

Height & width: Height 6-10m x Width 2-3m Preferred Position: Prefers an open sunny position, & suits most

well drained soils.

Flowers: Separate male and female plants. Female plant has round fruit cones with the male plant displaying drooping golden flowers on the needle tips in autumn.



hills face.



Photo: K.Maitland

Maintenance: Low water use once established. Fast growing medium sized tree beneficial as part of a screen with more compact shrub species planted in between

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred throughout the Adelaide Plains and Hills. Seeds are an important food source for the endangered Glossy Black Cockatoo and a number of other bird species.



Plant photography - Our Patch

### 💥 Middle Storey - Medium Shrub

#### Scurf Pea 淤 Cullen australasicum

**Description:** Hardy low maintenance medium sized open shrub. Reasonably fast growing, but can be short-lived if not maintained.

- Height & width: Height 1-2m x Width 1-2m
- Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun to semi shaded position, & suits most soil conditions.
- Flowers: Small white to pale pink flowers appear during spring Maintenance: Can be a low maintenance plant but does
- respond well to regular light pruning to maintain a compact form. This will prevent the more common straggly appearance
- of the naturally occurring plants.

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred along the terrestrial zones of the Adelaide plains and hills face. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

#### \_\_\_\_\_ Sticky Boobialla 💥 Myoporum viscosum

**Description:** Hardy low maintenance medium sized shrub with attractive glossy dark green leaves. Often mistaken as an exotic plant rather than a local native species because of the glossy green leaves.

Height & width: Height 1-2m x Width 1-2m

growth.

**Preferred Position:** Prefers an open full sun to semi shaded position, & suits most soil conditions.

Flowers: Very attractive shrub with masses of white flowers appearing from late winter through spring

Maintenance: Low maintenance hardy plant, can be lightly pruned after flowering and in autumn to maintain compact form. May require summer water during the first year of



Habitat Value: Naturally occurred throughout a wide range of locations throughout the Adelaide plains and hills face. The berries provide a food source for birds



### Middle Storey - Medium Shrub

### Acacia acinacea

Width 2m

Description: Medium to large tree and is only suitable for very large gardens. Attractive yellowish or mottled trunk and usually reasonably upriah

- Height & width: Height 20-30m x Width 5-8m
- Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun position, & suits
- most well drained soils

SA Blue Gum 🚿

**Eucalyptus leucoxylon** 

Flowers: Cream flowers appear from May to Dec Maintenance: Low maintenance & low water use tree. Can

drop a reasonably amount of leaf litter. Habitat Value: Naturally occurs along the terrestrial zones of the Adelaide plains and

Nectar provides a food source for a range of birds and older trees with hollows provide important habitat for birds and marsupials.

## Round-leaf Wattle 淤

Description: A small to medium attractive fast growing shrub. Has an open branching appearance, with small round leaves along the branching stems. A non-invasive species that is suitable for small garder Height & width: Height 2m x



Preferred Position: Prefers an open sunny position, & suits most well drained soils

Flowers: Attractive yellow flowers along the length of the stems in late winter to early spring. Flowers can cover the entire plant producing a spectacular display.

Maintenance: Low water use once established. Can be pruned after flowering to maintain a more compact form. Suitable to be under-planted with smaller shrubs or ground cover such as Hardenbergia violacea.

Habitat Value: Provides good shelter & nectar for small birds.



#### Christmas Bush 💉 Bursaria spinosa

soils

summer

plant

Description: Reasonably fast growing upright small tree or large shrub. Dark green small leaves cover this non-invasive species suitable for small gardens. Allows room under planting groundcover and native grass species

Height & width: Height 3-4m x Width 1-3m

**Preferred Position:** Prefers an open sunny to semi shaded position, & suits most well drained to slightly water retaining

Flowers: One of few local native species to flower through the summer months. Masses of cream, sweetly perfumed flowers can cover the plant from late spring through to late

Maintenance: Low water use hardy small tree once established. Beneficial as a screen in a mass planting or with other native shrubs and small trees. Beautiful as a feature

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred within the outer riparian to terrestrial zone of the Adelaide plains and hills face. Provides suitable habitat and protection for small birds and can act as a host plant for butterfly larvae



### Kangaroo Thorn 💞

#### Acacia paradoxa

**Description**; A medium sized compact shrub. Prickly thorns persist along the entire stem between small pointed leaves. Excellent for keeping out unwanted visitors and can be

used as a screen. Moderately

fast growing and provides excellent habitat & protection for small native birds. A non-invasive species suitable for medium to large gardens.

Height & width: Height 2-4m x Width 2-3

Preferred Position: Prefers an open sunny position, & suits most well drained soils.

Flowers: Attractive bright yellow globular flowers in late winter to early spring.

Maintenance: Low water use shrub. Beneficial as a screen plant & can be pruned after flowering to encourage a more compact form



Plant photography - Our Patch

#### Sticky Hop Bush 🚀 Dodonaea viscoso

Description: Medium size shrub with attractive green foliage and bronze papery seed-pods appearing in spring. Suitable for mass screen planting or mixed with other native shrubs and small tree species.

Height & width: Height 2-3m x Width 1-2m

**Preferred Position:** Prefers an open full sun or semi-shaded position, & suits most well drained soils.

Flowers: Small green flowers are insignificant, although an attractive display of crimson winged seeds appear from late winter to spring.

Maintenance: Very low maintenance & low water use plant once established. Can be lightly pruned at the end of spring to maintain a more compact habit

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred through a wide range of habitats from the Adelaide Plains to the Hills. The seeds are an excellent food source for larger birds.







## Australian Hollyhock 💸

Lavatera plebeia

Description: Fast growing perennial shrub. Attractive large green leaves. Good for large rockery gardens and perennial flowering gardens.

Height & width: Height 2-3m x Width 1-2m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun – semi shaded

position, & suits most soils Flowers: Attractive large white to pale pink flowers

appear in spring

Maintenance: Low maintenance & low water use plant. Can be pruned back quite severally after flowering to maintain a more compact form.

Habitat Value: Naturally occurs along the riparian zones and throughout the terrestrial area of the Adelaide

plains. Flowers provide good food source for butterflies and insects



Plant photography - Our Patch

#### Short-leaf Honey-Myrtle 🐳 Melaleuca brevifolia

Description: Hardy low maintenance & low water use medium sized compact shrub. Excellent for use as a screen plant either mass planted or planted with small trees

Height & width: Height 2-3m x Width 2-3m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun - semi shaded position, & suits most soil conditions.

Flowers: Attractive cream flowers cover the stems of old wood during spring and early summer

Maintenance: Low maintenance hardy plant, can be lightly pruned after flowering to maintain compact form. Habitat Value: Naturally occurred along the terrestrial zones of the Adelaide plains and hills face, although is now quite rare. Provides a good food source for nectar feeding birds.





#### Habitat Value:

Excellent habita & protection for small birds. Nectar provides food source for birds. Naturally occurs through a wide range of habitats throughout the Adelaide Plains and Hills.



# Common Local Native Species of the Adelaide Plains

projects

### 🕉 Middle Storey - Small Shrub

#### Rock Correa 🐉 Correa glabra

Description: Small compact shrub with attractive dark green leaves. Reasonably fast growing. This non-invasive species is suitable for small gardens, rockeries and suitable to be planted under trees and open shrubs. Height & width: Height 1m x Width 1-2m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open to semi shaded position

& suits most well drained soils, although is lime sensitive Flowers: Pale yellow tubular bell flowers appear from winter to spring

Maintenance: Low water use once established, but may require summer watering in first few years. Can be clipped back after flowering to encourage new growth and maintain a compact condition

Habitat Value: Good food source for nectar eating birds.



#### Twiggy Daisy Bush 🕉 Olearia ramulosa

Description: Hardy low maintenance medium sized open shrub with blue-grey to green foliage. Reasonably fast growing, but can be short-lived if not maintained

Height & width: Height 1-2m x Width 1-2m Preferred Position: Prefers ar

open full sun to semi shaded position, & suits most soil conditions.

Flowers: Small white daisy flowers appear from late autumn to early winte

Maintenance: Can be a low maintenance plant but does respond well to regular light pruning to maintain a compact form. This will prevent the more common straggly pearance of naturally occurring plants.

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred along the terrestrial zones of the Adelaide plains and hills face.



Plant photography - Our Patch 

#### Black Anther Flax-lily 🐲 Dianella revoluta

Description: Medium sized clumpforming lily. Attractive strap green foliage, suitable for mass planting in a landscape projects, or as a low boarder plant. Excellent for small gardens and in rockery

plantings. Height & width: Height 50 - 80cm

x Width 030 - 60cm

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun or semi-shaded position, & suits most well drained soils.

Flowers: Attractive blue flowers appear on stems above the foliage, from early spring through to early summer. Maintenance: Very low maintenance plant once established. Can be planted in clumps or in long rows. Low water use once established, but may require summer watering in first few years. Flower spikes can be cut back



#### Clasping Goodenia 6.00 Goodenia amplexans **Description:** Hardy

spreading shrub with attractive bright limegreen leaves clasping th

entire stem Height & width: Height

Preferred Position: Prefers

semi shady sheltered position, & suits most well drained soils to semi boggy soils. An excellent plant for rockeries and

Flowers: Attractive small yellow flowers appear from early

Maintenance: Low maintenance plant, but can be pruned

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred throughout the Adelaide



Plant photography - Our Patch

ources Management Board. her brochures in the pack include "**Biodiversity in Your Backyard**" as well as "Environmental Weeds are Choking Out Native Plants



Habitat Value:

Naturally

occurred

throughout

voodlands of

the Adelaide

Hills face. Fruit

provides food

source for birds.

ant photography

Plains and

the grassy

### See Lower Storey - Ground Cover

#### Common Everlasting 💖 👾 Chrysocephalum apiculatum

Description: Very hardy fast growing ground cover. Has attractive grey to silver foliage. This non-invasive species suitable for small gardens and rockeries or difficult to establish steep slopes. Height & width: Height 20 - 40 cm x Width 0.5 - 1m



Preferred Position: Prefers an open full-sun position, & requires well-drained soils. Will not tolerate boggy conditions or over watering, and will not grow as vigorously if planted in the shade

Flowers: Long lasting golden yellow flowers appear from late spring through to early autumn.

Maintenance: Very low water use hardy groundcover. Can be clipped back after flowering or in early spring to encourage new growth and maintain a compact condition. Light pruning of dead flowers during summer months will encourage new flowers and a longer flowering season

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred within the grassy woodlands of the Adelaide plains and hills face. anessa kershawi Australian Painteo



### Lower Storey - Native Grass Kangaroo Grass 🕂 🙅

Themeda triandra

Plant photography - Our Patch

**Description:** Hardy low maintenance clump forming native grass. Very attractive when planted in clumps or used as a low boarder in a landscaping type project. The grassy foliage remains green throughout the summer months.

Height & width: Height 1-2m x Width 1-2m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun to semi shaded position, & suits most soil conditions.

Flowers Rusty orange flowers heads appear on long stalks above the foliage in spring and summer.

Maintenance: Low maintenance hardy native grass. Responds well to being cut back annually after flowering. Habitat Value: Naturally occurred along the terrestrial zones of the Adelaide plains and hills face.



Butterfly photography Lindsay Hunt Robert H Fishe



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x Width 1-2m

steep slopes

spring to early summer, but can be present all year.

regularly to control and promote new growth.

plains and hills face.



### Lower Storey - Sedge & Rush

#### Ruby Saltbush 🔌 Enchylaena tomentosa

Description: Attractive bluegrey foliaged groundcover. Very hardy, fast growing and suits a range of conditions. Excellent for planting under trees and shrubs and suits difficult to establish steep slopes and rockeries

Height & width: Height 20-50cm x Width 1-2m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun or semi-shaded position, & suits most well drained soils.

Flowers: Flowers are in insignificant, although an attractive display of yellow or red berries appear from late summer to autumn

Maintenance: Very low maintenance low water use plant. Can be planted in clumps or long strips for landscape

Habitat Value: Naturally occurs throughout the western and northern Adelaide Plains. Berries are a good food



#### Native Lilac Hardenbergia violacea

**Description:** Hardy low water use scrambling and/or climbing plant with attractive dark green leaves Height & width: Height 1-2m x Width 2-3m

Preferred Position: Prefers an

open full sun - semi shaded position, & suits most well drained soils. An excellent plant for rockeries and steep slopes. Can be used to cover unattractive item and will scramble across trellis or wire fences

Flowers: Attractive lilac pea flowers appear from early spring to early summer

Maintenance: Low maintenance plant, but can be pruned regularly to control and promote new growth.

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred throughout the Adelaide plains and hills face.



#### Tall Sedae Carex appresa

Description: Reasonably fast growing tall sedge with attractive brown upright flower spikes. Can be used to assist with bank stabilisation along creeks or for planting around medium to large ponds

Height & width: Height 1-1.5m x Width 1m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open sunny to semi-shaded position. It is only suitable for boggy conditions or for use along creek-lines, but will tolerate periods of dry during the summer months.

Flowers: Brown upright flower stalks during spring.

Maintenance: Hardy low maintenance tall sedge. Habitat Value: Naturally

occurred within the inner riparian zone of the Adelaide plains and hills face. Provides suitable shelter & habitat for aquatic and terrestrial animals.



#### Pale Rush Juncus pallidus

Description: Hardy low maintenance clump forming rush. Excellent for mass plantings in a landscape type project or for use around ponds or as a low border plant

Height & width: Height 50-100cm x Width 30-50cm Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun – semi shaded position, & suits most soils. Prefers a moist position, but will grow well in a well draining situation. Flowers: Attractive branched flower heads appear at the end of tall spikes make this an attractive landscaping plant.

Maintenance: Very low maintenance & low water use plant

Habitat Value: Naturally occurs along the riparian zones and throughout semi boggy area of the Adelaide

### Stiff Flat-sedge

Cyperus vaginatus

screen

Height & width: Height 1 – 1.5m x Width 0.5 – 1 m

Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun or semi-shaded position, & suits most soils, although prefers a semi boggy condition. Can tolerate soils that dry out during the summer months. Excellent for stream bank planting and to stabilise soil and reduce erosion.

Flowers: Clustered brown flowers appear from spring to summer

Maintenance: Very low maintenance plant once established. Excellent for clump plantings, low boarders or



for use around feature ponds. Low water use once established, Habitat Value: Naturally occurred and still exists along watercourses and in low-lying areas through the Adelaide plains and hills face. Excellent habitat & shelter for aquatic and river dwelling animals.

## Tassel Sedae

Carex fascicularis

**Description:** Reasonably fast growing medium sized sedge with attractive brown tassel flower spikes. Can be used to assist with bank stabilisation along creeks or for planting around medium to large ponds.

Height & width: Height 1-1.5m x Width 1m

**Preferred Position:** Prefers an open sunny to semi-shaded position. It is only suitable for boggy conditions or for use along creek-lines, but will tolerate periods of dry during the summer months.

Flowers: Attractive brown tassel flower spikes in Spring Maintenance: Hardy low maintenance medium to tall sedge

Habitat Value: Naturally occurred within the inner riparian zone o the Adelaide plains and hills face. Provides suitable habita and protection

for aquatic and

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hoto: Mt Lofty Ranges Southern Emu-wren 8? leurieu Peninsula Swamps Recovery Program

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#### Knobby Club-rush Isolepis nodosa

**Description:** Hardy low maintenance clump forming rush. Excellent for mass plantings in a landscape type project or for use around ponds or as a low border plant.

Height & width: Height 50- 100cm x Width 30-50cm Preferred Position: Prefers an open full sun - semi shaded position, & suits most soils. Prefers a moist position, but will grow fine in a well draining situation. Flowers: Attractive round brown fruit at the end of tall spikes make this an attractive landscaping plant. Maintenance: Very low maintenance & low water use

Habitat Value: Naturally occurs along the riparian zones



orst, G.R.M & Jessop, J.P. 1998, 'Plants of the Adelaide Plains & Hills,' The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and State Herbarium. p J. Dashorst GRM & James FM, 2006 "Grasses of South Australia"



# plains

Description: Medium sized clumpforming sedge. Attractive dark green foliage and flower heads, suitable for mass planting in a landscape project, or as a low