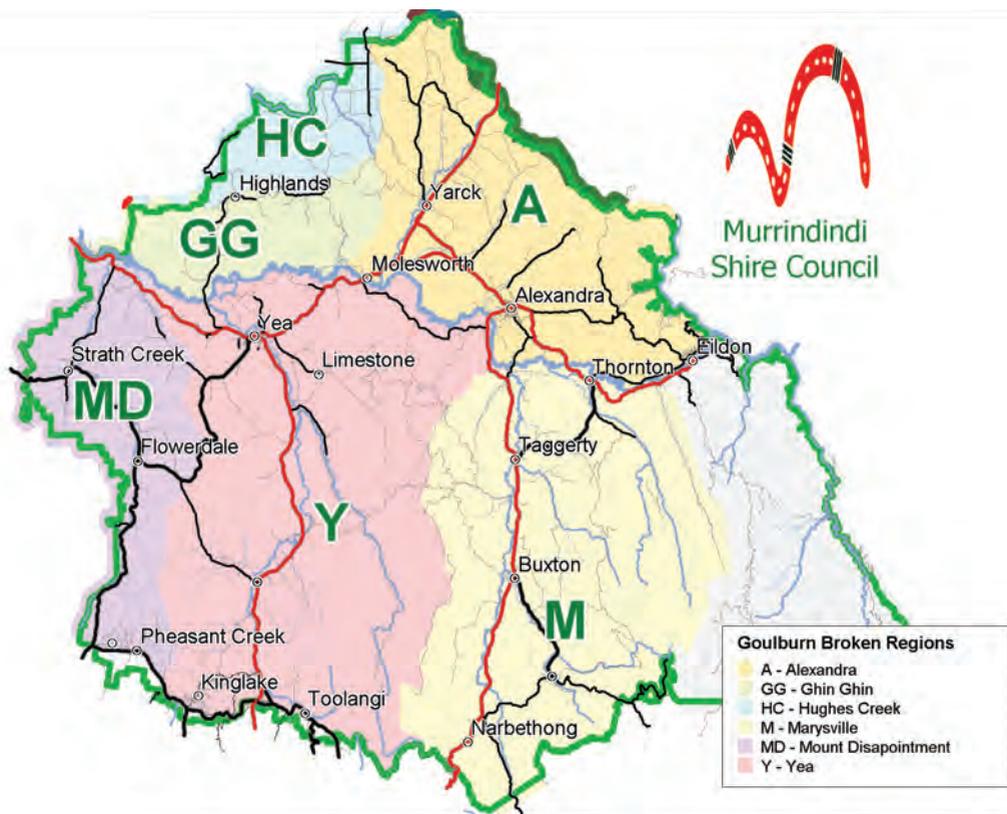




# Plants in your patch

A pictorial guide to native understorey plants found on roadsides in Murrindindi Shire.





**Map Murrindindi Shire and GBCMA Regional areas.**

**CREDITS**

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Generally this booklet does not include: ferns, wildflowers, most herbs or grasses, with a few exceptions. The inclusion of these species was outside the scope of this publication. They are covered in other publications produced by various agencies such as the excellent publication by the Department of Sustainability and Environment entitled *Wildflowers of the foothills and mountains of Northeastern Victoria* (available from [www.gbma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbma.vic.gov.au))

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Disclaimer: This publication may be of assistance to you but the Murrindindi Shire Council and the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequences which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

# INTRODUCTION

Murrindindi Shire covers an area of 3,887 square kilometres and lies within the upper part of the Goulburn River Catchment. The landscape consists of floodplains, grasslands, foothill valleys, woodlands, forest, subalpine and alpine areas. Much of the southern part of the shire is forested with the remaining area substantially modified due to agricultural activities.

Across the Murrindindi Shire much of the original natural vegetation cover has been lost, particularly the understorey layer and especially on private land. Understorey plants include those plants under the canopy of larger trees such as small trees, shrubs, herbs, grasses, sedges, rushes, ferns, climbers and groundcovers.

What native vegetation remains has become isolated and fragmented, with small remnant patches occurring on roadsides, reserves and pockets of private property. As native vegetation has become more and more depleted across the shire, roadsides have become increasingly more important as a last refuge for many plants and animals, sometimes providing the only connection between 'islands' of vegetation and allowing for genetic exchange. Locations with a varied and diverse understorey indicate a healthier, more resilient community which has a greater capacity to recover after such events as fire or soil disturbance.

Indigenous native vegetation comprises those plants that occur naturally together in a particular area. These plants have developed intricate relationships with each other and native animals particularly insect pollinators, all interacting within the environment in which they occur. Indigenous plants have the greatest chance of growth, regeneration and survival, having adapted to the local soils, climate and topography.

This reference guide provides a visual representation of the more frequently found understorey plants you may find on roadsides, reserves and possibly adjacent farmland. Whilst there are 100 plants showcased, there are many more that have not been included. The purpose is to provide a representative selection to assist in plant identification and in doing so help generate a greater understanding and appreciation of our natural heritage.

This booklet could be used in conjunction with the comprehensive Upper Goulburn Landcare Network's *Restoring our landscape, A basic revegetation guide for fire-affected areas* to assist with the plant selection list provided.

It also provides an indicative location guide for each plant listed, based on the Goulburn Broken Revegetation Guide Region boundaries as outlined per *Revegetation Guide for the Goulburn Broken Catchment* (see references page 108). There are six regions within the Murrindindi Shire: Hughes Creek, Alexandra, Mt Disappointment, Ghin Ghin, Marysville and Yea (refer to Map Murrindindi Shire and GBCMA Regional Areas). A legend is displayed on each page. Green denotes areas a plant may be found.

## MANAGING ROADSIDES

Local government is responsible for administering various legislative requirements in relation to roadsides and native vegetation. For the Murrindindi Shire Council this means responsibility for over 1,238 kilometres of municipal roadsides.

Under the *Road Management Act, 2004*, Murrindindi Shire Council has a responsibility to ensure municipal roads within the shire are maintained for safe passage of road users,

## Why is native vegetation important?

- Provides ecosystem services, such as soil formation, sediment filtration, water and air quality, pollination of crops and insect control by birds and mammals
- Increases biodiversity (diversity of life)
- Is visually important in the landscape
- Stimulates research, education and awareness
- Minimises land and water degradation
- Supplies food, shelter, refuge, nesting sites and habitat for native fauna
- Offers carbon sequestration
- Includes cultural heritage
- Enriches recreational enjoyment

whilst the *Planning and Environment Act, 1987* requires the Murrindindi Shire Council to protect native vegetation on municipal roadsides and reserves.

Further, Victorian legislation under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988* and Federal legislation under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999* bestows local government with a responsibility of protecting rare, threatened or endangered species within the Murrindindi Shire. At times administering the *Road Management Act*, the *Planning and Environment Act* and other Federal and State legislation requirements can be challenging.

To assist with appropriate management of environmental values on roadsides Murrindindi Shire Council has mapped roadsides for conservation significance; and developed Roadside Management Guidelines. The Roadside Management Guidelines and this reference will assist landowners, managers, contractors, surveyors, nature and garden enthusiasts. When undertaking any works on land that impacts on vegetation, it is important to be able to identify whether the plant is native or otherwise significant.

Apart from the ecological benefits of retaining native vegetation there are also sites that have rare, threatened or endangered plants. Other locations have evidence of cultural heritage, such as scar trees and birthing trees.

You may need a planning permit to remove native vegetation from your property and you definitely cannot remove native vegetation from someone else's land such as roadsides, or adjoining property without consent from the land manager/owner (and they too may need a planning permit).

A planning permit from Council is required to remove, destroy or lop native vegetation (including dead trees with a diameter at breast height of 40cm). Exemptions do apply to accommodate domestic and rural practices such as fire preparedness and fencing. If unsure however, it is recommended that you contact Council's Planning and Environment Departments to discuss your situation. Infringement penalties may apply if native vegetation is cleared without a permit where a permit is required.

## WEED CONTROL

Recent amendments to the *Catchment and Land Protection Act, 1994 (CaLP Act)* have made local government responsible for managing the majority of declared weed species on municipal roadside. Under the *CaLP Act*, private land owners and public land managers have a responsibility to prevent the growth and spread of weeds on their land that are declared under this Act.

These declared weeds cause economic and environmental damage and may also present a risk to human and animal health. In addition undeclared weeds (or environmental weeds) such as invasive, introduced pasture grasses like phalaris or garden escapees like Japanese honeysuckle can be just as challenging and costly to control and just as threatening to the environment.

Declared and undeclared weeds quickly outcompete native vegetation and contribute to increased fuel loads on roadsides. Where native plants successfully compete with these exotics, the result generally leads to:

- lower fuel loads
- improved ecological services for the environment
- significantly less financial outlay on weed control

Local government, Landcare groups, private landowners, and numerous agencies work together to control noxious weeds with better results occurring when collaborating together. Advice, assistance and incentives for controlling noxious weeds and other invasive plants is provided by the Murrindindi Shire Council and the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network.

Murrindindi Shire Council's roadside weed control plan prioritises areas of control under the following criteria:

- Highly significant roadsides
- Rare, threatened or endangered species or ecological communities
- Collaboration with other agencies, groups, landowners

For more information on Murrindindi Shire Council roadside weed control plan, weed action groups, or general information on weeds within the shire contact the Environmental Programs Unit at the Murrindindi Shire Council Alexandra Office on (03) 5772 0333.



Murrindindi Shire Council has signposted a number of roadsides within the Shire that are considered environmentally significant (presence of rare, threatened or endangered communities or species). Please follow the sign's instructions and if works are likely to impact on roadside vegetation contact the Murrindindi Shire Council as advised.

Throughout this booklet you will notice certain plants are protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*. For more information see Protected Flora list at the Department of Environment and Primary Industries website [www.depi.vic.gov.au](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au)

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*Acacia dealbata*Common name: **Silver Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found on sheltered slopes in mountain forests and along watercourses of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Tall shrub or large tree to 30m. Smooth to deeply fissured grey to black bark. Silvery, green-greyish foliage. One raised gland on stems between bipinnate leaves. Fast growing. Flowers late winter-spring, producing yellow scented flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed or suckers, especially after disturbance such as fire or earthworks. Can coppice after cutting or burning. Life span from 10-30 years. Helps with soil stabilisation. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Excellent habitat plant attracting seed and insect-eating birds, native butterflies and moths, gliders and possums.

*Acacia implexa*Common name: **Lightwood**

**Habitat:** Found on north or west facing drier slopes in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Shrub or small tree to 15m. Greyish bark. Long, multi-veined, sickle shaped leaves. Moderate to fast growth rate. Flowers from summer-autumn, producing yellow to white scented flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed or suckers, especially after disturbance such as fire or earthworks. Long lived with a life span up to 100 years. Helps with soil stabilisation and has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Excellent habitat plant attracting seed and insect-eating birds, native butterflies and moths. Provides good roosting sites for birds.

*Acacia mearnsii*Common name: **Black Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found on drier slopes in gentle to moderate hilly country in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading tree to 15m. Rough, blackish, fissured bark. Dark green leaves, paler below with downy hairs. Irregularly spaced glands on stems between bipinnate leaves. Fast growing. Flowers spring-summer producing pale yellow, scented flowers, densely clustered into globular fluffy heads.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed or suckers, especially after disturbance such as fire or earthworks. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. May be short lived. Sensitive to fire when young. Excellent habitat plant attracting seed and insect-eating birds, native butterflies and moths, gliders and possums. Provides structural diversity for nesting and foraging.

*Acacia mearnsii* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia melanoxylon*

Common name: **Blackwood**



**Habitat:** Found in wetter soils, in valleys, on flats, and in mountainous areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, shady tree up to 30m. Deeply fissured, dark grey to black bark, shed in narrow strips. Dense, dark green foliage with alternate, broad to sickle shaped, leathery leaves. Fast growing. Flowers spring-summer, producing pale yellow to white fluffy, globular, solitary flowers on short hairy stalks. Bunches of distinctive red-brown seeds inside pale brown seed pods.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed or suckers, especially after disturbance such as fire or earthworks. Suckers from stumps and exposed roots. Helps with soil stabilisation and has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Long lived with a life span up to 100 years. Excellent habitat plant attracting seed and insect-eating birds and pollen for native butterflies and moths. Good screening or shelterbelt plant.

# *Acacia pycnantha*

Common name: **Golden Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found in eucalypt forest or woodland in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, medium shrub or small tree to 10m. Dark brown to greyish, smooth or finely fissured bark. Leaves narrow to sickle-shaped with one main vein. Flowers winter-spring producing golden yellow, scented, fluffy flowers, often forming a drooping panicle. Produces green leather fruit pods, turning brown. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed after fire. Can be invasive. Short lived. Fibrous roots help control soil erosion. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Short lived (5-15 years). Flowers and nectar attracts small birds and native butterflies, moths and insects. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds. Provides nesting sites for birds. Sap is a food source for possums and gliders. Australia's floral emblem.

*Acacia pycnantha* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

*Allocasuarina verticillata*Common name: **Drooping She-oak**

**Habitat:** Found on low, dry, rocky hills in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small to medium shady tree to 12m. Furrowed bark. Growth initially fast then moderately slow growing. Darkly contrasting foliage. Trees are either male or female. Flowering males produce yellow-brown spikes, females produce red flowers year round. Females produce cones. Produces large root nodules that house microorganisms that 'fix' nitrogen.

**Notes:** Regenerates from root suckers and seeds. Will coppice. Useful plant for erosion control. Long lived (50-100 years) Attracts both insect and seed-eating birds and older plants provide perching sites for birds of prey.

# *Banksia marginata*

Common name: **Silver Banksia**



**Habitat:** Found on damper sites, along creek banks and in dry forests in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Compact medium shrub or small tree to 10m. Flowers autumn-winter producing pale yellow honey scented flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates after a fire from seed or reshooting from lignotubers if present. Silver banksia may make an appearance after fire where previously it was absent. Long lived. Will not tolerate increased levels of phosphorus in the soil. Good source of nectar for birds which help pollinate the plant. Seed-eating birds are also attracted as are pygmy possums, native butterflies and moths. As a winter flowering plant it is a critical food source for honeyeaters, migrating birds and possums.

# *Bedfordia arborescens*

Common name: **Blanket Leaf**



**Habitat:** Found in temperate rainforests and wet gullies in higher altitude areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** A small tree or shrub up to 6m. Long leaves, finely wrinkled and dull green above with a woolly white underside. Leaves are alternate with wavy edges and clustered at the tips of the branches. Flowers late spring-summer producing yellow flowers clustered into dense heads.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed often following disturbance, such as fire.

*Bedfordia arborescens* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Bursaria spinosa*

Common name: **Sweet Bursaria**



**Habitat:** Found in foothills, woodland and riparian areas throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Very hardy large shrub or small tree to 6m. Juvenile branches contain slender thorns. Small, roundish, leaves appear in clusters around the stem. Flowers summer-autumn producing perfumed white flowers, followed by brown seed capsules. Moderate to fast growth rate.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed. Fibrous roots aid soil stabilisation. Long lived. Good habitat plant. Nectar and pollen attracts wasps, butterflies, moths and other native insects. Attracts both seed and insect-eating birds. Provides refuge and nesting sites for small birds.

# *Callistemon sieberi*

Common name: **River Bottlebrush**



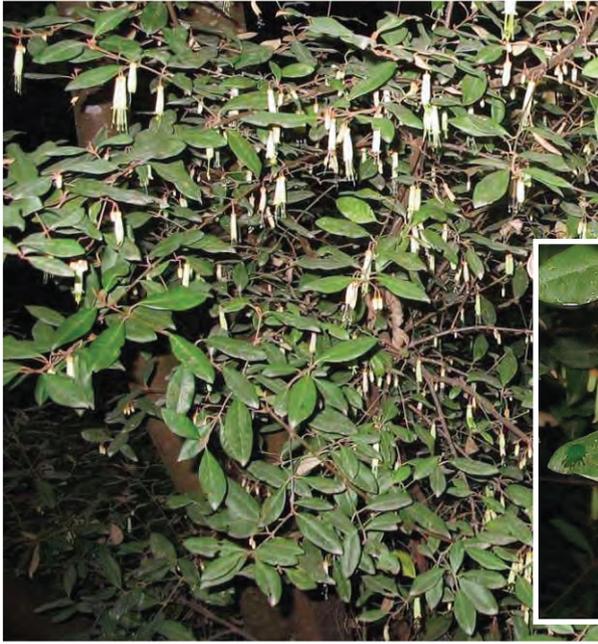
**Habitat:** Found along rocky riverbeds and watercourses throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small, weeping tree up to 3m. Hard bark, fissured on older plants. Flowers in spring-summer producing cream or pale yellow flowers. Moderate to fast growth rate.

**Notes:** Regeneration after fire, from seed, stem and coppice or after flood. Soil binding, fibrous roots. Good habitat plant. Flowers provide nectar for small birds, moths, butterflies and other insects. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds. Foliage provides good refuge for birds.

# *Correa lawrenciana*

Common name: **Mountain Correa**



**Habitat:** Found in tall mountain eucalypt forests in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Dense, upright small tree or large shrub to 8m. Dark green leaves. Flowers mostly autumn-spring producing yellow-green flowers.

**Notes:** Good habitat plant providing shelter for birds. Attracts seed and nectar-eating birds.

*Correa lawrenciana* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Exocarpus cupressiformis*

Common name: **Cherry Ballart**



**Habitat:** Found mostly in open forest and woodlands on foothills and mountains of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Much branched, weeping shrub or small tree to 6m. Dense, hairy, yellowy-green foliage to 8m. Leaves are sparse on ribbed yellow-green to dark green branchlets. Branches appear leafless as leaves are reduced to scales. Inconspicuous cream coloured flowers in spring-summer. Produces red globular berries. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Suckers after root damage. Will coppice. Parasitises roots of surrounding plants when young. Good habitat plant providing refuge for birds amongst dense foliage. Fruits attract birds which aid in dispersal of seed. Attracts insect-eating birds, nectar-eating birds and provides habitat for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths.

*Kunzea ericoides*Common name: **Burgan**

**Habitat:** Found in open forest, foothills and riparian areas throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Dense, large, weeping shrub or small tree to 4m, with stiff upright branches and small green leaves. Flowers in summer with creamy white, fragrant flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. A rampant grower and will coppice. Good habitat plant but can tend to be invasive after disturbance. Once shade is established through overstorey this plant tends to lose dominance. Attracts insect-eating birds. Helps with soil stabilisation.

# *Leptospermum continentale*

Common name: **Prickly Tea-Tree**



**Habitat:** Found in swamps in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, upright, rigid and prickly, large shrub to 2m. Narrow green leaves, tapering to a sharp point. Smooth bark on smaller stems shedding in stringy strips. Flowers in spring-summer producing white, showy flowers (5 petals). Distinctive 5 lobed woody fruit. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, suckers and lignotubers, particularly after soil disturbance. Life span to 30 years. Fibrous roots help with erosion control. Good habitat plant providing a refuge for small birds. Flowers provide pollen and nectar for native butterflies, moths and insects.

# *Melicytus dentatus*

Common name: **Tree Violet**



**Habitat:** Found on slopes and riparian areas in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, prickly, medium to large shrub to 3m. Dark green leaves with toothed margins. Slow growth rate. Flowers winter-summer producing fragrant, small, pale yellow, bell-shaped flowers. Produces berries.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Seed dispersal aided by birds and large reptiles such as the blue tongue lizard. Long life span. Good habitat plant with foliage providing refuge and nesting sites for small birds.

# *Melaleuca ericifolia*

Common name: **Swamp Paperbark**



**Habitat:** Found at low elevations, in moist, inundated or riparian areas within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small tree to 7m. Narrow leaves and pale papery bark. Flowers spring-summer producing cream-white, perfumed flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed and readily suckers to form dense copse. Fibrous roots help with soil stabilisation. Can be invasive. Foliage provides refuge for small birds. Attracts nectar-eating birds, butterflies and moths.

# *Melaleuca parvistaminea*

Common name: **Rough-barked Honey-myrtle**



**Habitat:** Mostly found in riparian areas of the upper Goulburn River reaches of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Shrub or small tree to 5m. Hard, rough, scaly bark. Linear leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing profuse, conspicuous and fragrant white or cream flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed to form thickets. Fibrous roots aid in erosion control. Good habitat with foliage providing refuge for small birds. Flowers provide a food source for nectar-feeding birds, butterflies and moths.

# *Olearia argophylla*

Common Name: **Musk Daisy-bush**



**Habitat:** Found mostly in taller forests in cool, moist, sheltered slopes and gullies at higher elevations in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small tree to 6m. Young foliage appears silvery. Large, broad, dark green, shiny, serrated leaves. Aromatic foliage, musky aroma. Grey-brown fissured bark. Flowers spring-summer producing clusters of small, showy white flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Attracts insect-eating birds.

*Olearia argophylla* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Ozothamnus ferrugineus*

Common name: **Tree Everlasting**



**Habitat:** Found in moist lowland of the southern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small tree or erect shrub to 2.5m. Small, fine, narrow leaves and dense cottony young branches. Leaves shiny above, grey-cottony below. Flowers spring-summer. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates following fire or other disturbance. Good habitat plant. Nectar and seed provide food for insects. Moderate life span (< 20 years). May be mistaken for *Cassinia longifolia* (Shiny Cassinia).

*Ozothamnus ferrugineus* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Polyscias sambucifolia*

Common name: **Elderberry Panax**



**Habitat:** Found in moist gullies or sheltered slopes of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small tree to 5m. Can have a variable appearance. Flowers late spring-summer producing a profuse display of yellow-green flowers. Produces steely-blue, edible berries. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from suckering roots. May form dense colonies. Can assist in erosion control. Plant provides food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths. Attracts seed-eating birds.

# *Pomaderris aspera*

Common name: **Hazel Pomaderris**



**Habitat:** Found in forest and riparian areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small, shady tree to 12m. Rusty-hairy branchlets with large wrinkly, woolly, green leaves (paler on underside). Flowers in spring producing small, profuse cream to green flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates quickly after fire. Helps with soil stabilisation. Trunk provides good habitat for lichens. Attracts butterflies and insect-eating birds.

# *Pomaderris racemosa*

Common name: **Cluster Pomaderris**



**Habitat:** Found in sheltered forests and riparian areas in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small tree to 5m. Dark green leaves. Dense hairs on branches. Flowers spring-summer producing creamy-white flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Attracts butterflies, insects and insect-eating birds. *Pomaderris racemosa* may be mistaken for *Spyridium parvifolium* (Dusty Miller) or the **critically endangered** *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* (Round-leaf Pomaderris).

# *Pomaderris vacciniifolia*

Common name: **Round-leaf Pomaderris**



**Habitat:** Found only in the far south of the Goulburn Broken Catchment in Toolangi, Castella and Kinglake areas.

**Form:** Small tree or large shrub to 4m with weak, spreading branches. Leaves alternate, thin, small, elliptic-round with prominent midvein. Upper side of leaf green and smooth, underside pale greyish. Hairy stems. Flowers in spring producing creamy-white 5 petalled flowers at the end of the branches.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed and suckers, especially after fire and other disturbance. A similar native plant *Spyridium parvifolium* (Dusty Miller) may be mistaken for *Pomaderris vacciniifolia*.

*Pomaderris vacciniifolia* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988* and listed as **critically endangered** under the Federal *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999*.

# *Prostanthera lasianthos*

Common name: **Victorian Christmas Bush**



**Habitat:** Found along water courses and in gullies, forest and subalpine woodland in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy shrub to small tree to 6m. Aromatic leaves. Flowers in summer with showy, white to pale-mauve flowers with purple spots. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Good habitat plant. Flowers provide food source for native bees and moths.

*Prostanthera lasianthos* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia acinacea*

Common name: **Gold-dust Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found mostly on plains and low slopes of dry eucalypt woodland within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, bushy or straggly shrub to 2m. Arching branches. Parallel leaf veins. Flowers winter-spring, producing golden-yellow balls. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed or suckers, especially after disturbance such as fire or earthworks. Can coppice after cutting or burning. Lifespan up to 30+ years. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen and helps with soil stabilisation. Good habitat. Flowers provide a good nectar and pollen source for many insects. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia acinacea* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia genistifolia*

Common name: **Spreading Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forests and woodlands of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, multi-branched, open, straggly, spiny, medium shrub to 2m. Alternate, sharp, spine-like leaves. Flowers winter-spring producing spherical, pale yellow or white fragrant flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed. Can colonise exposed soil. Improves soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. The prickly nature of the plant provides refuge for small birds. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia genistifolia* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

*Acacia gunnii*Common name: **Ploughshare Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found in the foothills of eucalypt open forest or dry woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Prostrate or erect small shrub to 60cm. Hairy branchlets. Sharp pointed triangular leaves. Flowers winter-spring producing spherical, solitary, golden-yellow to white flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, more so after fire. Improves soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Fibrous roots assist with soil stabilisation. Good habitat plant. Flowers provide nectar and pollen for native birds and insects. Attracts seed and insect-eating birds.

*Acacia gunnii* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia lanigera*

Common name: **Woolly Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found in woodland and dry forest of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, small to medium shrub to 2m, with rigid stems and leaves. Grey bark. Flowers late autumn-spring producing golden-yellow flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Helps with soil stabilisation. Good habitat. Flowers provide a good pollen source for many insects and a nectar source for birds. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia lanigera* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia leprosa*

Common name: **Cinnamon Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found in eucalypt woodland or forest of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Medium shrub or small tree to 6m. One main vein on leaves and when crushed produces a cinnamon fragrance. Flowers late winter-spring producing golden to pale yellow scented flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** May be mistaken for *Acacia verniciflua* (Varnish Wattle). Distinguished from *Acacia verniciflua* by having a single vein, and is often a larger more upright shrub. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Provides good habitat, attracting insect eating birds.

*Acacia leprosa* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

*Acacia mucronata*Common name: **Narrow-leaf Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found in forest and woodland in higher rainfall areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect medium shrub or small tree to 6m. Long, fairly straight leaves (can be variable), with several parallel veins, central vein most prominent. Flowers in spring producing spikes of creamy white or pale yellow flowers.

**Notes:** Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Suckers particularly following fire.

*Acacia mucronata* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

*Acacia paradoxa*Common name: **Hedge Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found in woodland or open forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Dense, can be straggly, prickly shrub to 2m. Finely fissured brown-grey bark. Small leaves, dark green foliage with a pair of thorns arising from the base of each leaf. Flowers in spring producing large, solitary, golden-yellow, spherical flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed especially after disturbance such as fire. Fibrous roots may assist with controlling soil erosion. May colonise bare banks in shallow soils. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Short life span of 10+ years. Provides good habitat, particularly as refuge and nesting sites for small birds. Flowers provide a food source for moths, butterflies and other insects. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia rubida*Common name: **Red-stemmed Wattle**

**Habitat:** Found in hilly terrain and near water courses and where soil conditions remain moist in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Upright, shady, small tree or large shrub to 5m. Brown, finely fissured bark. Both juvenile and adult leaves can be seen on the plant. Flowers in spring, producing pale to golden-yellow flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed and suckers, especially after fire. Improves soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Suckering and a fibrous root system make this plant useful for controlling soil erosion. Good habitat plant with foliage providing refuge for small birds, and the flowers provide pollen for native moths, butterflies and other insects. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia rubida* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia verniciflua*

Common name: **Varnish Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found on low slopes to steep hills in dry forest and in woodland in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large, weeping shrub to 4m. Finely fissured grey bark. Resinous, scented branchlets and leaves. Two main veins on leaves. Flowers in spring-summer producing golden-yellow flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates freely via seed, especially after disturbance such as fire. Fibrous roots may assist with controlling soil erosion. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Excellent habitat, attracting both seed and insect-eating birds. May be mistaken for *Acacia leprosa* (Cinnamon Wattle). Distinguished from *Acacia leprosa* by having two main veins on leaves.

*Acacia verniciflua* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Acacia verticillata*

Common name: **Prickly Moses**



**Habitat:** Found mostly on lower slopes in eucalypt forests and woodlands and in riparian areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large, cascading medium to small shrub to 5m with arching or angular branches. Bark greyish-brown and smooth. Spine-like whorled leaves around stems. Prickly plant. Flowers winter-spring producing ovoid-cylindrical, solitary, yellow flowers. Flat, straight or curved dark brown pods. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia verticillata* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Calytrix tetragona*

Common name: **Fringe-myrtle**



**Habitat:** Found on rocky outcrops in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, spreading, medium shrub to 2m. Soft dark bark. Small aromatic leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing white to pink flowers. Flowers, leaves and habit can be variable. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed after fire or other disturbance. Flowers attract moths, butterflies and other insects. Foliage provides refuge for small birds. Attracts insect-eating birds.

*Calytrix tetragona* is protected under the *State Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Cassinia aculeata*

Common name: **Common Cassinia**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forest and woodland throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Medium, erect shrub to 2.5m. Narrow, aromatic, dark green leaves. Downy branches. Flowers throughout summer-autumn producing clusters of white flower-heads. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed after disturbance. Can colonise bare sites. Short lived. Attracts insect-eating birds.

*Cassinia aculeata* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Cassinia arcuata*

Common name: **Drooping Cassinia**



**Habitat:** Found at lower elevations in dry forests in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, dense shrub to 2m. Small, narrow, scented leaves and white, woolly, slender branches. Releases a strong curry smell. Flowers spring-autumn producing drooping plumes of shiny, pale red-brown flower heads. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Germinates any time of year. Can be individual plants or form dense clumps. Readily colonises disturbed areas and bare ground. Potential to be invasive under some circumstances. Attracts insect-eating birds.

*Cassinia arcuata* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Cassinia longifolia*

Common name: **Shiny Cassinia**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forests and woodlands in the foothills and mountains of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, aromatic shrub to 2.5m. Narrow, dark green leaves, arranged around the stem in whorls, underside pale with fine matted hairs. Flowers late spring-summer producing prolific creamy white to straw coloured, clustered flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed following fire. May be short lived. Leaves and flowers may irritate skin. May be mistaken for *Ozothamnus ferrugineus* (Tree Everlasting).

*Cassinia longifolia* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Coprosma hirtella*

Common name: **Rough Coprosma**



**Habitat:** Found at higher elevations on hillsides in woodland, or forests of subalpine areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, medium shrub to 2m. Stiff branches. Flowers spring-summer producing small, inconspicuous, green flowers. Berries turn red. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Good habitat plant. Fruit eaten by mammals and seed-eating birds. Foliage provides refuge for small birds.

# *Coprosma quadrifida*

Common name: **Prickly Currant Bush**



**Habitat:** Found in damp forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Prickly, sparse leaved, erect, shrub to 2m. Small, shiny, olive-green leaves. Flowers in summer producing inconspicuous, greenish flowers. Red, globular berries in summer. Slow to moderate growth.

**Notes:** Good habitat shrub. Fruit attracts seed-eating native birds.

# *Correa reflexa*

Common name: **Common Correa**



**Habitat:** Found on low slopes and hills in dry forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading or erect shrub to 1.5m. Round, dull green leaves with pale underside. Long flowering period from autumn-spring producing tubular, green, or red and green bell-shaped flowers, surrounded at the flower base by two leaves. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates from rootstock after fire. Generally short lived. Good habitat plant attracting nectar-feeding birds. Pollen attracts bees.

# *Daviesia latifolia*

Common name: **Hop Bitter-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forests and hills of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Slender, erect, medium shrub to 2m. Broad, dull green leaves with many angular arching branches. Flowers in spring producing perfumed, showy orange-yellow with reddish markings flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed or suckers especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Good habitat plant providing pollen and nectar for native birds and insects. Attracts butterflies.

# *Daviesia leptophylla*

Common name: **Narrow-leaf Bitter-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forest and woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Multi-stemmed shrub to 2m. Upper branches often leafless. Dull yellow-green, stiff, linear leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing yellow and red-brown flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed or suckers, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Good habitat plant providing pollen and nectar for native birds and insects.

# *Daviesia ulicifolia*

Common name: **Gorse Bitter-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in dry open forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small to medium, prickly, rigid shrub to 2m. Narrow, elliptical leaves tapering to a sharp point, and at right angles to the stem. Flowers spring-summer producing yellow flowers with red-brown markings. Slow growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Good habitat plant providing pollen and nectar for native birds and insects. Attracts butterflies. Prickly foliage provides good refuge for birds.

# *Dillwynia cinerascens*

Common name: **Grey Parrot-pea**



**Habitat:** Found within damper sites of dry forests and woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, multi-branched, erect shrub to 1.5m. Fine slender leaves with bent tips. Flowers in spring producing showy yellow and orange flowers.

**Notes:** Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Provides food for insect-eating birds and caterpillars of native butterflies.

# *Dillwynia juniperina*

Common name: **Prickly Parrot-pea**



**Habitat:** Found on slopes and hills of forests and woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, prickly, medium shrub to 2m. Rigid, narrow leaves. Flowers in spring producing golden yellow and red flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Improves soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Good adaptable habitat plant. Attracts seed and insect-eating birds.

# *Dillwynia sericea*

Common name: **Showy Parrot-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in heathy woodland on hills and slopes in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect, small shrub to 1m. Small, stiff, erect stems and linear leaves. Flowers spring-summer with red and yellow pea shaped flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Attracts butterflies and insect-eating birds.

# *Dodonaea viscosa* ssp. *angustissima*

Common name: **Narrow-leaf Hop-bush**



**Habitat:** Found in open forests and woodlands, on rocky outcrops and drier slopes and sandy sites within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** An erect, multi-stemmed, dense shrub to 4m. Narrow, green, shiny, sticky, linear leaves with wavy margins. Flowers winter-spring with male and female flowers occurring on separate plants. Produces capsules on female plants that turn from green to cream colour through to red. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, the base of the stem or coppice, particularly after fire. Shallow spreading roots make this plant a good soil stabiliser. Excellent habitat plant providing food for kangaroos and wallabies, refuge and food source for small birds, pollen for moths, butterflies and other insects. May live for several decades.

*Dodonaea viscosa* ssp. *cuneata*

Common name: Wedge-leaf Hop-bush



**Habitat:** Found in open woodlands and in riparian areas on plains, slopes and low hills in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Shrub to 2m. Sparse wedge shaped green leaves. Flowers in spring producing inconspicuous reddish flowers. Seed pods turning red whilst ripening. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, stem and coppice, especially after fire. Possible life span of 30+ years. Shallow, spreading roots help bind soil. Good habitat with foliage providing refuge for small birds. Fruits and seeds attract birds. Pollen attracts moths, butterflies and insects. A food source for wallabies and kangaroos.

# *Epacris impressa*

Common name: **Common Heath**



**Habitat:** Found in woodland and open forests in the southern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading, erect, wiry, small, woody shrub to 1.2m. Prickly leaves. Flowers winter-spring producing many tubular red, white or pink flowers. Slow growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Provides nectar for birds. Attracts butterflies. Victoria's floral emblem.

*Epacris impressa* is protected under the *State Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Goodenia ovata*

Common name: **Hop Goodenia**



**Habitat:** Found in forest, woodland and riparian areas in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, sprawling, medium shrub to 2m. Broad, bright green 'varnished' leaves above, slightly paler underneath, aromatic when crushed. Margins of leaves finely toothed. Flowers spring-summer producing bright yellow flowers (5 petals). Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates by suckering, particularly after fire or soil disturbance. Helps with soil stabilisation. Good habitat plant providing shelter and food source for native mice and small insect-eating birds. Shelter for lizards and other reptiles.

# *Goodia lotifolia*

Common name: **Silky Golden-tip**



**Habitat:** Found in wet and dry forests in the southern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Medium, evergreen, erect shrub to 3m. Flowers in spring producing yellow, pea shaped flowers. Trifoliate (3) leaves, broader at tip. Blue-green to grey-green foliage. Smooth velvety stem when young, turning woody with age. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed and suckering, a colonising plant after fire. Attracts butterflies and insect and seed-eating birds. May be mistaken for the noxious weed *Genista monspessulana* (Montpellier or Cape Broom).

*Goodia lotifolia* var. *pubescens* is considered rare.



Montpellier Broom (pictured left) has hairy leaves and stems when young. Distinguished from *Goodia lotifolia* by arrangement of the trifoliate leaves and a ridged stem.

# *Grevillea alpina*

Common name: **Cat's Claw**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forest or woodland and granite hills or slopes throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading, prostrate medium shrub to 2m. Grey-green foliage. Small rounded leaves. Flowers spring-summer, producing bright red and yellow flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, although some provenances will sucker. Form and flower colour can be variable. May be long-lived. Good habitat plant with foliage providing nesting sites for small birds and nectar-attracting native moths, butterflies and small birds.

*Grevillea alpina* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Gynatrix pulchella*

Common name: **Hemp Bush**



**Habitat:** Found in gullies and riparian forest and near creeks on rocky sites within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Open, woody, spreading shrub to 3m. Semi-deciduous. Bright green, heart-shaped, soft, toothed leaves. Flowers in spring producing profuse and fragrant loose clusters of cream-white flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed, and readily in disturbed areas.

# *Indigofera australis*

Common name: **Austral Indigo**



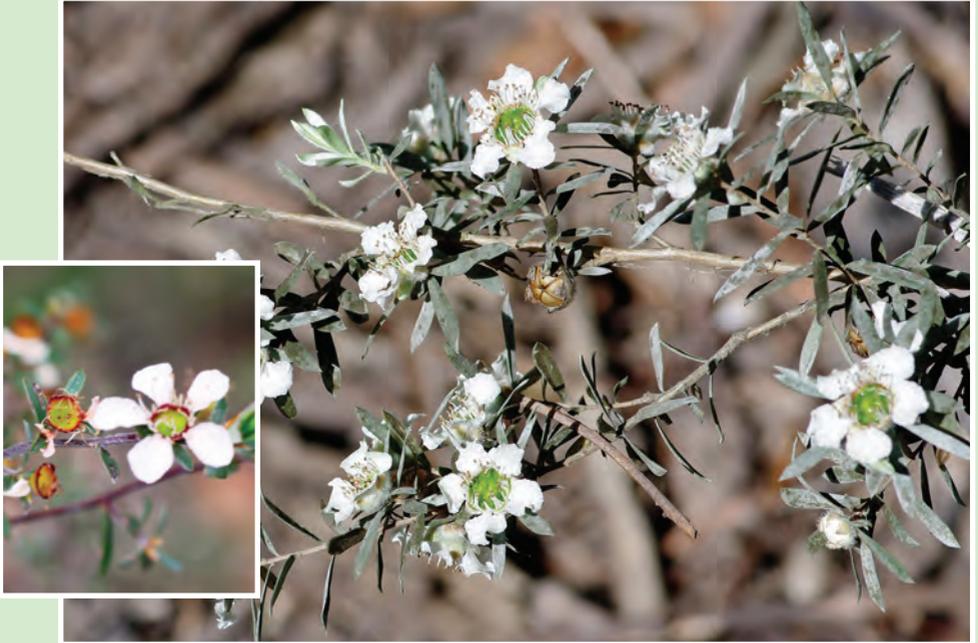
**Habitat:** Found in hilly areas of woodlands and eucalypt forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Open, spreading medium shrub to 2.5m. Long, slender, stiff stems. Leaves with a blunt end or tiny point. Flowers in spring producing pea-like, pink-mauve or white, showy, perfumed flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Good habitat plant. Flowers provide pollen and nectar for insects including bees, wasps and butterflies.

# *Leptospermum lanigerum*

Common name: **Woolly Tea-tree**



**Habitat:** In lowland swamps or riparian areas in the foothills of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small, weeping tree to 3m with greyish leaves. New growth appears silvery. Alternate leaves, dull grey-green above and paler below. Grey, smooth bark on smaller stems, fibrous and persistent bark on larger stems. Flowers spring-summer producing a prolific show of white stalkless and solitary flowers (5 petals). Fruit domed, woody capsules (furry or woolly when young), brown to grey with 5 valves. Moderate to fast growing, with life span of 30+ years.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed. Soil binding fibrous roots. Branches can root if touching moist soil. Good habitat plant with foliage providing refuge to small birds. Flowers provide pollen and nectar source for moths, butterflies and other insects. Insect-eating birds attracted.

# *Leptospermum obovatum*

Common name: **River Tea-tree**



**Habitat:** In low land swampy and riparian areas of the western part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Large shrub or small tree to 3m. Young aromatic, bright green leaves. Smooth bark on smaller stems shedding in stringy strips. Bark more persistent on larger stems. Flowers in summer producing white flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Regenerates by seed with ants aiding dispersal. Fibrous roots assist in erosion control. Good streamside habitat tree providing shade and insect source for fish, with submerged branches providing habitat for micro invertebrates and fish. Flowers provide pollen for butterflies, moths and insects and a nectar source for birds.

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# *Lomatia ilicifolia*

Common name: **Holly Lomatia**



**Habitat:** Found in foothills, woodland and forests of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small erect shrub to 1.5m with long, serrated, holly-like leaves. Leaves crinkled and raised with visible network veins. Flowers in summer producing cream flowers on the end of long shoots.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, especially after fire or other disturbance. Attracts nectar-feeding birds.

# *Olearia lirata*

Common name: **Snowy Daisy-bush**



**Habitat:** Found in the foothills and mountains of wetter forests and woodlands of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading shrub to 4m. Long, soft, wrinkled, alternate leaves; green above, hairy greyish-white beneath. Flowers spring-summer producing white and cream-yellow daisies on terminal, leafy panicles. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, especially after a fire or soil disturbance. Provides nectar and pollen for insects. Attracts insect-eating birds.

*Olearia lirata* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Olearia phlogopappa*

Common name: **Dusty Daisy-bush**



**Habitat:** Found in the foothills and mountains of wetter forests and woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Spreading, medium shrub to 2m. Hairy stems. Long leaves, green above, greyish-white and hairy beneath and toothed margins. Flowers spring-summer producing white and yellow daisies on terminal panicles. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regeneration from seed, especially after fire or soil disturbance. Medium life span. Provides nectar and pollen for insects. Attracts nectar and seed-eating birds.

*Olearia phlogopappa* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Ozothamnus obcordatus*

Common name: **Grey Everlasting**



**Habitat:** Found in dry forests and woodlands of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, erect, slender, spreading shrub to 1m. Erect branches and new growth 'sticky'. Aromatic foliage with leaves shiny and dark-green above, woolly-grey below. Stems appear white-cottony. Flowers in spring producing a profuse display of clusters of golden-yellow flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed, May be short lived. Nectar and seed provide food source for insects and birds.

*Ozothamnus obcordatus* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Pimelea axiflora*

Common name: **Bootlace Bush**



**Habitat:** Found in mountainous country and along streams in wet forests in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Shrub to 3m. Opposite linear leaves. Tough, fibrous bark, peeling in strips. Flowers winter-spring producing white flowers.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed. Provides nectar for insects including butterflies. Attracts insect-eating birds.

# *Pultenaea daphnoides*

Common name: **Large-leaf Bush-pea**



**Habitat:** Found on dry, rocky outcrops and ridges in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect shrub to 2m. Distinctive wedge shaped leaves. Ridged or angled stems. Flowers in spring producing large yellow and red flowers. Moderate to fast growing.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Foliage provides a food source for wallabies and flowers are a nectar source for native wasps and bees.

# *Solanum aviculare*

Common name: **Kangaroo Apple**



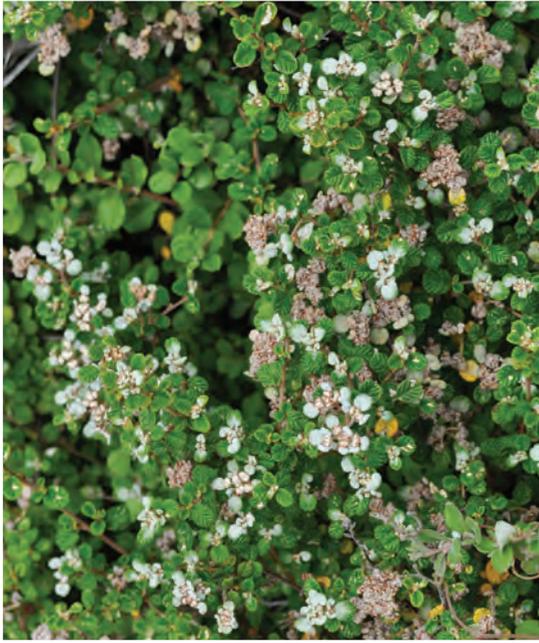
**Habitat:** Found in wet forest throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Soft woody shrub to 3m. Thin leaves, dark and shiny above, paler underneath. Flowers spring-summer producing purple flowers with orange-red to scarlet fruit. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, often a colonising plant following fire. Generally not long lived. Provides bird habitat. Unripe fruits are poisonous. May be poisonous to cattle.

# *Spyridium parvifolium*

Common name: **Dusty Miller**



**Habitat:** Found in forest and on sheltered sites in mountainous country and on rocky outcrops in the mountains and hills of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Dense, upright shrub to 2m. Flowers winter-spring producing small white flowers in flat clusters surrounded by dusty-white floral leaves.

**Notes:** Regeneration from seed. Flowers provide a food source for native bees and wasps. *Spyridium parvifolium* (Dusty Miller) may be mistaken for *Pomaderris racemosa* (Cluster Pomaderris) or the **critically endangered** *Pomaderris vacciniifolia* (Round-leaf Pomaderris).

# *Acacia aculeatissima*

Common name: **Snake Wattle**



**Habitat:** Found in the foothills of dry eucalypt woodland or forest of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Prostrate shrub under 1m. Sharp, pointed, spine-like leaves on fine, slender branches. Flowers in spring producing lemon-yellow spherical flowers. Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Revegetates via seed. Twines among grass tufts. Has the ability to improve soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

*Acacia aculeatissima* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Billardiera scandens*

Common name: **Common Apple-berry**



**Habitat:** Found in forest, woodland and heathland in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Shrubby scrambler or climber to 2m. Stems can reach to 3m. Linear leaves, paler on the underside, with wavy margins. Young shoots very hairy. Flowers spring-summer producing pendulous, cream to greenish-yellow (sometimes orange), solitary flowers. Produces dark green oblong, succulent fruit.

**Notes:** Propagates via seed. Nectar from flowers and fruit provide a food source for birds.

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*Cassytha* spp.Common name: **Dodder-laurel**

**Habitat:** Found in foothills, woodland and forest of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** A perennial, parasitic plant that at maturity is rootless. Twining around the host plant with thread/cord like stems. Young branchlets may be greenish in colour becoming green-black to orange-red. Three-petaled white flowers in crowded heads along stems.

**Notes:** Regeneration by seed, spread by birds and possibly possums attracted to the berries.

# *Chrysocephalum semipapposum*

Common name: **Clustered Everlasting**



**Habitat:** Found on hills or plains or rocky rises in grasslands and woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial to 1m. Silver foliage (can be variable). Leaves narrow, grey and woolly. Flowers mostly spring-summer producing clusters of aromatic yellow flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Flowers provide a nectar source for butterflies. Attracts insect-eating birds. May die back in unfavourable conditions to reshoot again after rain.

*Chrysocephalum semipapposum* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Clematis aristata*

Common name: **Mountain Clematis**



**Habitat:** Found in moist or sheltered sites in forests of higher elevations of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Vigorous climber to 6m. Broad serrated leaflet. Grows best with vertical support from other vegetation. Flowers in spring producing showy, white, perfumed flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Provides nesting sites for small birds and flowers produce nectar which provide a food source for nectar-feeding birds.

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# *Clematis microphylla*

Common name: **Small-leaved Clematis**



**Habitat:** Found in drier, sandy sites of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Twining woody climber up to 5m. Trifoliate (3) leaves. Flowers in winter-early spring producing greenish cream flowers, and fluffy seed heads.

**Notes:** Grows best in sunny sites. Doesn't like poor drainage.

# *Comesperma volubile*

Common name: **Love Creeper**



**Habitat:** Found mostly in sheltered positions in both wet and dry forests of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Scrambling or climbing plant to 1.5m. Flowers in spring producing bunches of upright purple/blue flowers at end of stems. Leaves are sparse and narrow, paler underneath.

**Notes:** Thought to be resistant to the soil pathogen causing root rot *Phytophthora cinnamomi*.

*Dianella admixta*

Common name: **Black-anther Flax-lily**



**Habitat:** Found in drier forests, woodlands and grasslands of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, tufted perennial to 1m with fibrous roots and strap like, stiff, erect leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing dark blue or violet flowers with black anthers. Flowers above foliage up to 1.5m high. Produces dark blue, globular berries. Long lived once established.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, division or aerial shoots. Dislikes prolonged wet conditions. Seed-eating birds attracted to berries.

# *Dianella longifolia*

Common name: **Pale Flax-lily**



**Habitat:** Found in drier forests and woodlands of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, tufted perennial to 1m with tuberous roots and strap like leaves. Flowers above foliage up to 1.5m high. Flowers spring-summer producing pale blue flowers with orange or yellow anthers. Produces pale blue, globular berries. Long lived once established.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, division or aerial shoots. Dislikes prolonged wet conditions. Seed-eating birds attracted to berries.

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# *Dianella tasmanica*

Common name: **Tasman Flax-lily**



**Habitat:** Found in moist, shaded forests at higher elevations in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy, tufted perennial herb to 1m, forming clumps or spreading patches. Strappy, dark green, wide leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing showy pale blue to metallic purple flowers with yellow stamens. Produces bright purple showy berries.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed or suckering. Long lived once established. Seed-eating birds attracted to berries.

# *Glycine clandestina*

Common name: **Twining Glycine**



**Habitat:** Found in the foothills and mountains of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Slender climber with fine, narrow, trifoliate (3) leaves and twining stems. Flowers in spring from woody rootstock, producing mauve to rose-purple or white flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed and suckers, especially after fire. Helps improve soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Roots are edible. Flowers produce nectar and pollen providing a food source for native bees and wasps.

# *Hardenbergia violacea*

Common name: **Purple Coral-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in dry open forests and woodlands throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Hardy prostrate or climbing ground cover, with large, broad, green, leathery leaves. Stems may be up to 2m. Flowers late winter-spring producing clusters of purple pea flowers. Moderate rate of growth.

**Notes:** Twining habit. Good habitat plant with flowers providing pollen and nectar for native butterflies, moths, wasps and bees. Foliage provides refuge for reptiles and insects. Attracts seed-eating birds and insects.

# *Hibbertia obtusifolia*

Common name: **Grey Guinea-flower**



**Habitat:** Found on slopes in forested woodland in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Soft, hairy, upright or spreading, cascading, small, hardy shrub to 1m. Grey-green leaves. Flowers spring-summer producing yellow flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed and suckers. Good habitat plant with flowers providing food for insects such as butterflies, moths, bees and wasps. Attracts seed-eating birds.

*Hovea linearis*Common name: **Common Hovea**

**Habitat:** Found in open woodland, forest or grassland within the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, erect or spreading shrub arising from woody rootstock to 60cm. Alternate leaves are variable with longer, thinner leaves on the upper branches, more broad on lower branches. Flowers late winter-spring producing showy purple flowers.

**Notes:** Regeneration via seed. Improves soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen within soil.

# *Isotoma axillaris*

Common name: **Rock Isotome**



**Habitat:** Found on rocky granite outcrops on the hills and slopes in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Low, bushy perennial to 50cm. Flowers spring-autumn producing bright blue to mauve 'bluebell' shaped flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Milky sap may irritate skin and eyes.

# *Kennedia prostrata*

Common name: **Running Postman**



**Habitat:** Found in open woodlands and foothill forests at middle elevations in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Prostrate, twining, creeping perennial. Flowers in spring producing single, scarlet, pea flowers. Trifoliate (3) leaves.

**Notes:** Recolonises bare areas after fire or other disturbance. May die back to rootstock during unfavourable conditions and re-shoot when conditions improve. Has the ability to improve soil fertility through 'fixing' nitrogen. Provides a food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths.

# *Lythrum salicaria*

Common name: **Purple Loosestrife**



**Habitat:** Found in wet and swampy areas in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial up to 1.5m. Stems succulent or hairy and angular. Leaves opposite and clasp stem. Small pink, blue or purple flowers, in clusters of 3-5 in upper leaf stem appear from spring-autumn. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed.

# *Pimelea humilis*

Common name: **Common Rice-flower**



**Habitat:** Found in the lower elevations of heathlands and dry woodlands in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Little branched, erect or scrambling small shrub to 50cm. Young stems are hairy. Flowers in spring producing clusters of creamy white flowers.

**Notes:** Suckers readily. Good habitat plant providing nectar for native butterflies and insects.

# *Pimelea linifolia*

Common name: **Slender Rice-Flower**



**Habitat:** Found in open woodlands and forests in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, erect shrub to 1.5m. Narrow leaves, dark green on upper surface. Flowers winter-summer producing white or pink tubular flowers.

**Notes:** Good habitat plant with nectar providing a food source for butterflies and other insects. May be poisonous to stock.

# *Platylobium formosum*

Common name: **Handsome Flat-pea**



**Habitat:** Found in heath to rainforest margins in the south eastern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Ground cover, prostrate or scrambling to semi erect plant up to 1m. Opposite, green leaves. Flowers in spring producing yellow and red flowers. Can be variable in leaf size, shape and, flowers and pods. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, especially after fire. Has the ability to improve soil fertility by 'fixing' nitrogen in the soil. Good habitat plant. Native bees, wasps and butterflies pollinate flowers. Attracts seed-eating parrots and finches.

*Pteridium esculentum*Common name: **Austral Bracken**

**Habitat:** Found in high rainfall areas and is widespread throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial erect fern to 1.5m. Fronds are bright green and coiled when they emerge becoming harder and darker as they unfurl. Leaves green and leathery. Red to brown stem.

**Notes:** Regenerates via extensive rhizome (underground stems) system. Spores produced late summer-autumn. Colonises rapidly where soil disturbance occurs, especially after fire. Can be invasive. Can be poisonous to stock.

# *Rubus parvifolius*

Common name: **Native Raspberry**



**Habitat:** Found in foothills, forest and riparian areas throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, scrambling, evergreen shrub with arching stems (up to 1m), covered in prickles, which root at the tips. Hairy, light green leaves, white underneath with toothed margins. Five petalled pink or white flowers in clusters. Slow growing.

**Notes:** May be mistaken for the noxious weed *Rubus fruticosus* agg. species or *Rubus laciniatus* (Blackberry).



*Rubus parvifolius* has berries that turn from green to red (but not to black like blackberry).

*Rubus laciniatus*



*Rubus fruticosus* agg. species

# *Senecio hispidulus*

Common name: **Rough Fireweed**



**Habitat:** Found in dry woodlands throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect perennial up to 1m. Usually unbranched with hairs on stems and foliage. Narrow leaves, distinctly and deeply lobed, with bristly upper surface. Flowers spring-summer producing yellow flowers. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Coloniser of bare ground.

*Senecio hispidulus* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Senecio linearifolius*

Common name: **Fireweed Groundsel**



**Habitat:** Found in tall moist forest in higher rainfall areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect perennial to 1m. Usually unbranched with hairs on stem and foliage. Leaves long, slender and shiny. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed. Colonises readily after fire or other disturbance. Flowers in spring-summer producing yellow flowers in terminal clusters.

*Senecio linearifolius* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Senecio quadridentatus*

Common name: **Cottony Fireweed**



**Habitat:** Found on open hillsides and in forest throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Erect perennial to 1m. Usually unbranched, with hairs on stem and foliage. Leaves usually narrow with upper surface appearing grey-cottony. Flowers in spring-summer producing yellow flowers in terminal clusters. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed. Colonises readily after fire or other disturbance. May be toxic to stock.

*Senecio quadridentatus* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

*Tetratheca ciliata*Common name: **Pink-bells**

**Habitat:** Found in higher rainfall areas in the low hills and foothills of the southern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Small, slender shrub to 1m. Cylindrical stems. Roundish leaves in whorls of three around the stem. Flowers in spring with fragrant, showy pink/mauve to white spikes of flowers (4 petals). Moderate growth rate.

**Notes:** Good habitat plant.

# *Tetrarrhena juncea*

Common name: **Forest Wiregrass**



**Habitat:** Found in woodland, forests and riparian areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** A scrambling perennial, that can form dense clumps.

**Notes:** Regenerates by rooting from stem and has rhizomes (stems underground). May be a colonising plant after fire. Wombats, kangaroos and wallabies may graze on this plant. Provides food for caterpillars of native butterflies.

# *Xerochrysum viscosum*

Common name: **Sticky Everlasting**



**Habitat:** Found on the foothills and slopes in open eucalypt woodland or forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** An erect, low growing perennial plant with multiple stems, up to 80cm. Leaves are bright green with a sticky rough surface. Flowers spring-summer with bright yellow, papery, long lasting flowers in clusters.

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed. Provides food for native butterflies. Seems to occur in disturbed sites.

*Xerochrysum viscosum* is protected under the *State Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

# *Carex appressa*

Common name: **Tall Sedge**



**Habitat:** Found in poorly drained, swampy or riparian areas of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial rush-like tussocky plant to 1m. Narrow, bright green leaves with fine serrated margins. Leaves will readily cut skin. Triangular stems. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed or rhizomes (underground stems). Useful in controlling soil erosion due to fibrous root system. Good habitat plant providing cover for frogs, lizards and insects. Food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths. Will tolerate inundation during winter of up to 0.5m. Good plant for dam edges.

# *Carex fascicularis*

Common name: **Tassel Sedge**



**Habitat:** Found in poorly drained, swampy or riparian areas in the southern part of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial rush-like, tussocky plant. Bright green foliage. Leaves may be as long as flowering stems. Male and female flowers on same plant.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed or rhizomes (underground stems). Useful in controlling soil erosion due to fibrous root system. Good habitat plant providing cover for frogs, lizards and insects. Food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths. Does not tolerate dry soil conditions.

*Juncus* spp.Common name: **Rush**

**Habitat:** Found in or near water in seasonally wet places throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** An annual or perennial, evergreen, erect, spreading, tussocky rush up to 30cm. Leaves are flat and are often pinkish tinged. Produces dark brown to black flowers late spring to early autumn .

**Notes:** Regenerates from seed or rhizomes (underground stems). Good for stabilising soil. Habitat for small birds, frogs, fish and crustaceans.

# *Lomandra filiformis*

Common name: **Wattle Mat-rush**



**Habitat:** Found in dry open forest and woodland throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial tussock with blue-grey or light green leaves in short dense mats to 20cm diameter. Leaf tips appear torn. Flowers in spring producing yellow or cream flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seeds. Good habitat plant providing food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds. Two subspecies may occur together: *L. filiformis* ssp. *filiformis* (which has notches at the tips of the leaves) and *L. filiformis* ssp. *coriacea* (no notches at tips of the leaves).

# *Lomandra longifolia*

Common name: **Spiny-headed Mat-rush**



**Habitat:** Found on alluvial flats and in foothills and mountain slopes of the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Tufted perennial. Leaves up to 100cm long, tips appear torn. Flowers in spring producing creamy or yellow aromatic flowers.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed. Excellent habitat plant providing shelter for ground fauna. Provides a food source for caterpillars of native butterflies and moths. Attracts insect and seed-eating birds.

# *Phragmites australis*

Common name: **Common Reed**



**Habitat:** Found in permanent or seasonally inundated areas such as marshes, lagoons and riparian areas throughout the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Semi-aquatic, bamboo-like, perennial grass with cane like, hollow stems. Can reach up to 4m. Alternate, linear leaves with prominent raised mid vein. Leaves set at right angle to stem and tapering to a fine tip. Fast growing.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed or rhizomes (underground stems). Can tolerate high nutrient levels. Useful in sediment control, acting as a filter and sediment trap. Good habitat plant providing refuge for small birds and water birds. Provides food source for fish. Will tolerate inundation to a depth of 1m.

# *Xanthorrhoea minor*

Common name: **Small Grass Tree**



**Habitat:** Found in open woodland and forest in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

**Form:** Perennial plant with underground stem. Arching linear leaves grow from the base of the plant at ground level. Flowers in spring but not necessarily annually, flowers are small, white or cream and cluster together in a spear-like spike which can reach up to 1m. Grass trees are slow growing but can live for many years.

**Notes:** Regenerates via seed, especially after fire. Good habitat plant providing shelter for lizards and insects. Flowers attract nectar-feeding birds, bees, ants and butterflies. Can be susceptible to the soil pathogen *Phytophthora cinnamomi* which leads to root-rot.

*Xanthorrhoea minor* is protected under the State *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988*.

## References and further reading:

- Australian National Botanic Gardens.** [www.anbg.gov.au](http://www.anbg.gov.au)  
**Australian Native Plants Society (Australia).** [www.asgap.org.au](http://www.asgap.org.au)  
**Bush Seasons. An Affectionate Study of a Tiny Bushland.** Joan Semmens. Hyland House Publishing 2002  
**Department of Environment and Primary Industries Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, 1988.** Protected Flora List May 2014  
**Greening Australia.** [www.greeningaustralia.org.au](http://www.greeningaustralia.org.au)  
**Is That Plant Poisonous.** R.C.H. Shepard 2010  
**Native trees and shrubs of south-eastern Australia.** Leon Costermans. New Holland 2000  
**Natureshare.** Designed and implemented by Reilly Beacom and Russell Best (members of Riddells Creek Landcare) [www.natureshare.com](http://www.natureshare.com)  
**NECMA VicVeg Online.** [www.vicveg.net.au](http://www.vicveg.net.au)  
**Restoring our landscape. A basic revegetation guide for fire affected areas.** Upper Goulburn Landcare Network.  
**Revegetation Guide for the Goulburn Broken Catchment.** Edited by Gill Earl, Fleur Stelling, Mary Titcomb and Sue Berwick. Department Natural Resources and Environment 2001. [www.gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au)  
**The Flora of Australia Online.** Australian Government Department of the Environment [www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)  
**The Understory Story.** Project Mansfield, and the Mansfield District Farm Trees Group. 1992  
**Victorian Flora.** [www.victorianflora.com](http://www.victorianflora.com)

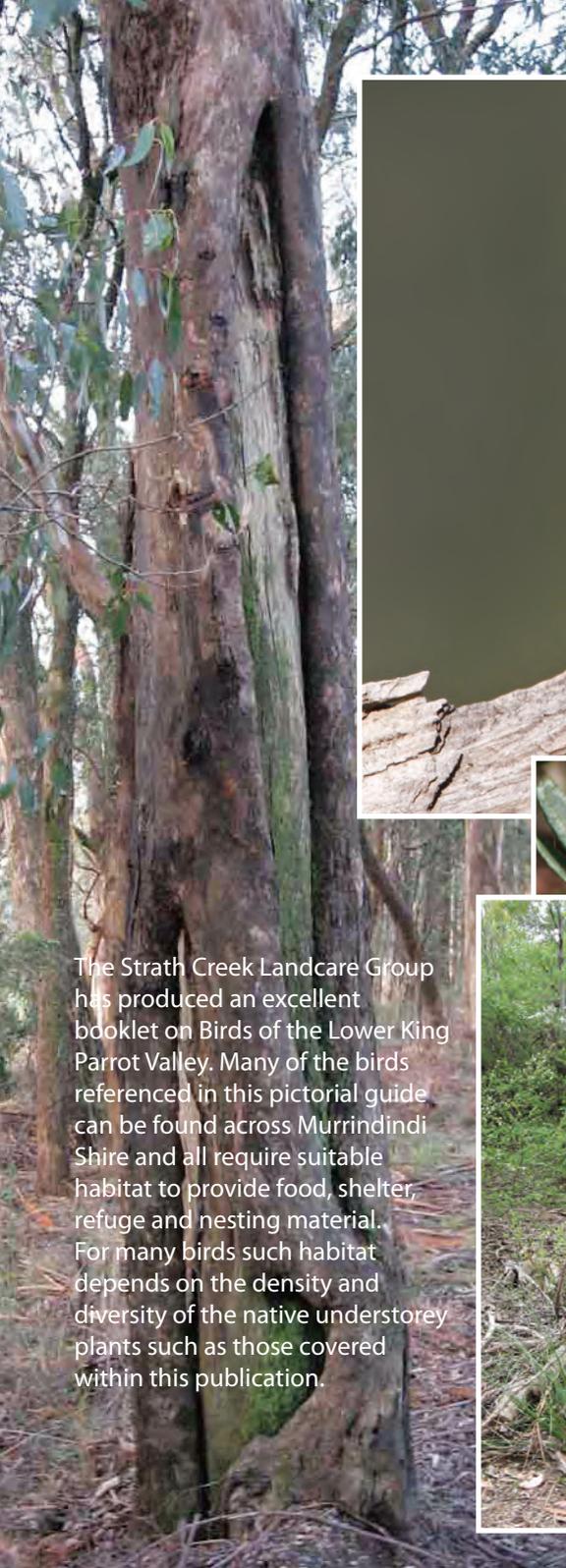
## Landcare/Land Management Groups in Murrindindi Shire

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Eildon Landcare Group                           | Molesworth Landcare Group               |
| Flowerdale Primary School Junior Landcare Group | Murrindindi Climate Network             |
| Friends of Marysville Walks                     | South Cathedral Landcare Group          |
| Home Creek-Spring Creek Landcare Group          | Strath Creek Landcare Group             |
| Hughes Creek Catchment Collaborative            | Yea High School Junior Landcare Group   |
| King Parrot Creek Environment Group             | Yea River Catchment Landcare Group      |
| Kinglake Landcare Group                         | Yea Wetlands Committee of Management    |
| Kinglake Scouts Junior Landcare Group           | Yellow Creek-Dairy Creek Landcare Group |
| Maintongoon-UT Creek Landcare Group             |   |

For information on sustainable land management, projects, native seed and plant suppliers, field days, community capacity building, incentives, group contacts and more call the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network Facilitator Tel: (03) 5736 0105

## Agencies/Organisations:

- Murrindindi Shire Council.** Alexandra Office (03) 5772 0333  
[www.murrindindishirecouncil.vic.gov.au](http://www.murrindindishirecouncil.vic.gov.au)
- Upper Goulburn Landcare Network.** Yea (03) 5736 0105  
<http://goulburnbroken.landcarevic.net.au/ugln>
- Department of Environment and Primary Industries.** Alexandra Office (03) 5772 0200  
[www.depi.vic.gov.au](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au)
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.** Yea (03) 5736 0100  
[www.gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://www.gbcma.vic.gov.au)
- Australian Government Department of the Environment**  
[www.environment.gov.au](http://www.environment.gov.au)
- Royal Botanic Gardens** Cranbourne Tel (03) 9252 2300  
[www.rbg.vic.gov.au](http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au)
- Australian Native Plant Society** Tel 0447 269 211  
[www.apsvic.org.au](http://www.apsvic.org.au)



The Strath Creek Landcare Group has produced an excellent booklet on Birds of the Lower King Parrot Valley. Many of the birds referenced in this pictorial guide can be found across Murrindindi Shire and all require suitable habitat to provide food, shelter, refuge and nesting material. For many birds such habitat depends on the density and diversity of the native understorey plants such as those covered within this publication.

