

# Swan Reserve BIODIVERSITY BED

## ABOUT THE GARDEN

The Swan Reserve Biodiversity Bed will help you learn about the vast diversity and cultural significance of plants local to the Warrnambool region. The south-west region of Victoria is home to almost 1000 species of indigenous plants, many of which are now rare, vulnerable or endangered. On display here are a number of threatened species, such as the spreading Dune Fan-flower (*Scaevola calendulacea*) and the Coast Bitter-bush (*Adriana quadripartita*), which is the only food source for the larvae of the Bitter-bush Blue Butterfly. Butterflies are a vital part of any garden – why not include some local butterfly-attracting plants in your garden? Sweet Bursaria (*Bursaria spinosa*), Austral Trefoil (*Lotus australis*), and Australian Hollyhock (*Malva preissiana*) are just a few other plants butterflies love that you can see in this garden.

While some plants attract helpful insects, others use flowers and fruit to attract birds which then help the plant to spread its seed. The Prickly Currant-bush (*Coprosma quadrifida*) provides both food and safe nesting spots for small birds which are protected by the plant's prickly spines. The Common Correa (*Correa reflexa*) is a plant popular with both birds and gardeners with many varieties and cultivars available in local plant nurseries.

Indigenous people of the Mara nation have traditionally used several plants displayed in this garden as food sources. The Native Raspberry (*Rubus parvifolius*) and Prickly Currant Bush (*Coprosma quadrifida*) both provide sweet red berries in late summer and autumn. Similarly, the tuberous root of the Australian Hollyhock was eaten as a mash and also has medicinal properties.



**v** NATIVE HOLLYHOCK *Malva preissiana*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**v** LARGE-LEAF BUSH PEA *Pultenaea daphnoides*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**k** AUSTRAL TREFOIL *Lotus australis*  
Photo: Adam Merrick



**v** PRICKLY CURRANT BUSH *Coprosma quadrifida*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**v** DUNE FAN-FLOWER *Scaevola calendulacea*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



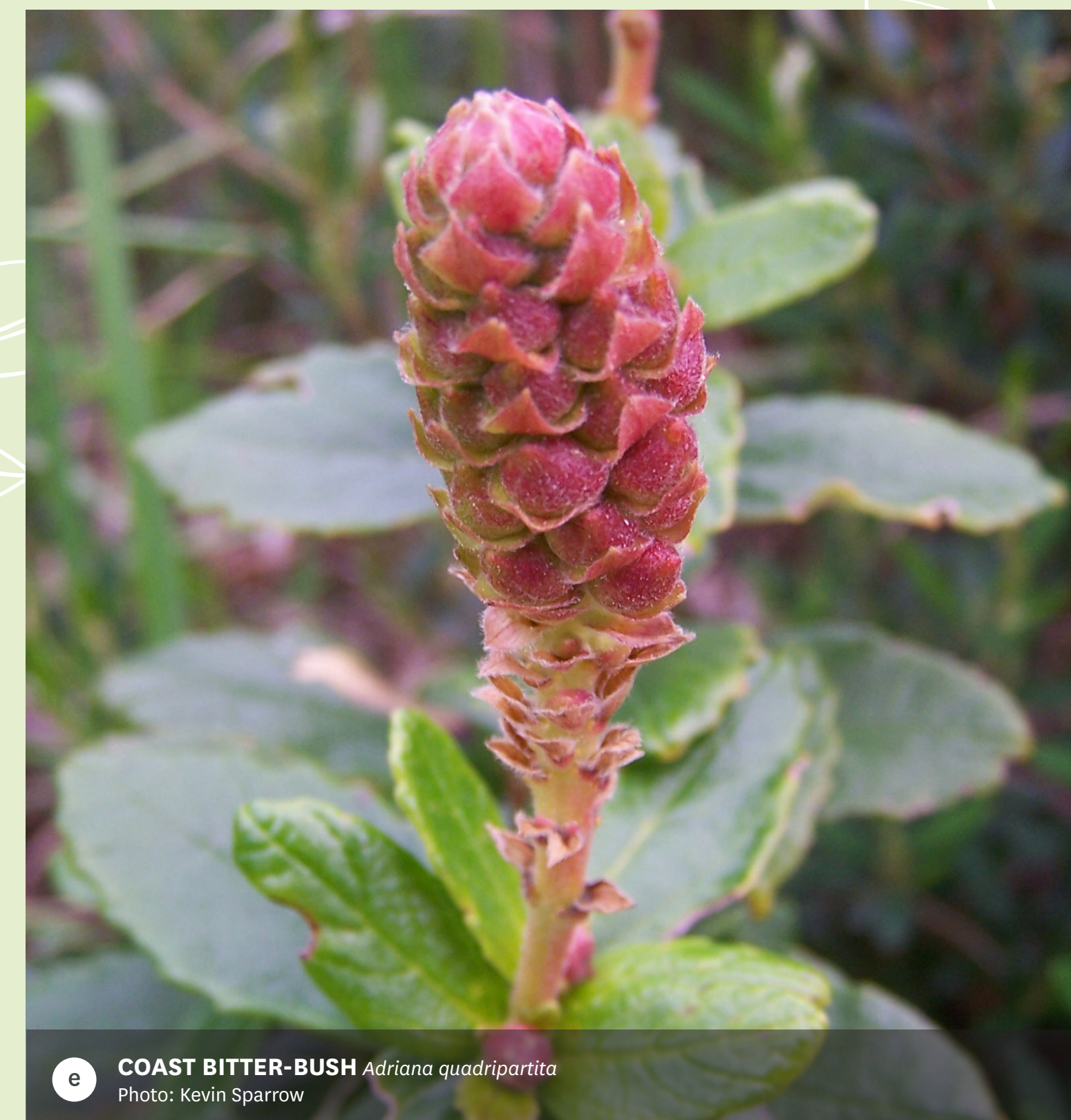
**v** NATIVE RASPBERRY *Rubus parvifolius*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**v** COMMON CORREA *Correa reflexa*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**v** SWEET BURSARIA *Bursaria spinosa*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow



**e** COAST BITTER-BUSH *Adriana quadripartita*  
Photo: Kevin Sparrow

<b>e</b>	<b>v</b>	<b>k</b>
Endangered in Victoria	Vulnerable in Victoria	Poorly known in Victoria

## NGT Native Plant Display Gardens

This project is a collaboration between the community, government and non-government organisations. To learn more about this garden, the plants on display and other display gardens in the towns shown in the map below, scan the QR code or go to [www.bit.ly/NGTgardens](http://www.bit.ly/NGTgardens).

