

## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Acacia longifolia* subsp. *sophorae*** (Mimosaceae)

**Coast Wattle**

**Size:** Large bushy spreading shrub to 5m.

**Flowering:** July - October.

**Habitat:** Common in well-drained coastal areas particularly west of Portland and around Warrnambool where it has become an environmental weed. It should not be used for revegetation in open forests for this reason. Otherwise it is a useful front-line erosion control and salt-tolerant plant.

**Description:** Leaves thick, broad elliptical phyllodes. Flowers sulphur-yellow on long spikes 2-4cm. The green seeds were cooked in their pods and eaten by Aborigines.

**Propagation:** By seed needing hot water treatment or scarification.



Coast Wattle grows as a prostrate plant in Warrnambool near Thunder Point

## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Acacia mearnsii* (Mimosaceae)

**Black Wattle**

**Size:** Fast growing open tree 5-15m.

**Flowering:** October- December

**Habitat:** Common in open forest and cleared areas (not Warrnambool), especially on drier well-drained and shallow soils.

**Description:** Foliage dark green bi-pinnate leaves with soft yellowish young shoots. Strongly scented pale yellow flowers are in dense racemes.

**Propagation:** By seed needing hot water treatment or scarification. Germination usually occurs within 2-4 weeks.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Acacia myrtifolia*** (Mimosaceae)

**Myrtle Wattle**

**Size:** Erect shrub 0.5-2m.

**Flowering:** June-October.

**Habitat:** Widespread in heath and heathy or scrubby understory of open forest and coastal areas usually on poorer sandy soils.

**Description:** Phyllodes erect usually thick, midrib and marginal veins prominent; marginal gland conspicuous. Branches reddish. Flower heads yellow, globular usually less than six per head.

**Propagation:** By seed needing hot water treatment or scarification. Germination usually occurs within 2-4 weeks.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Acacia paradoxa* (Mimosaceae)

Hedge Wattle

**Size:** 2-4m.

**Flowering:** August-November.

**Habitat:** Dry sclerophyll forest and grassy open forest and grassland.

**Description:** Fast growing dense and spreading shrub which is covered in thorns making it ideal habitat for birds. Produces large golden yellow flower balls.

**Propagation:** Can be propagated by seed needing hot water treatment or scarification, or by cuttings.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Acacia pycnantha*** (Mimosaceae)

**Golden Wattle**

**Size:** Fast growing small tree 3-8m.

**Flowering:** July-October.

**Habitat:** Common in Victoria mainly in open eucalypt forest, often on dry shallow soils.

**Description:** Small, glabrous, loosely branched tree, leaves shiny dark green, main vein conspicuous, lateral veins distinct. Profuse flowers in perfumed golden balls on long racemes. *Acacia pycnantha* is Australia's Floral Emblem.

**Propagation:** By seed needing hot water treatment or scarification. Germination usually occurs within 2-4 weeks.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Acacia stricta*** (Mimosaceae)

**Hop Wattle**

**Size:** Erect, glabrous shrub, 1-4m.

**Flowering:** September-November

**Habitat:** Widespread in open-forest understory especially with stringybark (*Eucalyptus sp.*), mostly on moister sites, also in sclerophyll forest, grassy low open forest and coastal woodlands.

**Description:** Phyllodes narrow elliptical and erect, dull grey-green, conspicuous central vein with many fine branching veins diverging from it. Flowers pale yellow, globular, 2-4 per head. A quick growing low wind-break shrub ideal for planting under existing trees. It is drought hardy and tolerates coastal exposure.

**Propagation:** By seed needing hot water treatment or scarification. Germination usually occurs within 2-4 weeks.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Acacia verticillata*** subsp. ***verticillata*** (Mimosaceae)     **Prickly Moses**

**Size:** Prickly low shrub to open tree 1-5m.

**Flowering:** July-November.

**Habitat:** Common in southern areas, from the coast to foothill forests, favoring moister sites and sandy soils in wet sclerophyll and riparian forest.

**Description:** Phyllodes in close whorls of about 6, green and needle like. Flowers bright yellow in ovoid or cylindrical spikes 8-20mm long. Tolerates most garden conditions and is a good shrub for use as a bird refuge.

**Propagation:** By seed which needs hot water treatment or scarification. Germination usually occurs within 2-4 weeks.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Adriana quadripartita*** (Euphorbiaceae)

**Coast Bitter-bush**

**Conservation Status:** v.

**Size:** Dark green leafy shrub 1-3m.

**Flowering:** October- January.

**Habitat:** Confined to coastal and near coastal locations particularly near Yambuk and at Granny's Grave area in Warnambool.

**Description:** Shrub often forming spreading 'mounds'. Leaves opposite, stalkless and coarsely toothed. Plant is dioecious, male flower spikes to 12 cm, female flowers in short clusters.

**Propagation:** Seed has good germination with-out treatment. Suitable for direct sowing. Also can be grown by cutting.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Allocasuarina paludosa* (Casuarinaceae)

Swamp She-oak

(syn. *Casuarina paludosa*)

**Size:** 1-3m.

**Flowering:** March-October.

**Habitat:** Common in damp areas of tea-tree heathland, sclerophyll woodland and grassy low open forest.

**Description:** A slow growing fairly dense erect grey-green shrub. Branchlets grey/green, about 1mm thick, appear terete. Male flower spikes brown 1-2.5cm long, female flowers are red. Plants can be monoecious or dioecious.

**Propagation:** Easy by seed which has a long seed life and high viability. Germinates in 2-3 weeks but is slow to grow.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Allocasuarina verticillata*** (Casuarinaceae)

**Drooping She-oak**

(syn. *Casuarina stricta*)

**Size:** Small tree 4-10m.

**Flowering:** March-December

**Habitat:** Common in exposed situations on well-drained soils of coastal cliffs, dunes, inland rocky outcrops or as remnant paddock trees.

**Description:** Small erect tree with a dense rounded crown and drooping dull grey-green branchlets. Male flower spikes yellow to brown and 5-10cm long. Plant is dioecious.

**Propagation:** Easy by seed.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Alyxia buxifolia* (Apocynaceae)

Sea Box

**Size:** Erect shrub to 3m, sometimes prostrate in exposed sites.

**Flowering:** October-February.

**Habitat:** Dark-green leaved glabrous shrub, common on cliffs and sand dunes, especially exposed sites.

**Description:** Leaves opposite or in threes, elliptical in shape, paler green underneath. Small clustered and scented white flowers are followed by small red fruit. It is tolerant of salt spray.

**Propagation:** Very difficult to grow by cuttings and seed. Smoke treatment can improve germination but seedlings are very slow to grow.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Atriplex cinerea*** (Chenopodiaceae)

**Coast Saltbush**

**Size:** Fast growing dense shrub to 1.5m.

**Flowering:** August-January.

**Habitat:** Common on sandy shore lines around coast, usually just above high-tide.

**Description:** Leaves alternate, fleshy and grey or silver both sides. Male flowers are red to purplish in globular masses in terminal spikes. Female flowers are in small axillary clusters, male and female are usually on separate plants. A good low, screening plant for coastal gardens.

**Propagation:** By seed which needs cleaning by washing from the fruit, Has a medium storage life and usually good germination rate within 2-3 weeks. Can be direct sowed. Easy by cuttings too.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

### *Banksia marginata* (Proteaceae)

### Silver Banksia

**Size:** Shrub or tree to 7m. In SW Victoria in coastal locations it usually grows as a low shrub.

**Flowering:** Mainly February-June.

**Habitat:** Widespread and common in tea-tree heath, open forest and riparian scrub in well-drained soils.

**Description:** Leaves dark green above with silver underside. Flowers yellow, cylindrical up to 9cm long.

**Propagation:** Easily grown by seed, no treatment required. Germinates in 3-5 weeks. Suitable for direct seeding. Best sowing time is spring or autumn.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Beyeria leschenaultii* (Euphorbiaceae)

Pale Turpentine Bush

**Size:** 1-2.5m.

**Flowering:** September-December.

**Habitat:** Occurs in Mallee region of Victoria, but also along coast of Western Victoria, including Port Fairy and Granny's Grave in Warrnambool.

**Description:** Green, sticky shrub, leaves variable, shiny green above, white below with margins turned down. Flowers yellowish and small.

**Propagation:** By cutting or seed which requires no pre-treatment.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Bursaria spinosa*** subsp. ***spinosa*** (Pittosporaceae)      **Sweet Bursaria**

**Size:** Low shrub or small tree to 8m high.

**Flowering:** November- February.

**Habitat:** Mostly as spindly shrub or as a small tree on well-drained sites in open forest and coastal dunes.

**Description:** Flowers are creamy and fragrant in pyramidal panicles. Seed appear in thin purse-like dry capsules. Variants are common, with large or small leaves and with or without thorns. The larger leaf form known as *B. spinosa* var. *macrophylla* is now included under *B. spinosa* var. *spinosa*. A specimen growing in the Warrnambool Botanic



Gardens pre-dates the existence of the Botanic Gardens and is therefore over 140 years old.

**Propagation:** Seed is best sown fresh in July as it germinates when daily temperatures are 10°C and night temperatures are 5°C. Very prone to damping off. Seed prone to insect attack when still on bush.



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

***Coprosma quadrifida*** (Rubiaceae)

**Prickly Currant Bush**

**Size:** Erect, rigid, spiny shrub 2-4m.

**Flowering:** September-November.

**Habitat:** Common on sheltered slopes and near streams in cool temperate and wet sclerophyll forest and swampy scrub.

**Description:** Leaves lanceolate and opposite, but rather irregularly sized and spaced, dark green above, slightly paler beneath. Greenish flowers are tiny and inconspicuous. Small edible red drupes appear in January-March.

**Propagation:** By seed or cuttings



## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Exocarpos cupressiformis* (Santalaceae)

Cherry Ballart

**Size:** Dense rounded, cypress-like small tree, 3-8m.

**Flowering:** December-May.

**Habitat:** Common in moist open-forests and damp sclerophyll forest especially on well-drained soils.

**Description:** Branchlets fine and flexible, leaves often bronzy-green are reduced to tiny pointed scales. Insignificant spikes of cream flowers are followed by globular green nuts on fleshy orange-red edible stalks. A very attractive tree that forms a symbiotic relationship with another plant to enable it to grow.



**Propagation:** Seed and cuttings very difficult. Bird ingested seed is more successful. Best if planted with a native grass such as *Themeda triandra* (Kangaroo Grass) as a host.





## SMALL TREES & LARGE SHRUBS

*Exocarpos syrticola* (Santalaceae)

Coast Ballart

**Conservation Status:** r.

**Size:** Erect shrub 1-2m.

**Flowering:** September-November

**Habitat:** Restricted to southern coastal dunes and cliffs, particularly SW Victoria and eastern South Australia. A rare colony has been discovered growing on the coast at Warrnambool.

**Description:** Fairly stiff broom-like erect shrub. Branchlets straight, green, cylindrical and ribbed. Flowers tiny, greenish and in short clusters. Fruit in summer are almost spherical, green becoming purplish, and swelling to become pale pink lilac.

**Propagation:** By seed, which can be easy, bird-ingested seed most likely to be successful.

