



Honey & pollen flora suitable for planting in south-eastern NSW



Agnote DAI-115

Second edition, Revised April 2002

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Trees and shrubs are planted for a number of reasons — as windbreaks, for shade or shelter, and for aesthetic reasons. By carefully selecting the species you may also produce an environment attractive to native birds and bees.

It is doubtful whether enough flowering shrubs and trees can be planted on a farm or recreational activity area to be a major benefit to commercial beekeeping. But there is good reason to believe they can benefit small static apiaries. A commercial stocking rate for beehives is about one hive per 4–12 ha. This figure varies with the honey and pollen yielding capacity of the flora.

Consider these points before selecting species on the basis of honey and pollen yielding capacity:

- Multiple plantings of a range of species are more desirable than two or three plants of many species.
- Choose a species that will grow well in your area. As an indication, have a good look around your district and list species which are performing well. If planting species in an area where bees are used for pollinating crops, select

species that have a flowering time different from that of the crops.

- Avoid selecting winter flowering species for the Tablelands. The temperature is often too low for bees to work these sources efficiently. If they do, health problems in the bee colony may result.
- When planting near drains, sewers and buildings, consider whether the plantings may cause damage in the future.
- Select salt tolerant species in areas where this is, or may be, a problem.
- Windbreaks should be planted three to four plants wide. Consider an extra one or two rows chosen for honey and pollen production, and to increase the aesthetic appeal of the plantings.

Further information

For more information on individual species, see *Honey and Pollen Flora*, by A. Clemson, 1985, (Inkata).

Botanical name	Common name	District	Honey	Pollen	Flowering time	Notes
<i>Acacia spp.</i>	Wattle	C,T,W		Med	Early spring	Can produce good quantities of pollen, no nectar
<i>Acmena smithii</i>	Lilly pilly	C	Low	Low	Nov-Jan	
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smoothbarked apple	C	Low	Med	Oct-Dec	
<i>A.floribunda</i>	Roughbarked apple	C,T,W	Low	Med	Jan-Feb	
<i>Banksia ericifolia</i>	Heath leaved banksia	C,T	M/H	High	Winter	
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver banksia	C	High	Low	Aug-May	
<i>Banksia spinulosa</i>	Hairpin banksia	C	High	High	Winter	
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coastal banksia	C	Med	Med	Winter	
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Saw-tooth banksia	C	Med	Med	Dec-Apr	
<i>Brachychiton populeneus</i>	Kurrajong	C,T,W	Med	Med	Autumn-summer	
<i>Callistemon spp.</i>	Bottlebrush	C,W	Med	Med	Oct-Nov	

Botanical name	Common name	District	Honey	Pollen	Flowering time	Notes
<i>Casuarina spp.</i>	She-oak	C,T,W	Nil	Med	Various	Useful for pollen
<i>Chamaecytisus palmensis</i>	Tagasaste	T,W	Med	Low	Aug-Sep	
<i>Corymbia gummifera</i>	Red bloodwood	C	High	Low	Autumn	Good
<i>C. maculata</i>	Spotted gum	C	High	High	Autumn-winter	Excellent
<i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>	Black gum	T	Low	Low	Nov	
<i>E. albens</i>	White box	T,W	Med	Med	Winter-spring	Better on northern tablelands
<i>E. agglomerata</i>	Blue top stringybark	C	Med	High	Aug-Sep	
<i>E. amplifolia</i>	Cabbage gum	C,T	Med	High	Nov-Jan	
<i>E. blakelyi</i>	Blakely's red gum	T,W	Med	Med	Oct-Dec	Prone to insect attack
<i>E. botryoides</i>	Bangalay	C	Med	High	Jan	
<i>E. bridgesiana</i>	Apple box	T,W	High	High	Autumn	Good
<i>E. camaldulensis</i>	River red gum	T,W	High	High	Summer	Salt tolerant
<i>E. cinerea</i>	Argyle apple	T	Low	Med	Oct-Nov	
<i>E. citriodora</i>	Lemon-scented gum	C,W	Med	Med	Jun-Aug	Frost sensitive
<i>E. cladocalyx</i>	Sugar gum	W	High	Med	Summer	Very good; popular in SA
<i>E. conica</i>	Fuzzy box	C,W	Med	Low	Oct-Nov	
<i>E. crebra</i>	Narrowleaved ironbark	C,W	High	Low	Jun-Sep	
<i>E. dealbata</i>	Hill gum	T,W	Med	Med	Aug-Nov	
<i>E. dives</i>	Broadleaved peppermint	T	Low	Low	Early spring	
<i>E. fastigata</i>	Cut tail; brown barrel	T	Med	Med	Jan-Feb	
<i>E. fibrosa</i>	Red or broadleaved ironbark	C,W	M/H	Low	Dec-Feb	Very good
<i>E. ficifolia</i>	Red flowering gum	C,W	Med	Med	Dec-Jan	Ornamental WA
<i>E. globoidea</i>	White stringybark	C,T	High	Med	Dec-Jan (spring in south)	
<i>E. globulus</i>	Blue gum	C,T	Med	Med	Spring	Prone to insect attack
<i>E. haemastoma</i>	Scribbly gum	C			Jan-Feb	
<i>E. Intertexta</i>	Gum barked coolibah	W	High	High	Dec-Jan	
<i>E. leucoxydon</i>	Yellow gum	W	Med	Low	Apr-Jun	
<i>E. longifolia</i>	Woollybutt	C	Med	Med	Apr-Jun	
<i>E. macarthurii</i>	Paddy's river box	C,T,W	Not known		Feb-Apr	Suitable for windbreaks
<i>E. macrorhyncha</i>	Red stringybark	T,W	M/H	Med	Autumn	
<i>E. mannifera</i>	Red spotted gum; Brittle gum	T	Low	Med	Summer	
<i>E. melanophloia</i>	Silverleaved ironbark	W	Med	Med	Sep-Nov	
<i>E. melliodora</i>	Yellow box	T,W	High	Nil	Summer	Quality honey. Flowers in winter in warmer areas.
<i>E. microcarpa</i>	Western grey box	W	Med	Med	Autumn	
<i>E. microcorys</i>	Tallowwood	C	Med	Low	Oct	
<i>E. microtheca</i>	Coolibah	W	High	High	Dec-Jan	Far west
<i>E. moluccana</i>	Grey box	C	Med		Feb-Mar	
<i>E. muelleriana</i>	Yellow stringybark	C	Med	Med	Nov-Feb	
<i>E. ovata</i>	Swamp gum	C,T	Low	Med	Autumn	
<i>E. paniculata</i>	Grey ironbark	C	High	Nil	Summer	Excellent honey source
<i>E. pauciflora</i>	Snow gum	T	High	High	Oct-Dec	
<i>E. pilularis</i>	Blackbutt	C	Med	Med	Oct-Mar	Yields better in north
<i>E. piperita</i>	Sydney peppermint	C	Med	High	Dec-Jan	
<i>E. polyanthemos</i>	Red box	T,W	Med	Low	Oct	
<i>E. populnea</i>	Bimble box	W	Med	High	Sep-Jan	

Botanical name	Common name	District	Honey	Pollen	Flowering time	Notes
<i>E. propinqua</i>	Small fruited grey gum	C	Med	High	Jan-Feb	
<i>E. punctata</i>	Grey gum	C	Med	High	Jan-Mar	
<i>E. radiata</i>	Narrowleaved peppermint	T	Low	Med	Oct-Dec	
<i>E. resinifera</i>	Red mahogany	C	Low	Med	Feb-Mar	
<i>E. robusta</i>	Swamp mahogany	C	Med	Low	Winter	
<i>E. rossii</i>	Scribbly gum	C,T	Low	Low	Jan	
<i>E. rubida</i>	Candlebark gum	T	Low	Med	Jan-Mar	
<i>E. saligna</i>	Sydney blue gum	C	High	High	Jan-Mar	Short flowering period
<i>E. sieberi</i>	Silvertop ash	C,T	Low	Med	Sep-Nov	Not a reliable honey source
<i>E. sideroxylon</i>	Mugga ironbark	C,T,W	High	Low	Winter	Grows well on poor soils
<i>E. stellulata</i>	Black sallee	T	Med	Med	Late autumn	
<i>E. tereticornis</i>	Forest red gum	C	Med	High	Aug-Oct	
<i>E. torquata</i>	Coral gum	W	Med	Med	Aug	WA native
<i>E. viminalis</i>	Manna gum	C,T	Med	Med	Autumn	
<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Wilga	W	Med	Med	Spring	
<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	Silky oak	T,C,W	Med	Med	Oct-Nov	
<i>Grevillea spp.</i>		C,W,T	Med	Med	Various	
<i>Hakea spp.</i>	Hakea	C,T,W	Med	Low	Aug-Sep	
<i>Septospermum spp.</i>	Tea-tree	C,T,W	Med	Low	Oct-Jan	
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush box	C	High	Med	Dec-Jan	Northern areas
<i>Melaleuca spp.</i>	Paperbarks	C,W,T	High	High	Spring	
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White cedar	C,T,W	Med	Med	Spring	
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Pittosporum	C	Med	Low	Spring	
<i>Prunus spp.</i>	Flowering plums	C,T,W	Med	Med	Aug-Sep	
<i>Robina pseudoacacia</i>	Black locust	C,T,W	High	Med	Spring	Suckers
<i>Salix spp.</i>	Willows	C,T,W	Nil	Med	Sep	
<i>Schinus areira</i>	Pepper tree	C,T,W	Med	Med	Dec-Mar	Drought tolerant
<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Turpentine	C	Med	Med	Sep-Nov	North of Batemans Bay

Key: C = Coast

T = Tablelands

W = Western Slopes

SEASONAL FLOWERING TIMES

Autumn

Corymbia gummifera
Corymbia maculata
Eucalyptus bridgesiana
Eucalyptus longifolia
Eucalyptus macrorhyncha
Eucalyptus microcarpa
Eucalyptus stellulata
Eucalyptus viminalis

Spring

Acacia spp.
Callistemon spp.
Eucalyptus agglomerata
Eucalyptus blakelyi
Eucalyptus dealbata
Eucalyptus globoidea
Eucalyptus globulus
Eucalyptus melanophloia
Eucalyptus populnea
Eucalyptus tereticornis
Geijera parviflora
Grevillea robusta
Grevillea spp.
Hakea spp.
Leptospermum spp.
Melaleuca spp.
Melia azedarach
Prunus spp.
Robinia pseudoacacia
Salix spp.
Syncarpia glomulifera

Winter

Banksia ericifolia
Banksia spinulosa
Banksia integrifolia
Corymbia maculata
Eucalyptus albens
Eucalyptus citriodora
Eucalyptus crebra
Eucalyptus sideroxylon

Summer

Banksia serrata
Brachychiton populneus
Eucalyptus amplifolia
Eucalyptus botryoides
Eucalyptus camaldulensis
Eucalyptus cladocalyx
Eucalyptus fastigata
Eucalyptus fibrosa
Eucalyptus intertexta
Eucalyptus melliodora
Eucalyptus microtheca
Eucalyptus muelleriana
Eucalyptus paniculata
Eucalyptus pauciflora
Eucalyptus pilularis
Eucalyptus piperita
Eucalyptus propinqua
Eucalyptus punctata
Eucalyptus saligna
Lophostemon confertus
Schinus areiran

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NSW Agriculture (2002)

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (March 2002). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of New South Wales Department of Agriculture or the user's independent adviser.

Edited by William Smith
Produced by Information
Delivery Program
Approval No. PLO(IL)/15
Agdex 300/38