

Small Vanilla-lily

Arthropodium minus



Description:

Fine grass-like leaves arising from tuber: up to 10cm. Flowers borne along stalks: up to 30cm. Deep pink to purple flowers in spring with vanilla-like fragrance. Purple stamens are distinctly hairy.

Cultivation:

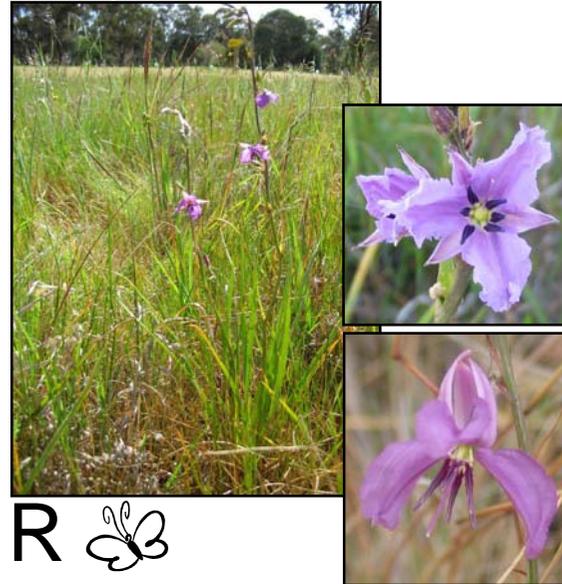
Perennial. In garden, flowering may be extended by removing stems before seed heads form.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and open woodlands. Aboriginals ate tubers roasted or raw throughout year.

Chocolate Lily

Arthropodium strictum



Description:

Grass-like leaves in small tussock: up to 80cm. Flowers born singly on branched stalks: up to 1.2m. Dark mauve to pink-violet flowers opening in succession along stems in late spring with a rich chocolatey fragrance. Purple anthers are hairless.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers some shade. Leaves die down over summer. May self-seed.

Special Notes:

Found in grassy plains and woodlands. Can smell similar to Vanilla-lily. Aboriginals ate tubers roasted or raw throughout year.

Berry Saltbush

Atriplex semibaccata



Description:

Prostrate perennial forming dense mats. Small grey-green oval leaves borne singly along long stems. Small flowers borne singly where leaf joins stem. Diamond-shaped succulent red fruits.

Cultivation:

Suits most conditions. Can persist in degraded areas, including salt scalds.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands. Common in Grey Box dominated roadsides.

Yellow Bulbine-lily

Bulbine bulbosa



Description:

Hollow, cylindrical, onion-like leaves in small tuft: up to 30cm. Flower stalks: up to 60cm high. Bright yellow six-petalled flowers (technically 3 petals and 3 sepals that look identical), fragrant, clustered pyramidally, opening in succession along stem in spring.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers heavy or water-retentive soils but adaptable to a wide range of soils. May self-seed. Dies down after flowering and re-shoots in autumn.

Special Notes:

Aboriginals probably ate bulbous roots year-round.

Swamp Daisy

Brachyscome basaltica



Description:

Long narrow branching stems, occasionally forming a clump: up to 9cm. Single clear-white daisies with yellow centre, held erect on slender stems: up to 45cm high and 2.5cm across. Can flower most of year, depending on conditions.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Found.

Special Notes:

Found in wet grasslands and on land that floods, often with River Red Gums. Also called Basalt Daisy.

Yellow-tongue Daisy

Brachyscome chrysoglossa



R

Description:

Leafy tuft: up to 6cm high. Stemless, hairless leaves vary in shape with irregular teeth. Bright yellow flowers on leafy branching stems: up to 15cm high.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers heavy clay soils.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands.

Blue Caladenia

Caladenia caerulea



R

Description:

Slender orchid. Single leaf, hairy. Flowers have five petals with a large central labellum, typically spring to early summer. Colouring variable but can be vivid with striking patterns. Labellum has small ornate outgrowths (calli).

Cultivation:

Do not disturb.

Special Notes:

Calli often act as tactile guides for pollination carried out by the attempt of brightly coloured native wasps of the sub-family *Thynninae* to copulate with the *Caladenias* labellum.

Lemon Beauty-heads

Calocephalus citreus



Description:

Silvery tufted perennial. Pointed, linear leaves. Fine wiry flower stalks emerge from leaves with bright yellow oval flower heads born terminally: up to 40cm. Flowers in spring to summer.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers loamy and clay soils that flood occasionally. If in garden, may cut back after flowering, will re-shoot in winter. May self-seed. Very hardy once established.

Special Notes:

Found in lowland grasslands and grassy woodlands.

Cut-leaf Burr-daisy

Calotis anthemoides



R 

Description:

Hairless, fine-leafed tuft: up to 10cm. Narrow pale-green leaves. Flower stalks leafless. White flowers with yellow centre borne terminally: up to 1.5cm across. Flowers in spring.

Cultivation:

Prefers heavy soils. Plants spread by runners.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands.

Rough Burr-daisy

Calotis scabiosifolia





Description:

Hairy leafed tuft: up to 45cm. Leaves short and tapered, usually toothed. Flower stalks with narrower leaves along stems. White or mauve flowers with yellow centres borne terminally in late winter to early spring: up to 3cm across. Fruiting in late spring.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers heavy soils.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands.

Hollow Sedge

Carex tereticaulis



Description:

Rush-like tussock with slender green leaves: up to 2m. Brown flower spikes.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers moist conditions.

Special Notes:

Found on pond and watercourse edges and in swamps and wetlands. Suitable for planting around effluent disposal fields and drainage lines. Useful for preventing creek bank erosion at bank/water interface and for slowing water movement.

Plains Sedge

Carex bichenoviana



Description:

Rush-like tussock with slender green leaves. Brown flower spikes.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers moist conditions.

Special Notes:

Suitable for planting along drainage lines. Useful for preventing creek bank erosion at bank/water interface and for slowing water movement.

Common Everlasting

Chrysocephalum apiculatum



Description:

Dense silvery-leaved plant that can be low and spreading or erect: 7-60cm. Leaves variably shaped but with dense white hairs. Bright golden flowers borne as terminal clusters on flower stalks: up to 1.5cm across. Can flower most of year, but principally during late winter to spring. Seeding in summer.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Fast growing and adaptable. Longer flowering in full sun. If in garden, may respond well to pruning. May die back in dry conditions but re-shoots well after rain.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands.

Pink Bindweed

Convolvulus erubescens



Description:

Small trailing plant. Grey-green leaves usually spade shaped with irregular teeth. Showy open pink flowers borne along stems in spring to summer: up to 2cm across.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Flowers prefer full sun.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands, woodlands and forests. Aboriginals ate starchy root roasted, also used boiled plant extracts to treat stomach pains. European Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) is very similar but generally much larger. Also called Blushing Bindweed.

Water Buttons

Cotula coronopifolia



Description:

Small mat-forming water plant: up to 10cm. Light green leaves deeply lobed. Bright yellow hemispherical flowers in summer.

Cultivation:

Prefers clay soil and moist conditions.

Special Notes:

Found in wetlands. Can become invasive in wet saline conditions.

Black-anther Flax-lily

Dianella revoluta



Description:

Tall greyish tussock: up to 1m high and 6m across. Leaves long and strap like. Vivid blue star-shaped flowers with bright yellow stamens and black/brown anthers in spring. Small shiny blue oval fruit in summer.

Cultivation:

Suits most conditions. Can persist in degraded areas.

Special Notes:

Found in drier forests, woodlands and grasslands, often with Grey Box. Also along creek banks. Aboriginals used leaf fibre for baskets and cord and the berries for food and dye.

Nodding Saltbush

Einadia nutans



Description:

Trailing or climbing perennial. Small grey-green arrowhead-shaped leaves borne along long stems. Inconspicuous small flowers borne on short spikes at the end of stems. Fleshy red, orange or even yellow berries in small clusters.

Cultivation:

Suits most conditions.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands. Berries are edible.

Ruby Saltbush

Enchylaena tomentosa



Description:

Prostrate spreading perennial forming large mats. Small fleshy leaves borne along long stems blue-green to grey-green. Small flowers borne singly where leaf joins stem. Small tomato-shaped fruit initially green, becoming bright distinctive ruby colour most often, although can also be mauve-red or yellow, drying to black colour.

Cultivation:

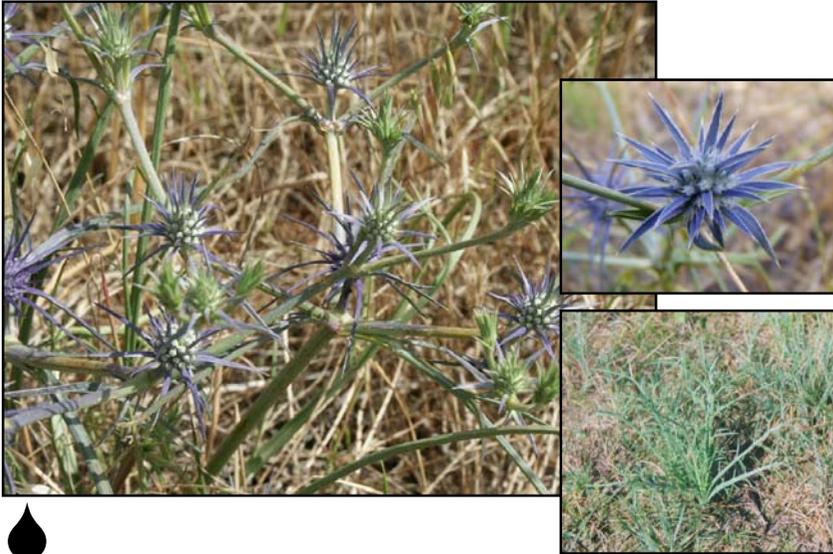
Suits most conditions. Can persist in degraded areas.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands. Berries are edible. Was an important food plant for Aborigines.

Blue Devil

Eryngium ovinum



Description:

Upright spiky plant. Soft green deeply-toothed leaves at base of plant from which arises stiffly erect ribbed stems: up to 60cm. Prickly blue cone-shaped flowers in clusters: from spring to summer.

Cultivation:

Perennial. Prefers heavy damp soils or areas prone to flooding. Dies down over winter.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and grassy woodlands. Often mistaken as a weed, especially when not in flower.

Wax-lip

Glossodia major



Description:

Slender orchid. Single leaf from base of plant is oblong to tapering at each end. Purple-blue to white five-petaled flowers borne terminally (when blue, base of labellum is white) with prominent yellow callus, in spring. Flowers may be single or paired.

Cultivation:

Do not disturb.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands, woodlands and forests. Also called Parson-in-the-pulpit.

Goodenia

Goodenia spp.



Description:

Prostrate to erect plant: up to 1m high. Dark green leaves, often toothed, form tuft at base of plant. Flower stalks generally arise above leaves. Bright yellow flowers with five petals fused at centre: at various times of year. Globular fruit containing many small seeds, heavy, bends flower stalk.

Cultivation:

Can be perennial or annual. Tough and adaptive. Responds well after spring rain. If in garden, may respond well to pruning.

Special Notes:

Found in grasslands and woodlands.

Orange Sunray

Hyalosperma semisterile



Description:

Small erect plant: up to 15cm. Leaves long and narrow arising from a single base. Flower stalk protrudes beyond leaves. Flower almost hemispherical with papery pale yellow petals and bright yellow centre in spring. Seeds in late spring.

Cultivation:

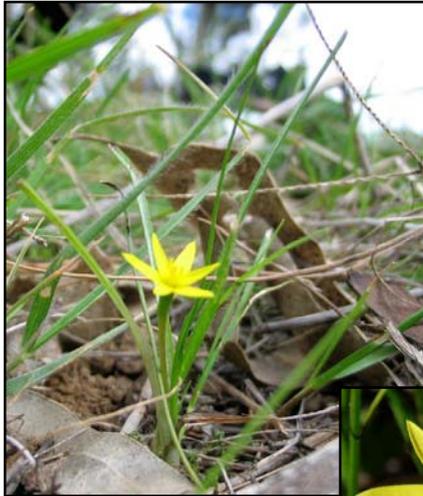
Annual. Adaptable to a wide variety of soils.

Special Notes:

Found in native grasslands and grassy woodlands.

Yellow Star

Hypoxis glabella



Description:

Small erect grass-like tuft. Bright shiny green narrow leaves arise from underground tuber: up to 6cm high. Flower stalk same height or shorter than leaves. Bright star-shaped yellow flowers borne singly or occasionally paired, with six petals (technically 3 petals and 3 sepals that look identical): one to three flowers per plant in winter to early spring.

Cultivation:

Perennial.

Special Notes:

Common in grasslands, also in forests.

31 Also called Tiny Star.

Native Rushes

Juncus spp.



Description:

Erect or spreading grey/olive-green rushes. Narrow cylindrical leaves either hollow or pithy, forming clumps to dense thickets. Flower spike at same height or higher than leaves. Small pale-coloured flowers throughout year ranging from densely clustered to spreading.

Cultivation:

Can be perennial or annual. Often prefer heavy soils such as clay and clay loams.

Special Notes:

Useful for controlling soil erosion along watercourses and around dams. Some suitable for planting around effluent disposal fields.