

# A GUIDE TO HERITAGE GARDEN PLANTS

## Recommended Reading

*The Canberra Gardener*. ACT Horticultural Society (ninth Edition) 2004.

*Trees & Shrubs in Canberra*. L. D. Pryor & J. C. G. Banks. Little Hills Press 1991.

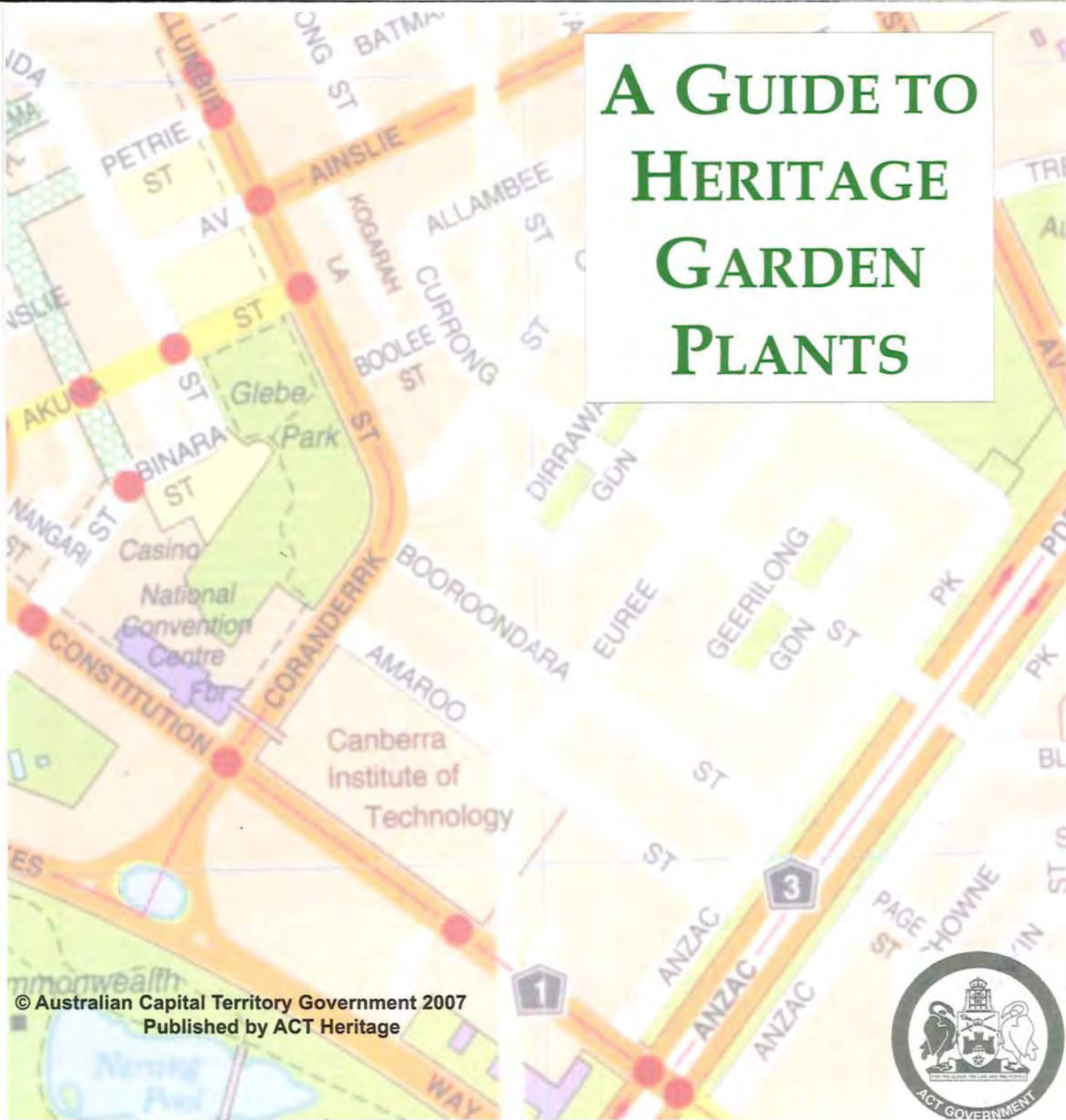
*Australian Plants for Canberra Region Gardens and other cool climate areas*. Australian Native Plant Society (4th edition) 2001.

*A Guide to Heritage Garden Plants*. Catherine Kiernan. ACT Heritage Council.

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## INTRODUCTION

There is an increasing awareness in Canberra of our heritage suburbs, and of the desirability of using plant species and having garden styles appropriate to the period in which the house was built.

Canberra's suburban growth commenced in 1927. The streetscapes and gardens were heavily influenced by the Garden City movement from the UK, and the work of Canberra's early designers Walter Burley Griffin, TCG Weston and Sir John Sulman. Wide grassed verges, clipped hedges (not front fences) and front gardens were key features in front of the house.

The back gardens were regarded as being more private, with less formality and with an emphasis on productivity such as fruit and vegetables as well as cut flowers for the house.

Grass was used extensively, but lawns were generally of "dryland" grass species, as sophisticated watering systems were not available. Watered lawns and garden beds were kept to minimum, of necessity. With the potential for future water shortages, we should again aim for minimum garden water consumption for water conservation reasons.

There are garden styles which correspond to different periods and influences. Today we can choose from our knowledge of these different styles, and the wider selection of available plants, to create our own gardens to suit our lifestyles, tastes and budgets. In early Canberra gardens however, some design concepts would be out of place in the front garden. A few notable examples are bush gardens, rockeries and large areas of paving.



The following lists are a guide to help with the selection of some suitable plants for early Canberra gardens. All the species are hardy, requiring minimum watering and fertilising to perform well. All should be readily available at local nurseries. Some of the earliest used species have become weeds, so a separate listing of the species that should not be planted is included. None of these plants are likely to be available from nurseries.



## WEEDY HERITAGE SPECIES

The following are heritage species that have escaped and naturalised. They are no longer recommended for planting and most are prohibited species in the ACT.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Species Name</u>
<i>Acacia baileyana</i>	Cootamundra Wattle
<i>Acer negundo</i>	Box Elder
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Black Alder
<i>Celtis australis</i>	Nettle Tree
<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i>	Cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i>	Grey-leaved Cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster pannosus</i>	Cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster salicifolius</i>	Willow-leaf Cotoneaster
<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	Cotoneaster
<i>Cytisus</i> spp. (all species)	Broom
<i>Genista</i> spp. (all species)	Broom
<i>Hedera helix</i>	English Ivy
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	Broad-leaf Privet
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Small-leaf Privet
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African Boxthorn
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	Yellow Bamboo
<i>Populus alba</i>	White Poplar
<i>Populus nigra</i> 'Italica'	Lombardy Poplar
<i>Pyracantha angustifolia</i>	Firethorn
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	Scarlet Firethorn
<i>Pyracantha fortuneana</i>	Firethorn
<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Monterey Pine, Radiata Pine
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia
<i>Salix</i> spp: <b>all species except</b>	
<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Weeping Willow
<i>Salix x calodendron</i>	Pussy Willow
<i>Salix x reichardtii</i>	Sterile Pussy Willow
<i>Sorbus</i> spp	Service Tree, Rowan
<i>Spartium junceum</i>	Spanish Broom
<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>	Rhus Tree
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse
<i>Vinca major</i>	Periwinkle



## DECIDUOUS TREES (over 6m)

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway Maple	10m
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	15m
<i>Cercis silaqastrum</i>	Judas Tree	8m
<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Russian Olive	8m.
<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i> 'Raywood'	Desert Ash	12m
<i>Juglans nigra</i>	Black Walnut	14m
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Golden Rain Tree	6m
<i>Lagerstromia indica</i>	Crepe myrtle	7m
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Liquidambar	18m
<i>Maclura pomifera</i>	Osage Orange	10m
<i>Malus halliana</i>	Crab Apple	8m
<i>Malus ionensis</i> 'Plena'	Crab Apple	6m
<i>Malus X purpurea</i>	Crab Apple	10m
<i>Melia azederach</i>	White Cedar	10m
<i>Prunus X blireiana</i>	Cherry Plum	3.5m
<i>Prunus mume</i>	Flowering Apricot	6m
<i>Prunus persica</i>	Ornamental peach	3.5m
<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Manchurian Pear	12m
<i>Sophora japonica</i>	Pagoda Tree	15m
<i>Tilea X europaea</i>	European Linden	25m
<i>Ulmus glabra</i>	Wych Elm	14m
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	15m

## AUSTRALIAN NATIVE CLIMBERS

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Vigor</u>
# <i>Clematis aristata</i>	Old Mans Beard	moderate
# <i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Old Mans Beard	moderate
# <i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	moderate

## EVERGREEN TREES (over 6m)

### # Australian native species

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
# <i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Black Wattle	10m
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Irish Strawberry Tree	7m
# <i>Callitris endlicheri</i>	Black Cypress Pine	15m
# <i>Callitris rhomboidea</i>	Oyster Bay Pine	9m
<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	Roman Cypress	12m
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	Loquat	9m
# <i>Eucalyptus moorei</i>	Narrow-leaf Sallee	7m
# <i>Eucalyptus stellulata</i>	Black Sallee	15m
# <i>E. leucoxylon</i> 'Macrocarpa'	Yellow Gum	7m
# <i>Eucalyptus pauciflora</i>	Snow Gum	15m
<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	Silk Tassel Bush	7m
<i>Pinus patula</i>	Mexican yellow Pine	8m
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	8m
<i>Prunus lusitanica</i>	Portugal laurel	8m
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	15m
<i>Quercus suber</i>	Cork Oak	15m
<i>Thuja orientalis</i>	Chinese Arbor-vitae	7m

## NON NATIVE CLIMBERS

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Vigor</u>
<i>Clematismontana rubens</i>	Pink Clematis	vigorous
<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	Carolina Jessamine	vigorous
<i>Jasminum officinale</i>	Common Jasmine	moderate
<i>Parthenocissus</i> <i>quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper	vigorous
<i>Rosa</i> spp	Rose (ramblers)	moderate
<i>Trachelospermum</i> <i>jasminoides</i>	Star jasmine	moderate
<i>Vitis X vinifera</i>	Ornamental Grape	vigorous
<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>	Wisteria	vigorous
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Wisteria	vigorous

## EVERGREEN SHRUBS (under 6m)

### # Australian native species

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
<i>Abelia X grandiflora</i>	Abelia	2m
<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	Gold Dust Laurel	2m
# <i>Banksia ericifolia</i>	Heath Banksia	3m
# <i>Bauera rubioides</i>	River Dog Rose	1m
<i>Camelia</i> spp.	Camellia various	
# <i>Callistemon</i> spp	Bottlebrushes	1-4m
<i>Daphne odora</i>	Winter Daphne	1m
<i>Escallonia macrantha</i>	Common Escallonia	3m.
<i>Euonymus japonica</i>	Japanese Spindle Tree	3-4m
<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i>	Pineapple Guava	4m
# <i>Hakea eriantha</i>	Tree Hakea	4m
<i>Juniperus sabina</i>	Savin Juniper	1m
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Creeping Juniper	0.5m
# <i>Leptospermum</i> <i>scoparium</i>	Manuka	2m
<i>Lophomyrtus communis</i>	Myrtle	1m
<i>Michelia figo</i>	Port Wine Magnolia	3m
# <i>Micromyrtus ciliata</i>	Fringed Heath-myrtle	1m
# <i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>	Creeping Boobialla	prost.
<i>Myrtus communis</i>	Common Myrtle	3m
<i>Nerium oleander</i>	Oleander	4m
# <i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusty Daisy Bush	2m
# <i>Philotheca myoporoides</i>	Waxflower	1.2m
<i>Phormium tenax</i>	New Zealand Flax	1.5m
<i>Photinia glabra</i>	Japanese Photinia	4m
<i>Photinia serratifolia</i>	Chinese Photinia	4m
# <i>Prostanthera ovalifolia</i>	Purple Mint Bush	2m
<i>Punica granatum</i> 'Nana'	Dwarf Pomegranate	1m
<i>Raphiolepis indica</i>	Indian Hawthorn	2.5m
# <i>Rhagodia spinescens</i> var <i>deltophylla</i>	Saltbush	1m
<i>Rhododendron</i> spp	Rhododendron various	
<i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Rosemary	1m
<i>Viburnum tinus</i>	Laurustinus	4m
# <i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	Coastal Rosemary	1.5m



## DECIDUOUS SHRUBS (under 6m)

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush	3.5m
<i>Chanomeles speciosa</i>	Japanese Flowering Quince	2m
<i>Chinonanthus praecox</i>	Wintersweet	4m
<i>Cornus florida</i>	Dogwood	6m
<i>Cotinus coggyria</i>	Smoke Bush	4m
<i>Exochorda racemosa</i>	Pearl Bush	3m
<i>Forsythia viridissima</i>	Yellow Bell	3m
<i>Hamamelis mollis</i>	Chinese Witch Hazel	1.5m
<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i>	Syrian Hibiscus	2-3m
<i>Kerria japonica</i>	Japanese Rose	1m
<i>Kolkwitzia amabilis</i>	Chinese Beauty Bush	2m
<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i>	Winter Honeysuckle	2m
<i>Philadelphus X virginalis</i>	Mock Orange	2m
<i>Punica granatum</i>	Dwarf Pomegranate	1m
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Flowering Currant	1.5m
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elderberry	5m
<i>Spirea cantoniensis</i>	Reeves Spirea	2m
<i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	Snowberry	1m
<i>Syringa vulgaris</i>	Lilac	3m
<i>Tamarix chinensis</i>	Tamarisk	3m
<i>Viburnum X burkwoodii</i>	Viburnum	3m
<i>Vitex agnus-castus</i>	Chaste Tree	6m
<i>Weigelia florida</i>	Weigelia	3m



## TALL HEDGE SPECIES

The height ranges provided for the following hedging species are their mature heights. With trimming the species can be kept smaller and more compact.

**(C) requires clipping; (I) informal;**

**# Australian native species.**

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
<b>*Tall hedge plants (over 1.5m)*</b>		
*Abelia X grandiflora	Glossy Abelia (C)	2m
#Callistemon sieberi	River Bottlebrush (I, C)	2m
#Callistemon subulatus	Bottlebrush (I, C)	2m
#Callistemon 'Captain Cook'	Bottlebrush (I,C)	2m
#Callistemon citrinus (forms)	Crimson Bottlebrush (I, C)	2m
Chaenomeles speciosa	Japanese Flowering Quince (C)	2m
Choisia ternata	Mexican Orange (I)	3m
Cupressus sp	Cypress various	
Escallonia macrantha	Common Escallonia (C)	3m
Euonymus japonica	Japanese Spindle Tree (C)	4m
Elaeagnus pungens	Thorny Elaeagnus (C)	2m
Feijoa sellowana	Pineapple Guava (I)	4m
#Grevillea victoriae	Royal Grevillea (I, C)	2m
#Leptospermum lanigerum	Woolly Tea-tree (I, C)	3m
#Leptospermum nitidum	Tea-tree (I, C)	2m
#Melaleuca decussata	Cross leaf Myrtle (I,C)	2-3m
Photinia glabra 'Rubens'	Japanese Photinia cv. (C)	4m
Photinia glabra 'Robusta'	Japanese Photinia cv. (C)	4m
Pittosporum eugenioides	Tarata (C)	12m
Viburnum tinus	Laurustinus (C)	4m

## LOW, SUPPORTED HEDGE SPECIES

The height ranges provided for the following hedging species are their mature heights. With trimming the species can be kept smaller and more compact.

**(C) requires clipping; (I) informal;**

**# Australian native species.**

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Height</u>
<b>*Low hedge plants (to 1.5m)*</b>		
Buxus sempervirens	English Box (I,C)	2m
Coleonema pulchrum	Diosma (C)	1.5m
Hebe 'Blue Gem'	Veronica (I, C)	1.5m
Lonicera nitida	Box-leaf Honeysuckle (C)	1m
Punica granatum 'Nana'	Dwarf Pomegranate (C)	1m
#Rhadodia spinescens	Saltbush (I)	1m
Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary (C)	1m
#Westringia fruticosa	Coastal Rosemary (I, C)	1.5m
<b>*Climbing hedges needing support*</b>		
Muehlenbeckia complexa	Necklace Vine (C)	1.5m
Jasminum officinale	Common Jasmine (C)	1.5m

