

FOOD

Grevilleas range from tall trees [*Grevillea robusta*] to ground covers [G. 'Poorinda Royal Mantle'] and their flowers vary widely in colour, thus are very suitable for inclusion in any garden design. Generally Grevilleas flower from winter through spring to summer, whereas some hybrids often flower longer. Small varieties will grow in pots and large hanging baskets. Grevilleas adapted to arid areas are very suitable for gardens in western Queensland.

Many Grevilleas are exploited and pollinated by **Honeyeaters**, while the larger flowering species are also attractive to **Lorikeets**.

Byfield Spider *Grevillea venusta* [shrub, green, yellow and purple]
Wallum Grevillea *Grevillea leiophylla* [ground cover, pink]
White Oak *Grevillea baileyana* [tall shrub, white]
Grevillea 'Orange Marmalade' [shrub, orange]
Grevillea 'Robyn Gordon' [shrub, red]
Grevillea 'Sandra Gordon' [tall shrub, yellow]
Grevillea 'Superb' [shrub, red/yellow]



Yellow-faced Honeyeater feeding on nectar of *Grevillea* 'Honey Gem' (I&JB)



Brown Honeyeater feeding on nectar of *Grevillea johnsonii* (PB)

Banksias create sculptural features in your garden or can also be used as a background planting. There are a number of species particularly suited to coastal and sandy range locations. They are slow growing, and the cones that form after the flowers drop off are held for many years.

Coastal Banksia *Banksia integrifolia* [small tree, lemon]
Fern-leaved Banksia *Banksia oblongifolia* [shrub, cream]
Hairpin Banksia *Banksia spinulosa* [shrub, gold/orange]
Heath-leaved Banksia *Banksia ericifolia* [shrub, gold]
Swamp Banksia *Banksia robur* [shrub, straggly, yellow green]



Lewin's Honeyeater feeding on the nectar of *Banksia integrifolia* (PB)



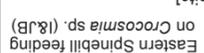
Immature White-cheeked Honeyeater feeding on *Banksia robur* (I&JB)

NECTAR

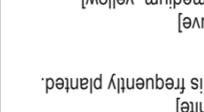
The following plants can also attract Honeyeaters, Lorikeets and Sunbirds [wet tropics only] to your garden.



Bulbs
Naked Ladies *Amaryllis belladonna* [pink]
Crocasmia sp. [orange]
Kangaroo Paw *Angozanthos* spp.
[many colours]



Creepers
Dusky coral Pea *Kennedia rubicunda* [red]



Shrubs:
Eastern Spinebill feeding on *Crocasmia* sp. (I&JB)



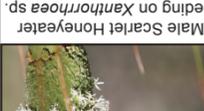
Trees:
Eudora *Melicope elleryana* [medium, pink/mauve]
Golden Penda *Xanthostemon chrysanthus* [medium, yellow]
Rain Tree *Albizia saman* [tall, pink]



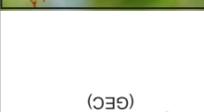
Grass Trees
Xanthorrhoea spp.
Female Scarlet Honeyeater feeding on *Melicope rubra* (I&JB)



Juvenile Blue-faced Honeyeater collecting nectar from Colvillea racemosa (I&JB)



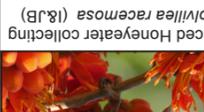
Scaly-breasted Lorikeet feeding on Melaleuca sp. (GC)



Blue Lilly Pilly Syzygium oleosum [small tree, white]
Small-leaved Lilly Pilly Syzygium luehmannii [small tree, white]
Scrub Cherry Syzygium australe [medium tree, white]
Lilly Pilly Acmena smithii [medium tree, cream]
Powderpuff Lilly Pilly Syzygium wilsonii [shrub, pink]



Yellow-spotted Honeyeater feeding on Melaleuca Little John (I&JB)



Bell-fruited Mallee Eucalyptus preissiana [yellow]
Coral Gum Eucalyptus torquata [salmon]
Punkett Mallee Eucalyptus curtisii [white]
Red Flowering Gum Corymbia ficifolia [pink, red, orange, white; grafted 'Dwarf Orange', 'Dwarf Crimson', hybrids 'Summer Red', 'Summer Beauty']
Silver Princess Eucalyptus caesia subsp. *caesia* and subsp. *magna* [red/pink/white]
Swamp Bloodwood Corymbia ptychocarpa [large red/pink, prefers moist conditions]
Yellow Gum Eucalyptus leucocylon 'Rosea' [pink]

Garden design

Many of us live in highly urbanised environments. You may live in a flat with a courtyard or a balcony, or a house with a large garden. The good news is that you don't have to have tall trees to attract birds.

Plant selection: It is recommended you walk around your neighbourhood to see what kinds of birds occur locally and which plants they prefer. Local garden clubs, field naturalist groups as well as birding groups will assist you with plant selection that suits your garden, soils and climate.

Australian plants, particularly those growing naturally in your area will usually thrive without excessive care and maintenance.

Layers: Garden designs incorporating ground covers, bushes and trees create numerous suitable places for birds to hide, feed and even breed. The shrubby layer can provide shelter for small birds.

Manicured lawns with scattered trees are not suitable for most small birds but they are perfect for aggressive, opportunistic birds such as Noisy Miners, Butcherbirds and Magpies. These may attack small birds and raid their nests.

Careful selection of trees is essential as many species grow large, are long lived and may drop branches, especially during storms. In the garden, care should be taken not to plant them too close to houses and power lines.

Plants in pots: If you have limited space or you are renting, pot locally occurring species and clump the pots in your courtyard or on the balcony. You will be surprised who visits.

Plants in hanging baskets: Again use local species and you will be amazed who will visit your baskets!

Logs, mulch and leaf litter: Insectivorous and carnivorous birds will search through mulch and leaf litter for insects or small reptiles. Logs are often used as lookout perches.

Water: A bird bath is a quick and easy way of bringing birds to your garden.

Community areas: Work along with others in your block of units and plant small shrubs, creepers up the walls and create mulched areas. All of these can provide food and shelter for small birds. Reduce the grass areas and introduce mulch.



Birds Queensland
PO Box 3784
South Brisbane BC 4101
www.birdsqueensland.org.au

CREATING YOUR BIRD FRIENDLY GARDEN



The key to creating a bird friendly garden is to provide water, food, shelter and nest materials. The good news is that planting any native plant is likely to increase the chances of birds visiting and possibly taking up residence in your garden.

Creating and maintaining a garden frequented by a wide variety of birds can be enjoyable.

This brochure will help you design a bird friendly garden no matter where you live in Queensland.

Birds Queensland

Birds feed variously on nectar, fruit, seeds and insects and all of these can be provided through careful selection of plants.



NECTAR: Plants with flowers that secrete large quantities of nectar are attractive to nectar feeding birds, such as Honeyeaters, Lorikeets and Sunbirds. These birds help to pollinate the flowers which is why many of the plant groups advertise their flowers in bird attracting colours such as red, pink and yellow. Many birds also feed upon pollen.
Plant a range of species so you have flowers all year round. Below are just a few of the species widely planted and frequently stocked at nurseries.
Eucalypts: *Eucalyptus*, *Angophora*, *Corymbia* Eucalypts are the most abundant source of nectar in the Western Australian species to be available to Queensland gardeners. The species listed below are small species, often fast growing and when they flower they bring birds close to eye level. Flower colour in brackets.
Bell-fruited Mallee *Eucalyptus preissiana* [yellow]
Coral Gum *Eucalyptus torquata* [salmon]
Punkett Mallee *Eucalyptus curtisii* [white]
Red Flowering Gum *Corymbia ficifolia* [pink, red, orange, white; grafted 'Dwarf Orange', 'Dwarf Crimson', hybrids 'Summer Red', 'Summer Beauty']
Silver Princess *Eucalyptus caesia* subsp. *caesia* and subsp. *magna* [red/pink/white]
Swamp Bloodwood *Corymbia ptychocarpa* [large red/pink, prefers moist conditions]
Yellow Gum *Eucalyptus leucocylon* 'Rosea' [pink]

Lilly Pillies are very popular as pot plants, screens, hedges and feature plants. Many have showy white flowers, coloured new leaves and glossy mature leaves to add much to any garden. Numerous hybrids are available hence offering you a selection from small weeping forms to the upright small trees.

Black Tea Tree Melaleuca bracteata [medium shrub, cream]
Honey Myrtle Melaleuca citrina [shrub, red]
White Paperbark Melaleuca leucadendra [medium/tall shrub, cream]
Gold-tipped Bottlebrush Melaleuca polandii [shrub, red]
White Bottlebrush Melaleuca salicina [small tree, white]
Weeping Bottlebrush Melaleuca viminalis [tall shrub, red]
Melaleuca 'Ulladulla Beacon' [prostrate form, red]
Callistemon 'Pink Champagne' [shrub, pink]

Scaly-breasted Lorikeet feeding on Melaleuca sp. (GC)
Yellow-spotted Honeyeater feeding on Melaleuca Little John (I&JB)

Rainbow Lorikeet feeding on Syzygium moorei (I&JB)
Blue Lilly Pilly Syzygium oleosum [small tree, white]
Small-leaved Lilly Pilly Syzygium luehmannii [small tree, white]
Scrub Cherry Syzygium australe [medium tree, white]
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Female Scarlet Honeyeater feeding on Melicope rubra (I&JB)
Male Scarlet Honeyeater feeding on Xanthorrhoea sp. (GC)

Immature White-cheeked Honeyeater feeding on Banksia robur (I&JB)
Lewin's Honeyeater feeding on the nectar of Banksia integrifolia (PB)

NECTAR

The flowers of many species of these plants are very attractive to Honeyeaters and Lorikeets, and some will add colour and foliage variation to your garden. Many flower only for a couple of weeks each year so select a range of species and this will extend the period of nectar availability. A number of the small species will pot successfully as well as trim into hedges and screens.

Bottlebrushes, callistemons, paperbarks, teatrees

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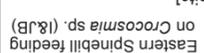
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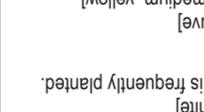
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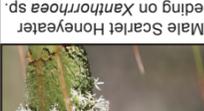
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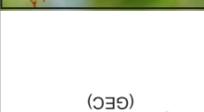
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