

ATTRACTING NATIVE BIRDS TO YOUR GARDEN

Everyone loves having native birds visit their garden. The best part is it is really easy to encourage them by following a few simple steps.



Food:

There are 3 main foods that will bring different birds to your garden

Nectar:



Birds like Lorikeets and Wattlebirds love the flowers on Grevilleas, Bottlebrush, Eucalyptus, and Banksias. We have hundreds of varieties of these plants that your nectar eaters will love!



Seed:



Rosellas, King Parrots and even lorikeets love to eat the seeds produced by Bottlebrush, Melaleuca, Leptospermums (Tea Tree) and Eucalyptus. These plants come in a variety of different sizes and colours so they look great in the garden.



Insects.

Wrens, Willie Wagtails and Silvereyes are the gardener's friends. They love to eat insects; especially the moths and butterflies that lay those caterpillars that can eat your fruit and veggie plants.

Water:

Native birds are very beautiful and they like to look their best. Having a birdbath will make sure they can spruce themselves up and have a drink at the same time. Make sure that the birdbath is positioned close to bushy shrubs so they feel safe and have quick access to a safe hiding place. Change the water regularly so it's fresh and doesn't breed mosquitoes.



Shelter:



Having a variety of bushy shrubs for hiding makes the birds feel more comfortable in your garden. Plants with spiky leaves make the best hiding places for Wrens and Willie Wagtails, they make great safe hiding places from cats and big bully birds. Dwarf grevilleas, small growing tea trees and melaleucas are the best.

Plant List

Grevilleas:

Most grevilleas flower all year round. They look great in the garden and can survive on very little water once they are established.

Tim's top 5 small Grevilleas:

Pink Midget is a low growing variety that can flower for up to 12 months!



Rosemary Grevillea has spiky leaves, which the wrens love to hide in. It comes in colours from white to vivid red and will flower any time of the year.



Deua Flame is a great new variety that will grow in more shade than other Grevilleas. Bright Red flowers make this plant stand out.



Peaches and Cream is another new variety of small grevillea. It flowers all year round with showy orange and cream coloured flowers.



Robyn Gordon is an old favourite. Its still popular as it grows to 1 metre and flowers almost continually bright red large flowers that honeyeaters love.



Tim's top 5 Medium to Large Grevilleas:

Honey Gem is a striking variety that has unique deep honey coloured flowers. It grows to 2 metres tall so it will screen out the neighbours too.



Sylvia is a great medium grower that can get up to 3 meters tall. The deep pinkish red flowers really stand out and the Lorikeets love this plant

Plant list

Golden Lyre is a unique growing grevillea that will get to 2 metres tall and over 2 metres wide. The flowers are probably the biggest of all grevilleas. The deep golden yellow flowers literally drip nectar and they smell great too!



Moonlight is another old favourite that has been around for a few years now. It flowers a bright creamy white and gets smothered with flowers all over. Great plant for privacy as it can get to 3 metres tall.



Pink Surprise. A medium sized grevillea that will grow up to 3 metres tall and flowers all year. The flowers are pink and cream and are full of nectar. Pink surprise flowers especially heavily and provides a feast for the nectar loving birds.



Tim's top 5 small native shrubs:

Little John Bottlebrush. The good old bottlebrush now comes in a pocket-sized form. 1 metre by 1 metre means they can grow in almost any garden. Flowers and seeds for the birds.



Kangaroo Paw 'Bush Gems' There is now a huge variety of smaller growing Kangaroo paws. Colours include pink, yellow, red and green and even black! The Honeyeaters at Tim's love our 'Bush Gems'. These new Kangaroo paws grow from 30cm tall to 1.5m



Native Fuchsias. More and more popular everyday, Simon, our manager loves the native fuchsia. Unusually pretty flowers for a native and grow great in sandy soils. Flowers come in pink, orange white and an unusual green colour. They are great small shrubs growing from 30cm to 1.2m tall



Dwarf Tea Trees. These great small shrubs produce the most beautiful flowers of all native plants. Ranging in colour from red through to white they suit any style of garden. They vary in size from 1 metre tall to over 2 metres they are really versatile. Being natives they are really drought resistant too!



Leptospermum Cardwell is a white flowering Tea tree that looks like it is covered in snow when it flowers. The white flowers are stunning to look at and when they finish provide a three course meal for your seed eating native birds.



Tim's top 5 medium to large native shrubs:

Lillypilli's have to be one of the best native bushy shrubs of all. They grow in sun and shade, have dense bushy habits and produce fruit that not only birds love to eat but so do people! They produce loads of tasty pink to red coloured berries that can be used in jams, baked in pies or eaten fresh. . . . If you can get them before the birds do!



Callistemon Dawson's River Weeper: The Bottlebrush is one of the most suited natives for the Macarthur area and thrives in clay soils. They are extremely low water users once established. This variety has the most amazing habit that weeps from the top of the bush to the ground and literally drips with bright crimson flowers. Wattle Birds and lorikeets love their flowers and seeds. Growing up to 5 metres tall makes them a great tree to shade our house or give you some privacy from the neighbours too.



Lemon-Scented Tea Tree. This beautiful large shrub or small tree is another winner in the Macarthur region. Growing up to 5 metres tall, it produces plenty of shade and provides great shelter for birds. The leaves when crushed have an intoxicating lemon smell. The seeds this tree produces after flowering are a parrot's favourite.



Dwarf Flowering Gum This great small growing gum tree only grows to 5 metres tall so it will fit in almost any garden. Being grafted it means it is much easier to grow as well. In summer it is covered in huge red, pink orange or white flowers that the birds love! After flowering the seed capsules produced are very large and are great treat for larger parrots like Corellas.



Banksias. The Heath Banksia has bright orange, candle like flowers that the nectar eater love! It grows in sunny positions and up to about 3 metres tall. Giant Candles is a variety that has extra large flowers



Hedges

It's a great idea to have some hedges in your garden. Not only does it give you some privacy from those nosey neighbours but they also make your garden a haven for native birds. Hedges are thick and bushy and make a safe place for birds from evil predators like cats, dogs and aggressive non-native birds like those horrible Indian Miners. If you have hedges you will have more birds in your garden, in fact they might even move in! Goodbye Neighbours is our most popular hedging plant and being a native will make a great addition to your bird haven.



