Native Plants of Limestone Coast Wetlands

Identification Chart

Swamp Wallaby Grasses Amphibromus spp.



These grasses prefer moist or wet areas.

Slender Bitter-cress



Produces long running stems and has small white or pink flowers in spring-summer. Fruit and foliage are traditional foods.





Hardy sedge with bright green foliage and rough leaves.

Hollow Sedge Carex tereticaulis



Dense tufting plant with hollow, smooth, cylindrical stems. Grows in moist areas.

Common Spike-rush

Centella Centella cordifolia

Hairy Willow-herb



Small fast growing plant with light green round or heart-shapred leaves.

Common Sneezeweed Centipeda cunninghami



Leaves are "toothed" (zig-zag edges) and pungent. Traditionally used to treat a range of

Black Bristle-rush Chorizandra enodis

Stiff erect sedge with grey-green stems. Flowering spring-summer.

Knobby Club-rush

Ficinia nodosa





A semi-aquatic plant with narrow green leaves and very small white flowers. It may grow on the margins, semi- or fully submerged.



up to 0.5 m



Swamp Gum

0.1 - 0.5 m

0.2 - 0.6 m

Tall Saw-sedge

Gahnia clarkei

Water-ribbons



Common plant in still or slow-moving permanent wetlands. Roots traditionally consumed by Aboriginal people.





Perennial grass that grows in near saltmarshes. Also known as Emu Grass. Has long creeping stems with leaves forming each side.



Pale Sundew Drosera peltata



Survives drier conditions thanks to underground tuber. Carnivorous.





Aquatic sedge that grows from rhizomes. Cylindrical flower spike brown at the top of green stems.

Australian Sweet-grass

Glyceria australis



Erect grey plant covered in hairs. Small white flowers from Oct to Mar.



A smooth barked white gum with cream flowers in autumn-winter. Leaves are ovate and mature knobby seed heads. Habitat for small animals pods are conical.

Floating Club-rush

8 - 20 m



Large clumped rush with distinctive brown like frogs and skinks. Grows in a variety of

0.5 - 1.5 m



leaves. Tolerates permanently wet locations.

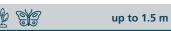
1.5 - 4 m



Coastal Saw-sedge



Large tussock growing in sandy soils. Edges of leaves are rough. Larval food plant for skipper butterflies.



Swamp Goodenia



Spreading groundcover with thick long leaves. Flowers abundantly in spring-summer; yellow flowers sit above foliage.

Shiny Swamp-Mat Goodenia radicans



Small white fan-shaped flowers in Oct-



0.1 - 0.8 m

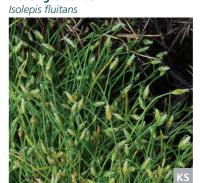


Spreading perennial grass. Leaves have rough edges. Usually in swampy areas.



Shiny Pennywort

Small creeping plant, may form carpets. Round or kidney-shaped leaves.



A floating sedge native to the continents of Africa, Europe, and Australia.



Many traditional uses for stems and leaves such as for string and weaving. Native to three



Forms dense clumps of leafless stems, with small flowers near the top. Traditionally used in weaving and string.

up to 0.6 m





up to 2.2 m

Native Plants of Limestone Coast Wetlands

Identification Chart

Bottlebrush Tea-tree





Often forms dense monoculture patches spreading from underground rhizomes





Dense copses are excellent refuges for birds. Small white flowers attract nectar-eating birds and butterflies in spring/summer.



Woolly Tea-tree



Grey green leaves are short, soft, and hairy. White flowers from Sept to Dec.



May flowers year-round, especially summer. Fine plant with soft foliage and blue fan-shaped



Lesser Loosestrife

Dainty spreading plant with ribbed stems. Grows near wetlands or in moist woodlands. Small purple flowers Nov-Apr.



Grows in full sun in permanently inundated wetlands.



Bare Twig-rush

Grass-like sedge. Found in all states of Australia.

Floating Pondweed



Dense shrub, flowering prolifically in spring/ summer. Nectar feeds birds and butterflies.





Montia australasica



2 - 6 m

up to 0.3 m

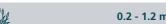
up to 0.3 m



Fine Twig-rush

0.3 - 1.3 m

up to 6 m



0.5 - 10 m

Slender Onion-orchid Microtis parviflora



Fleshy stem with up to 80 green flowers. Leaf is usually longer than the flower stem.





May grow terrestrially, where it often forms dense carpets, or aquatically, where is grows in a more open habit. White or pale pink flowers in spring-summer

0.05 m

Aquatic

Butterfly-attracting

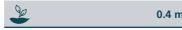
Bird-attracting

(T) Traditional use

Water-milfoils Myriophyllum spp



Needle-like leaves around erect stems. Occurs in shallow ephemeral wetlands and generally flowers after water has receeded (spring-



Running Marsh-flower Ornduffia reniformis

Angled Lobelia



Creeping plant that grows in shallow wetlands. Large shiny dark green heart-shaped leaves. Yellow flowers in spring.

Ozothamnus ferrugineus

Tree Everlasting

Shrub with small white tubular flowers in clusters.

Common Reed Phragmites australis



One of the most widely distributed plants in the world. Very tall grass that forms monoculture



Has large oval-shaped floating leaves upon which frogs may sit.



Forms large mats in shallow water. Yellow flowers in spring-summer.

0.05 - 0.3 m

0.5 m

Legend

Trees

Larger Shrubs

Ground covers

Reeds/sedges

Grasses

Saltbush

Climbing Plants





White star-shaped flowers in spring-summer. Basal leaves are thick and dark green, while stem leaves are narrower. A spreading groundcover.





Creeping prostrate plant with oval-shaped leaves. Pretty mauve flowers with yellow centre in spring.

Narrow-lead Bulrush



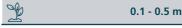
Found in temperate and tropical regions around the world. Rhizome was part of staple diet of Aboriginal peoples of southern Australia



Purple Bladderwort . Utricularia dichotoma



Also known as Fairy Aprons because of the shape of the purple flowers (Aug-Dec). Carnivorous; round "bladders" on its stems trap tiny organisms



Round-leaf Wilsonia



Grows prostrate (along the ground) forming mats. The leaves are round, shiny, and succulent. Grows in mud around brackish

Duckweed



Duckweed can refer to a number of species in the genera Wolffia, Lemna, or Spirodela. They are aquatic plants with round or oval-shaped leaf-like structures that float on the surface of water. Colony forming; good habitat for fish.

Many thanks to the following who kindly supplied photographs: June Niejalke (JN), Jonathan Tuck (JT), Kevin Sparrow (KS), Jess Bourchier (JB), Rose Thompson (RT), Bryan Haywood (BH), Vanessa Freebairn (VF).

Understory plants/smaller shrubs