



Eucalypts as Koala Food

Which Eucalypt species do Strzelecki Koalas Prefer?

There are many eucalypt species which provide a source of food and shelter for the Strzelecki Koalas. They range from primary to supplementary and are listed in the table below. Not all species grow in the South Gippsland Landcare Network area however, and we recommend you only plant indigenous endemic species when undertaking a vegetation restoration or enhancement project. Landcare has project officers to help you plan your project so call or email for information.

CLASSIFICATION OF KOALA FOOD SPECIES based on current research.		
Common name	Scientific name	Classification
Mountain Grey-gum	<i>E. cypellocarpa</i>	Primary
Blue Gum (Eurabbie)	<i>E. globulus ssp. bicostata</i>	Primary
Gippsland Blue-gum	<i>E. globulus ssp. pseudoglobulus</i>	Primary
Southern Blue-gum	<i>E. globulus ssp. globulus</i>	Primary
Yellow Stringybark	<i>E. muelleriana</i>	Primary
Manna Gum	<i>E. viminalis</i>	Primary
Red-gum	<i>E. tereticornis</i>	Primary
Messmate	<i>E. obliqua</i>	Secondary *
Mountain Ash	<i>E. regnans</i>	Secondary *
Yertchuk	<i>E. consideniana</i>	Secondary
Apple Box	<i>E. angophoroides</i>	Secondary
Yellow Box	<i>E. melliodora</i>	Secondary
Red Box	<i>E. polyanthemos</i>	Secondary
Coast Manna-gum	<i>E. viminalis ssp. pryoriana</i>	Secondary
Brown Stringybark	<i>E. baxteri</i>	Secondary
But But	<i>E. bridgesiana</i>	Secondary
Southern Mahogany	<i>E. botryoides</i>	Secondary
Strzelecki Gum	<i>E. strzeleckii</i>	Secondary
Narrow-leaf Peppermint	<i>E. radiata</i>	Supplementary
Swamp Gum	<i>E. ovata</i>	Supplementary
Silvertop Ash	<i>E. sieberi</i>	Supplementary
White Stringybark	<i>E. globoidea</i>	Supplementary
Mealy Stringybark	<i>E. cephalocarpa</i>	Supplementary
Shining Peppermint	<i>E. willisii</i>	Supplementary

* Only Secondary when mixed with Primary food species

Your local nursery can help you with appropriate species choice. To find a local nursery refer to the SGLN nursery and contract planter list found on our website.
www.sgln.org.au

Communities can work together to restore vital animal habitat

The South Gippsland Landcare Network's Friends of Strzelecki Koala program obtained a grant from the Victorian Government's Communities for Nature program to restore, enhance and protect Koala Habitat. This money will support strategic on-ground projects on private properties across South Gippsland, as well as an extensive community education and volunteering program. On ground works will include funding subsidies for landholders to fence, revegetate and control weeds in key locations. A Koala Habitat Preservation, Enhancement and Restoration Plan has identified priority areas for habitat preservation and revegetation activities that will enhance existing habitat and improve connectivity.

The Strzelecki Koala

The Strzelecki Koala is a population of wild koalas found in the Strzelecki Ranges in South Eastern Victoria, Australia. Studies have proven that the koalas found in this area differ in genetic diversity to other populations found in Victoria. The exact extent and numbers of the population is still not known. Prior to European settlement, koalas were widespread across Victoria. However, hunting and habitat loss caused their numbers to dwindle to dramatically low numbers in the late 19th century. In order to combat this, koalas were moved by government agencies from inbred populations with a very low genetic diversity on Phillip and French Islands to the rest of state. These inbred koalas thrived and are now the source of most koalas in Victoria, with the exception of populations in the Strzelecki Ranges. It is because of this that the Strzelecki Koala population is believed to be unique in Victoria. Studies have proven the Strzelecki Koalas to be a genetically intact and a diverse example of a wild population of Koalas. It is therefore feasible that this genetically diverse population will better withstand threats such as disease and climate change than their genetically uniform cousins.



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Based on an original list prepared by Bronwyn Teesdale, Greening Australia. We would also like to thank Barry Hill, Frank Smolders, Geoff Trease and Matt Bowler who contributed to this revised edition.
References;
Native Trees and shrubs of South-Eastern Australia; Leon Costermans
Publisher: Weldon, ISBN 0947116761
Flora of Melbourne by Society for Growing Australian Plants Staff;
Publisher: Hyland House, ISBN: 9781864470857
A Classification of Koala Food Species in terms of their preference. HVP
South Gippsland Seed Bank provides resources for revegetation by direct seeding.
Call 5662 2453 or email sgseeds@hotmail.com.

A Native Vegetation Planting Guide for the South Gippsland Landcare Network Area



Plant Communities of South Gippsland



A Native Vegetation Planting Guide

Plant communities in South Gippsland are composed of very different species. They vary according to aspect, soil type, altitude and protection from wind. They have adapted over thousands of years to growing in these particular areas and are the best plant to be replanted for a good survival rate. Local fauna has adapted to live within ecosystems containing these plants, so indigenous plantings help maintain biodiversity. A project site can be described in terms of its Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC), and a site's EVC will define the original species mix at the site prior to clearing during settlement.
Indigenous flora contributes to the identity of an area, whether it be seaside, flat plains, gently undulating country or high steep hills. In each situation the plants are completely different but help define the unique character of the landscape. Using plants grown from locally collected seed helps retain the genetic characteristics of an area's groups of plants.
Native animals require vegetation for shelter and food. Many birds and small animals will not cross areas of pasture, and some, such as koalas are vulnerable to attack by cattle when they try. Connected areas of bush allow animals to move around, maintaining genetic diversity. Animals that require native vegetation for food are also able to move on when an area is depleted allowing the plants to recover with out becoming over browsed.

Species Guide for Nursery Tube Stock

Wet Forest EVC 30 and Damp Forest EVC 29. Plant species in the higher hills and gullies. Look for remnant vegetarian in paddocks, on roadsides and in gullies nearby.

<i>Eucalyptus regnans</i>	Mountain Ash	Very large tree to 90 metres
<i>Eucalyptus bicostata / globulus</i>	Blue Gum	Medium Tree to 30 metres
<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Messmate	Large tree to 60 metres - drier sites
<i>Eucalyptus cytellocarpa</i>	Mountain Grey Gum	Large tree to 65 metres
<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum	Medium tree to 30 metres
<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i>	Narrow-leaf Peppermint	Medium tree to 30 metres
<i>Eucalyptus muelleriana</i>	Yellow Stringybark	Medium tree 30 - 40 metres#
<i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>	White Stringybark	Medium tree 30 - 40 metres#
<i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i>	Silver Top Ash	Medium tree 25 - 45 metres#
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Variable tree to 30 metres
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle	Variable tree to 30 metres
<i>Altherosperma moschatum</i>	Southern Sassafras	Small tree 10 –25 metres in wet gullies#
<i>Nothofagus cunninghamii</i>	Myrtle Beech	Variable tree to 35 metres in wet gullies#
<i>Pomaderris aspera</i>	Hazel Pomaderris	Medium shrub
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy Bush	Large shrub
<i>Olearia argophylla</i>	Musk Daisy-bush	Tall scrub or small tree 3-8 metres
<i>Cassinia trinerva</i>	Three Veined Cassinia	Medium to large shrub
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Dog Wood	Medium shrub
<i>Prostanthera lasianthos</i>	Victorian Christmas-bush	Large shrub or smallll tree
<i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i>	Tree Everlasting	Shrub to 3 metres
<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant Bush	Medium to large shrub
<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia	Shrub 1 -2.5 metres
<i>Solanum aviculare</i>	Kangaroo Apple	Large shrub to 4 metres
<i>Hedycarya angustifolia</i>	Austral Mulberry	Small tree - tall shrub to 8 metres * gullies
<i>Bedfordia arborescens</i>	Blanket Leaf	Small tree - tall shrub to 8 metres * gullies
<i>Gynatrix pulchella</i>	Hemp Bush	Shrub to 3 metres
<i>Ziera arborescens</i>	Stink Wood	Medium to large shrub
<i>Lomatia fraseri</i>	Forest Lomatia	Shrub or small tree to 8 metres *
<i>Pimelea axillaris</i>	Bootlace Bush	Shrub to 2 metres*
<i>Pittosporum bicolour</i>	Banyalla	Variable small to large shrub 3 - 12 m
<i>Myrsine howittiana</i>	Muttonwood	Shrub or small tree to 6 metres * gullies
<i>Polyscias sambucifolia</i>	Elderberry Panax	Shrub or small tree to 5 metres *
<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax Lily	Herb to 80cm flowers to 1.2 metres
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge	Grass to 80 cm. Wet sites
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	Vigourous climber
<i>Clematis glycinoides</i>	Forest Clematis	Climber to 15 metres

only occurs in limited locations in South Gippsland area. Only introduce if appropriate.

* may be unavailable due to difficulty in propagating or seed set.

EVC 8 Wet Heathland (Also consider EVC 48 Heathy Woodland). Heathland species have evolved on soil which is low in nutrients, however they contain more species than any other plant community. Most are small plants and there are many lillies, grasses and orchids. Heathlands are very colourful in spring when the flowers make an attractive display. In South Gippsland various forms of heathland are present. Species within heathland types can vary so a detailed site plan based on species present on nearby roadsides or private property with similar drainage, soil and aspect is necessary. Samples can be taken to the nursery for identification. These more common plants are usually available (according to availability of seed) but there are many more species present. Ask at your nursery.

<i>Eucalyptus viminalis sp.pryoriana</i>	Coast Manna Gum	Medium tree to 30 metres
<i>Eucalyptus kitsoniana</i>	Gippsland Mallee	Small tree
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia	Tall shrub
<i>Hakea teretifolia ssp. hirsuta</i>	Dagger Hakea	Small shrub t o 2 metres
<i>Allocasuarina misera/paradoxa</i>	Slender/Green Sheoak	Small shrub to 2 metres
<i>Allocasuarina paludosa</i>	Scrub Sheoke	Shrub to 5 metres
<i>Allocasuarina media</i>	Prom Sheoak	Medium shrub
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Medium shrub
<i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i>	Heath Tea-tree	Erect medium shrub
<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	Sweet Wattle	Small shrub
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses	Shrub to 5 metres
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Medium Shrub
<i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i>	Scented Paperbark	Small tree to 12 metres Wet
<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath	Small shrub
<i>Hibbertia procumbens</i>	Spreading Guinea-flower	Small shrub
<i>Olearia ramulosa</i>	Twiggy Daisy Bush	Small shrub
<i>Platylobium formosum</i>	Handsome Flat Pea	Small Shrub
<i>Pultenaea stricta</i>	Rigid Pea Bush	Small Shrub
<i>Dillwynia glaberrima</i>	Smooth Parrot-pea	Small shrub
<i>Dillwynia cinerescens</i>	Grey Parrot Pea	Small shrub
<i>Gahnia sieberiana</i>	Red Fruited Saw Sedge	Wet sites best
<i>Diplarrena moraea</i>	Butterfly Flag	Small plant
<i>Patersonia occidentalis</i>	Long Purple-flag	Wet sites best

Your nursery may have some indigenous endemic plants that are not available in tubes available in larger pot sizes. It is worthwhile enquiring,

EVC 18 Riparian Forest and EVC 191: Riparian Scrub. Riparian Plants are found along the major rivers and creeks, often on alluvial soils. EVC 53 Swamp Scrub can be associated with riparian areas and Heathy Woodland.

Strzelecki Gum is a species endemic to South Gippsland but it's full area of distribution has not as yet been mapped. Most South Gippsland riparian plantings could contain Eucalyptus Strzeleckii, so be advised by your nursery.

<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum	Medium tree to 30 metres
<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Messmate	Large tree to 60 metres
<i>Eucalyptus strzeleckii</i>	Strzelecki Gum	Identify first Medium tree to 30 m
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Variable tree to 30 metres in gullies
<i>Acacia dealbata</i>	Silver Wattle	Variable tree to 30 metres
<i>Pomaderris aspera</i>	Hazel Pomaderris	Medium shrub
<i>Melicytus dentatus</i>	Tree Violet	Identify first. Shrub to 2 metres
<i>Myrsine howittiana</i>	Muttonwood	Shrub or small tree to 6 m * gullies
<i>Polyscias sambucifolia</i>	Elderberry Panax	Shrub or small tree to 5 metres *
<i>Gynatrix pulchella</i>	Hemp Bush	Shrub to 3 metres
<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant Bush	Medium to large shrub
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Shrub to 3 metres. Water logged
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Shrub 3 -4 metres. Drier banks
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge	Grass to 80 cm. Wet sites
<i>Solanum aviculare</i>	Kangaroo Apple	Large shrub to 4 metres
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	Vigourous climber

<i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i>	Scented Paperbark	Small tree to 12 metres
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Shrub 3 - 4 metres
<i>Leptospermum lanigerum</i>	Woolly Tea-tree	Shrub to 3 metres
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses	Shrub to 5 metres
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Variable shrub to 2 metres
<i>Ozothamnus rosmarinifolius</i>	Rosemary Everlasting	Erect Shrub to 1.5 metres
<i>Goodenia humilis</i>	Swamp Goodenia	herb to 20 cm

<i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i>	Manna Gum	Medium tree to 30 metres
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Shrub 3 - 4 metres
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Variable tree to 30 metres in gullies
<i>Melaleuca squarrosa</i>	Scented Paperbark	Small tree to 12 metres
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge	Grass to 80 cm.
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	Tall grass-like reed
<i>Poa labillardierii</i>	Common tussock grass	Grass to 60cm

* may be unavailable due to difficulty in propagating or seed set.

EVC 16 Lowland Forest EVC 23 Herb-rich Foothill Forest Messmate/Peppermint forest is found on the lower hills with heavier soils. This is a general guide of species from which to select. Ideally identify plants growing close to your site and in a similar situation so that a list appropriate to your site can be worked out with the nursery. If you are not sure of the species take branchlets (with flowers if possible) to the nursery to be identified.

<i>Eucalyptus ovata</i>	Swamp Gum	Medium tree to 30 m
<i>Eucalyptus obliqua</i>	Messmate	Large tree to 60 metres
<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i>	Peppermint	Medium tree to 30 m
<i>Eucalyptus cytellocarpa</i>	Mountain Grey Gum	Large tree to 65 metres
<i>Eucalyptus consideniana</i>	Yertchuk	Medium tree to 15 m#
<i>Eucalyptus globulus ssp.pseudoglobulus</i>	Gippsland Blue Gum	Medium Tree to 30 m
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood	Variable tree to 30 m
<i>Acacia mucronata</i>	Narrow-leaf Wattle or Sallow Wattle	Shrub 2 - 6 metres
<i>Acacia verniciflua</i>	Varnish Wattle	Variable shrub to 4 m
<i>Acacia verticillata</i>	Prickly Moses	Shrub to 5 metres
<i>Acacia stricta</i>	Hop Wattle	Erect shrub to 3 metres
<i>Ozothamnus ferrugineus</i>	Tree Everlasting	Shrub to 3 metres
<i>Pomaderris aspera</i>	Hazel Pomaderris	Medium shrub
<i>Pomaderris elliptica var elliptica</i>	Smooth Pomaderris	Medium shrub
<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia	Shrub 1 -2.5 metres
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Variable shrub to 2 m
<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant Bush	Medium to large shrub
<i>Olearia lirata</i>	Snowy Daisy Bush	Large shrub
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny Mat-rush	Dense clump to 1 metre
<i>Pultenaea gunnii</i>	Golden Bush-pea	Small shrub to 1.5 m
<i>Pulteneae daphnoides</i>	Large leaf Bush Pea	Erect shrub 1 - 3 m
<i>Davesia latifolia</i>	Hop Bitter Pea	Shrub 1 - 3 metres*
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Dog Wood	Medium shrub
<i>Cassinia longifolia</i>	Shiny Cassinia	Shrub 1 - 2.5 metres
<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia	Erect shrub to 4 metres
<i>Goodia lotifolia</i>	Golden Tip	Shrub to 4 metres
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Shrub 3 -4 metres
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	Wiry Bauera	Shrub 1 - 1.5 metres
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Burgan	Large shrub to 6 metres
<i>Dillwynia cinerascens</i>	Grey Parrot Pea	Small shrub to 1.5 m
<i>Dianella tasmanica</i>	Tasman Flax Lily	Herb to 80cm *
<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis	climber to 15 metres *
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine	Vigourous climber

* may be unavailable due to difficulty in propagating or seed set.

only occurs in limited locations in South Gippsland area. Only introduce if appropriate.

EVC 2 Coast Banksia Woodland, EVC 3 Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland and EVC 48 Heathy Woodland. Plants on sands and headlands in coastal or near costal areas.

<i>Eucalyptus viminalis ssp. Pryoriana</i>	Coastal Manna Gum	Small tree 8-16 metres
<i>Eucalyptus radiata</i>	Peppermint	Medium tree
<i>Eucalyptus obliqua ssp. coastal form</i>	Coastal Messmate	Small tree
<i>Eucalyptus willisii</i>	Shining Peppermint	Small to medium tree#
<i>Eucalyptus cephalocarpa</i>	Mealy Stringybark	Small to medium tree#
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coastal Banksia	Large tree
<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle	Medium tree to 15 m
<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia	Medium shrub to small tree
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	Saw Banksia	Medium shrub to small tree
<i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i>	Drooping Sheoak	Medium tree
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	Small tree
<i>Myoporum insulare</i>	Boobialla	Small tree
<i>Melaleuca ericifolia</i>	Swamp Paperbark	Medium shrub
<i>Kunzea ericoides</i>	Burgan	Large shrub to 6 metres
<i>Pomaderris oraria / ssp.calcicola</i>	Coast /Limestone Pomaderris	Medium shrub
<i>Olearia phlogopappa</i>	Dusty Daisy Bush	Medium shrub
<i>Olearia glutinosa</i>	Sticky Daisy Bush	Medium shrub
<i>Ozothamnus turbinatus</i>	Coast Everlasting	Small shrub*
<i>Olearia axillaris</i>	Coast Daisy Bush	Medium shrub *
<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small Leaved Clematis	Climber
<i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i>	Heath Tea-tree	Erect medium shrub
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Medium shrub
<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Coastal Tea Tree	Medium tree *
<i>Tetratheca pilosa</i>	Hairy Pink-bells	Small shrub*
<i>Hibbertia acicularis</i>	Prickly Guinea Flower	Small shrub

<i>Banksia marginata</i>	Silver Banksia	Tall shrub
<i>Acacia sophorae</i>	Coast Wattle	Fore-dunes *
<i>Leptospermum myrsinoides</i>	Heath Tea-tree	Small shrub
<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i>	Sea Berry Salt Bush	Creeper
<i>Dillwynia glaberima</i>	Smooth Parrot-pea	Small shrub
<i>Hibbertia acicularis</i>	Prickly Guinea Flower	Small shrub
<i>Leucophyta brownii</i>	Cushion Bush	Small shrub
<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree	Medium shrub
<i>Monotoca scoparia</i>	Prickly Broom-heath	Small shrub
<i>Bossiaea cinerea</i>	Showy Bossiaea	Small shrub
<i>Tetratheca pilosa</i>	Hairy Pink-bells	Small shrub*
<i>Pimelea linifolia</i>	Slender Rice-flower	Small shrub
<i>Swainsonia lessertifolia</i>	Purple Swainson Pea	Ground cover
<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Flax lily	Small plant
<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club Rush	Rush*
<i>Poa poiformis</i>	Coast Tussock Grass	Grass
<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>	Bower Spinach	Creeper

*on sand only

only occurs in limited locations in South Gippsland area. Only introduce if appropriate.



Classification of Eucalypts according to Koala Food Species

Primary food species

Secondary food species

Supplementary food species

Ecological Vegetation Classes in Gippsland.

There are a total of 63 Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) and 44 Floristic Communities that were described and mapped in the East and West Gippsland Study Areas at a scale of 1:25 000 between 1995 and 2000. For the purposes of this planting guide the recommendations are based on the most commonly available nursery tube stock and the most dominant EVCs in the West Gippsland Region. Further information is available at <http://tinyurl.com/gippsevcs>