

Useful Fodder Plants (Compiled by E. Paul 20/4/07)

Botanical Name	Common Name	Palatability For	Nutritive Value	Salt Tol	Height	Other Uses	Origin	Comments
Family Balanophoraceae								
<i>Balanophora fungosa</i>	Root Parasite	***	Wildlife, stock		H		Tropical Qld	Nongreen root parasite, looks like a knobby truffle, with emergent flowers Eagerly sought after by stock/wildlife
Family Bignoniaceae								
<i>Dolichandrone heterophylla</i>	Lemonwood		Cattle		5m		Gulf country	Regarded as good fodder for cattle
Family Brassicaceae								
<i>Lepidium ruderale</i> <i>L. papillosum</i>	PepperCress		Horses	***	H H	Bush Tucker	W/spread	Growth abundant after rains, excellent fodder for horses
Family Caesalpiniaceae								
<i>Bauhinia carronii</i> (syn <i>Lysiphyllum carronii</i>)	Bauhinia, Northern Bean Tree	**		**	10m	Floral	Cent/coast Qld	Leaves/pods browsed by sheep/cattle Semi deciduous
<i>Ceratonia siliqua</i>	Carob Bean	**	All	**	8m	Honey	Meditt	Requires both male and female trees for fruiting. Pods are high protein fodder.
<i>Gleditsia triacantha</i> <i>thornless cultivar</i>	Honey Locust,			**	*	15m	Shade	USA Long spines on wild form, cultivar thornless, edible pods Possible weed
Family Capparaceae								
<i>Apophyllum anomalum</i>	Native Currant, Broom/Warrior Bush	*		**	5m		Inland NSW/Qld	Useful fodder plant. Stock graze young foliage. Leafless ,

									many green branches
<i>Capparis. canescens</i>	Wild Orange/ Pomegranate	**			3m		Coastal areas		Very similar to <i>C.mitchellii</i> Eaten quite readily by stock
<i>C. lasiantha</i>	Nipan	***			V				Thorny vine or shrub Eaten very readily, fruits edible
<i>C. mitchelli</i>	Native orange, Bumbil / Bumble Tree	**		***	5m	Bush Tucker Shade	Dry inland areas		Occurs as isolated trees, edible fruits. Rare in wild Protected in SA
<i>C. spinosa var nummularia</i>	Flinders Rose	**			1.5m		Tropical inland		Low thorny bush Eaten freely by stock
Family Casuarinaceae									
<i>Casuarina cunninghamia</i> (syn <i>Allocasuarina</i>)	River Sheoak	*			35m	Firewood	E Coast		Young trees grazed by livestock, low protein value
<i>C cristata</i>	Belah	*		*	*	20m	Pollen Firewood	NW, Qld	
<i>C.glauca</i>	Swamp Oak	*	Sheep		*	20m	Shelter Firewood Erosion	E Coast	Grazed by sheep
<i>C. littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak	*				10m		E Coast	Avenues, restricted areas
<i>C. obesa</i>	Swamp Sheoak	*			***	14m	Firewood	WA coast	Eaten fairly readily Low nutritive value
<i>C. verticillata (prev. stricta)</i>	Drooping Sheoak	**		*	*	6m	Ornament	E.Coast	Seedlings eaten readily, useful fodder, lopping, lime tolerant

Family Chenopodiaceae	Saltbushes								
<i>Atriplex nummularia</i>	Old Man Saltbush	***		***	**	3m		Dry inland	Moderately palatable Overgrazed in wild
<i>A vesicaria</i>	Bladder Saltbush				**	1m		Dry inland	Serious overgrazing of female plants in wild, southern areas
<i>Maireana georgi</i>	Satiny Bluebush	**				0.5m			Valuable fodder, also overgrazed.
<i>M. sedifolia</i>	Pearl Bluebush					1m			Useful drought reserve
<i>Tecticornia verrucosa</i>	Samphire					H	Bush Tucker		Camels favour the seed heads
Family Fabaceae									
<i>Chamaecytisus palmensis</i>	Tagasaste, False Lucerne Tree	***	All stock, alpacas	***		6m	Hedg/Hon Shelter	Canary Islands	Requires excellent drainage. Seeds reported poisonous, not all trees seed. Weed in some areas
<i>Dendrolobium umbellatum</i>	Horse bush	**	Cattle Horses	**	*	10m	Erosion	N Qld	Useful forage, protection/erosion
<i>Galactica tenuifolia</i>									
<i>Glycine tabacina</i>	Glycine Pea	**	Cattle,			H			Described as fine fodder.
<i>G tomentosa</i>	Woolly Glycine	**	horses			H			
<i>Jacksonia scoparia</i>	Dogwood	**	Cattle, horses			4m		SE Aus	Looks like small Casuarina plant

Note: Origin for *Jacksonia scoparia* given as WA by Maiden, but this appears to be the eastern form. There are other WA spp.

<i>Sesbania formosa</i>	White Dragon Tree	**	Ruminants **	3m	Floral	Tropical N/W Aus	Other spp used as fodder overseas
<i>Templetonia egena</i> (syn <i>Daviesia egena</i>)	Desert Broombush	**		3m		W/spread WA/SA	Heavily browsed when young
<i>Trigonella suavissima</i>	Menindee Clover			H		Interior SA to WA	Considered good pasture herb.
Family Flagellariaceae							
<i>Flagellaria indica</i>	Whip Vine, Supple Jack	**	Cattle	V	Bush Tucker	Qld, warm NSWcoast	Reed like vine, eaten readily by cattle, edible flowers/berries.
Family Malvaceae							
<i>Hibiscus heterophyllus</i>	Queensland Rosella	**		7m	Bush Tucker	NSW, Qld	Leaves, branches bark said to be eaten by cattle in winter Mucilaginous/fibrous
<i>Gossypium sturti</i>	Sturt's Desert Rose				Floral	Inland SA NSW	Said to be good summer stock feed
Family Meliaceae							
<i>Owenia acidula</i>	Emu Apple, Sour Plum, Colane	**		8m	Bush Tucker Shade	Inland NSW, Qld SA	Said to be one of the best fodder and shade trees
<i>O. venosa</i>	Crow Apple	**			Edible fruits Timber		Eaten quite readily by stock

Family Mimosaceae

Acacia sp

<i>Acacia ampliceps</i>	Salt Wattle	*		***	9m	Firewood	N WA	Used in Pakistan, for goats,cattle,sheep.
<i>A. aneura</i>	Mulga	**		***	6m	Tim/Hony	All states inland	V important dry range fodder, vulnerable to fire, overgrazing,
<i>A. argyrodendron</i>	Black gidyea, blackwood	**			20m	Firewood	Cent Qld	Phyllodes and pods readily eaten by stock
<i>A. bidwilli</i>	Corkwood Wattle	*			12m	Timb/Fire	NE Qld	Proved hard to establish SE Q trials
<i>A. concurrens</i>		*			10m		Coast SE SE Qld	Potential for drought fodder.
<i>A. cowleana</i>	Halls Creek Wattle	*			6m	Low shelte	Cent NT, WA	Potential for stock fodder.
<i>A. cyclops</i>	Western Coast Wattle	*	Goats	***	6m	Firewood	SW WA	Slow growing, browsed by goats, antelopes S Africa Eaten freely by cattle
<i>A. cyperophylla</i>	Minneritchie	**	Cattle					
<i>A. doratoxylon</i>	Currawang, spearwood	*			10m	Pollen	CentNSW	
<i>A. estrophiolata</i>	Ironwood	**	Cattle		T		Cent Aus	Palatable to cattle
<i>A. excelsa</i> <i>A. farnesiana</i>	Ironwood Mimosa Bush	**	Sheep	**			Cent Qld Inland dry areas	Impaction in sheep Sheep/cattle graze, forms spiny bush Possibly weed
<i>A. hakeoides</i>	Western Black Wattle	*			8m	Hony/Fire	WA, SA	Forms dense thickets

<i>A. homalophylla</i>	Yarran	**			10m	Tim/Hony Wnd/brk	Cent NSW S Qld	suckers freely Equal to myall Useful windbreak
<i>A. kempeana</i>	Witchetty Bush	*			4m		Cent Aus	Useful topfodder
<i>A. implexa</i>	Hickory Wattle	**	Cattle	*	12m	Hony/Fire	Vic/NSW S WA	Fodder when dry. Cattle have stripped trees.
<i>A. ligulata</i>	Umbrella Bush	**	Cattle	**	5m	Stablising dunes	WA.SA.V	Eaten by cattle Unpalatable to sheep
<i>A. loderi</i>	Nealie				5m	Wilcannia/Broken Hill		Seedlings eaten out
<i>A. maconochieana</i>	Mullan Wattle	**	Cattle	***	12m	Firewood	Lk Gregory NT	Cattle eat readily
<i>A. mangium</i>	Brown Salwood	*			30m	Reforest	Far N Qld	Potential fodder
<i>A. mearnsii</i>	Late Black Wattle	*		**	10m	Firewood	SE Aus	Mix with other feeds for better palatability
<i>A. melanoxydon</i>	Blackwood (timber)	*		*	20m +	Timber	SE Aus	Fodder tree in India
<i>A. microbotrya</i>	Manna Wattle	*			5m	Ornament	WA	On granite soils only V drought resistant
<i>A. microsperma</i>	Bowyakka	**					Qld	Eaten readily
<i>A. neriifolia</i>	Oleander leaved Wattle	*	Sheep	*	10m	Windbrk	NSW. Qld	Eaten by sheep to some extent.
<i>A. pachycarpa</i>		**			6m	Low shelte	W NT	Heavily grazed Green pods smelly

<i>A. papyrocarpa</i>	Western Myall							Sthn SA	Slow growing
<i>A. pendula</i>	Weeping Myall, Boree	***	Cattle/Camels	**	12m	Firewood	Vic/NSW Qld	Cattle/camels graze, protect seedlings.	
<i>A. plectocarpa</i>		*			10m	Low shelter	N WA, NT	Palatable sheep/cattle	
<i>A. saligna</i>	Golden wreath wattle	**		**	6m	Firewood	SW WA	Palatable, nontoxic, but not sole diet for small ruminants. Weed potential	
<i>A. shirleyi</i>	Lancewood	*			18m	Firewood	Qld, NT	Eaten fairly readily by stock	
<i>A. stenophylla</i>	River Cooba / Myall Belalie	*	Sheep	****	20m	Fire/Timb	Cent NSW S Qld, SA	Sheep eat it readily Cattle rarely.	
<i>A. tephрина</i>	Boree	***	Sheep	* **	20m	Timber	Cent Qld	Eaten readily but may cause impaction if sole diet, fibrous	
<i>A. trachycarpa</i>	Minniritchi	*			8m		Pilbara	Palatable to sheep, cattle, goats in Africa	
<i>A. tumida</i>	Pindan	*			12m	Firewood	Pilbara	Immature pods eaten readily, phyllodes low nutrition. Fodder Afr	
<i>A. victoreae</i>	Prickly Wattle Gundabluey, Narran	*			9m	Windbrk Firewood Pollen	Wide spread inland	Fastgrowing, coppices and root suckers Cattle/camels browse	
Other members of Fam Mimosaceae									
<i>Albizia lebeck</i>	Siris	**			20m	Timber Shade	India	Forage, pods, timber shade	

<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i> (prev <i>Albizia lophantha</i>)	Crested Wattle	**			8m		Cape Leeuwin	Fastgrowing, possible weed in some areas
<i>Pararchidendron pruinosum</i>	Snow wood, Stinkwood				10m	Honey	NSW, Qld Qld coast	Small rainforest tree creamy fluffy flowers seed pods
Family Moraceae <i>Morus albus</i>	MulberryTree	**			25m	Fruits	China	Palatable Deciduous large tree Weedy spp USA
<i>Ficus macrophylla</i> <i>Other native Ficus spp</i>	Moreton Bay Fig Native Figs	**			30m	Fruits	Tropic areas	Leaves, figs of several native spp eaten readily by stock
Family Moringaceae <i>Moringa oleifera</i>	Horseradish Tree	**			10m	Herbal medicine	India	Pods, leaves widely used as human food in tropics. Roots poisonous.
Family Myrtaceae <i>Angophora melanoxylon</i> <i>A. subvelutina</i>	Apple, Coolabah Apple,	**			15m 30m	Shade Tim/Fire	NSW, Qld	Well eaten in some seasons
<i>Callistemon salignus</i>	Willow Bottlebrush				7m	Timber	SA, NSW, Qld	One of hardest Aus timbers
<i>Eucalyptus gunnii</i>	Cider Gum				25m	Shade	Tas	Reported to be browsed by stock Cider from sap
<i>E. ochrophloia</i>	Yapunyah	*	Sheep	*	12m	Hon/Shade	NSW, Qld	Leaves eaten to some extent, good nectar
<i>Corymbia papuana</i>	Cabbage/Ghost Gum	**		**			Qld	Thick leaves Eaten to limited extent
Family Myoporaceae <i>Eremophila bignoniiflora</i>	Gooramurra, Creek Wilga	**			4m		Qld	Readily eaten by emus / sheep

<i>E. longifolia</i>	Berrigan, Weeping Emu Bush	*		8m		W/spread inland	Generally regarded as being good fodder toxic in trials.
<i>Myoporum platycarpum</i>	Sugarwood	**		10m	Timber Honey Gum	NSW/SA	Protected in SA Useful fodder/shade tree in drier areas.
Family Nyctaginaceae <i>Boerhaavia diffusa</i>	Tar Vine, Tah Vine			V		Brazil	Also used in herbal medicines.
Family Oleaceae <i>Notolea microcarpa</i>	Native Olive	*	Sheep Cattle	5m		Qld w/spread	Eaten fairly readily
Family Phytolaccaeae <i>Phytolacca dioica</i>	Bella Sombra, Umbu	**		7m		South America	Leaves very palatable. Fruits possibly toxic Naturalized coastal Qld, NSW
Family Pittosporaceae <i>Bursaria incana</i>	Packlacca Prickly Pine (not a conifer)			7m		North Qld	Usually occurs as isolated trees
<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria	**	Sheep	5m	Butterflies Wildlife shelter	E/S states W/spread	Sheep eat readily, Food plant for Eltham Copper Butterfly
Family Portulacaceae <i>Calandrinia balonnensis</i>	Parakeelya	*		H		Inland	Traditional stock routes
<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Munyeroo	**		H	Bush Tucker	W/spread inland	Succulent Source of seeds.

Family Proteaceae*Grevillea parallela*

Silver Oak

8m

Northern
Qld*G striata*

Beefwood

**

Sheep

Fibrous

10m

All states

Edible foliage, eaten
by sheep, not good
fodder tree**Family Rhamnaceae***Alphitonia excelsa*

Red Ash

**

30m

Timber
Fuel
AmenityNSW/Qld
coast, nth
areasLeaves/young shoots
grazed by stock
Important drought sp
in some areas.
*Both also used as
fish poison*A. petrei*

Pink Ash

*

30m

*Pomaderris racemosa*Clustered Pomaderris **
Slender Pomaderris

5m

E states

Said to be very
palatable to stock*Ventilago viminalis*

Supplejack

V/T

W/spread
inlandExcellent fodder
Starts as vine, then
grows self supporting
Short supply in wild
Thornless varieties
Leaves fruits high in
vit C**Family Rosaceae***Rosa spp*

Roses,

**

Alpacas

S

Rubus spp

Blackberries etc

**

Alpacas

S

Rubus rosifolius

Native Raspberry

S

R/forest
Qld/NSW**Family Rubiaceae***Canthium oleifolium*Myrtle Tree,
Wild Lemon

**

Cattle
Sheep

W Qld

Excellent fodder sp
Readily eaten by
cattle/sheep**Family Rutaceae**

<i>Citrus spp</i>	Lemons, oranges etc	*	Alpacas	S/T	Fruits		Leaves readily eaten.
<i>Flindersia maculosa</i>	Leopardwood	***		8m		NSW/Qld	Excellent fodder Protected spp Young mass of stems grows into single trunked tree
<i>Geijera parviflora</i>	Tree Wilga	***	**	8m	Timber Shade	Cent NSW Qld	Excell shade/fodder
<i>G. linearifolia</i>	Sheep Bush, Oil Bush	***	Sheep	2m		Coast SA	Sheep eat eagerly
Family Salicaceae							
<i>Salix</i>	Willow	***	***	15m	Shade	China	Excell fodder but on removal list for waterways.
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Poplar, Eastern Cottonwood	**		25m	Timber	USA	Leaves have some fodder value.
Family Santalaceae							
<i>Choretrum glomeratum</i> (<i>C. candollei</i>)	Berry Broombush Sourbush			0.5-2m		Coast NSW	Green broomlike shrub found in both mallee and E coast
<i>Santalum lanceolatum</i>	Plumwood,	***	***	7m	Bush	Inland	Semiparasitic plant

	Sandalwood					Tucker		
<i>S. acuminatum</i>	Quandong					Bush Tucker	Inland	Semiparasitic plant
Family Sapindaceae								
<i>Atalaya hemiglauca</i>	Whitewood, Cattle Bush	**	***	10m	Tim/Shade	All warm states		Highly regarded as fodder tree. Fruits poisonous to horses but avoided by stock. Young shoots may cause staggers in hungry stock.
<i>Dodonea lobulata</i>	Lobed Hop Bush	**		3m		SA, Cent WA		Said to be one of best fodder shrubs in Lachlan district NSW.
<i>Alectryon oleifolius</i> (prev. <i>Heterodendrum oleifolium</i>)	Boonaree, Western Rosewood	**	***	5m	Shade	All states		Regarded as one of most useful fodder trees inland. Can cause prussic acid poisoning at flower or young fruit stage. Wet young foliage more toxic.
<i>A. diversifolius</i>	Scrub Boonaree Holly Bush	**						
Family Scrophulariaceae								
<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>	Princess Tree Chinese Empress	**		25m	Shade Timber Ornament	China		Very fast growing very large tree Alpacas recorded as eating leaves, flowers fruits.
Family Sterculiaceae								
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	***	***	12m	Shade	All warm		Excell fodder/shade

<i>B. diversifolius</i> <i>B. gregorii</i>						states Northern Western	High in energy lower in protein, so needs mixing with other trees as combined source. Hairs in fruits poisonous/irritant.
<i>Commersonia bartramia</i>	Brown Kurrajong	*	Cattle				Wetter areas. Eaten by cattle
Family Tamaricaceae <i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	Athel Tree	***		***	10m	Afr/Asia	Well eaten, Needs deep waterline Possible weed

Notes on Useful Fodder Plants - Trees and Shrubs

1. Plants listed have been reported by previous researchers as being useful fodder plants mainly for cattle or sheep, occasionally horses, rarely goats, in warmer inland and tropical areas of Australia.
2. There is virtually no information available, as to whether any of these plants are suitable or palatable for South American camelids, except for common, widely used plants such as tagasaste.
3. Fodder trees and shrubs are additional sources of nutrition for grazing animals. Being deeper rooted, they may access minerals which grass cannot, but they are usually too high in lignin and too low in protein or phosphorus to be permanent substitutes for good pasture.
4. This list is intended as a compilation of possibly useful plants. No recommendations for use of any plant are intended. However, it can be noted that most useful species will generally be found in the legume families, ie Caesalpiniaceae, Fabaceae and Mimosaceae. Most members of the Myrtaceae (eucalyptus, teatree, bottlebrushes) and Proteaceae (grevilleas, hakeas,) are too high in lignin, tannins, oils etc. to be useful or palatable, although they may be nibbled occasionally. Nutritive values for native plants are often not known, but it can be assumed that introduced legume species generally have higher protein values than native plants.
5. Some plants referred to as good or useful fodder can still have certain toxic parts, or be toxic under certain conditions. However, in drought conditions, they may provide the only green pick available, and mixed with e.g. higher protein portions, can make very nutritive fodder.

6. It should be noted that plants from the one species may have adapted to slightly different geographical locations called provenances, within their natural range. This means that plants from one provenance may not grow as well in another provenance even though they are the same species. Alternatively, without its normal pests or diseases a plant may grow more out of control in a different provenance.

7. Some native plants are protected, and some not listed, have been brought close to extinction in the wild, through years of overgrazing, land clearing etc. **Native plants should therefore be sourced as seeds or tubestock from specialist nurseries.**

8. No responsibility is taken for any errors, spelling or botanical; inaccuracies; inclusions; omissions; or misinterpretations of plant use.

References:

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Notes: Both Doran/Thornbull and Marcar/Crawford have detailed information on distribution/uses of various species of acacias/casuarinas/eucalypts.

