

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Note: Tree and plant size, flowering times and honey production will vary with district and seasonal variations

## Spring Flowering

Common name	Botanical name	period	honey Yield	pollen Yield	
Cootamundra Wattle	Acacia baileyana	July -Sept			3-7M pollen only
Goldern wattle	Acacia pycnantha	Aug - Oct			8M
Silver wattle	Acacia dealbata	Aug - Octt			5-30 M
Smooth Barked Apple	Angophora costata	Jan/Feb	low	medium	Tall tree to 30 m., spring/early summer
Silver banksia	Banksia magrinata	Oct / march			5-7M
Borage	Borago officinalis				Annual, blue star shaped flowers Honey and pollen when needed
Bottlebrush	Callistemon spp		medium	medium	
Crimson bottlebrush	Callistemon citrinus	Oct - dec			4M
Cape Weed	Cryptostemma calendulaceum		medium bright gold	medium orange	build the bees up for summer, honey candies quickly with a course grain
Cape Broom	Cytisus canariensis				Pale honey, weed in some states
Patersons curse	Echium plantagineum				Pale honey, Prolific weed in NSW
Wax flower	Eriostemon	Sept - Dec			
Blue top stringy bark	Eucalyptus agglomerata	early spring	medium	high	
Blue / roundleaf box	Eucalyptus bauerana	Oct / Nov	medium	low	
Fuzzy box	Eucalyptus Conica		medium	low	
Argyle Apple	Eucalyptus cinerea		Low	medium	Medium tree to 12 m.,
Plunkett Mallee	Eucalyptus curtisii				Small bushy tree white flowers
Hill Gum r. g.	Eucalyptus dealbata		Medium	medium	
broadleaf peppermint	Eucalyptus dives	Oct - dec	low	low	Dark coloured honey
River Peppermint	Eucalyptus blata	Early	Low	Medium	Early pollen
Southern Blue Gum	Eucalyptus globulus	early spring	medium,	medium	Tall tree 25 – 60 M, Koala food tree, thin amber honey
Black or bastard box	Eucalyptus largiflorens	Spring - Sum	pale	nil	
Woolybutt	Eucalyptus longifolia	Oct / Nov	Medium	medium	
Red Spotted gum, Brittle gum	Eucalyptus mannifera	Spring / Aut	Low	high	Medium tree to 20M, drops branches even on still days
Silverleaved ironbark	Eucalyptus melanophloia	Nov / Dec	Minor	minor	
Yellow Box	Eucalyptus melliodora	Late spring 2nd year	High	nil	12 – 30m
Tallowwood	Eucalyptus microcorys		Medium	low	Large tree to 40 m., Koala food tree
Bimble box	Eucalyptus populnea		Medium	high	
Red Box	Eucalyptus polyanthermos	early spring	Medium	low	8 – 25 m, good variably coloured honey
Narrowleaved peppermint	Eucalyptus radiata	Late spring	Low	low	Koala food tree, dark coloured honey
Silvertop ash	Eucalyptus sieberi		medium	high	25 – 45M, light amber honey
Silver top	Eucalyptus sieberiana		high	medium	
Eurabbie / Vic blue gum	Eucalyptus stjohnii	Sept/ jan	medium	medium	
Forest Red Gum	Eucalyptus tereticornis	Early spring	Medium	major	Reliable in QLD., Koala food tree

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

1 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Coral Gum	<i>Eucalyptus torquata</i>	Aug	medium	medium	W.A. native. spreading tree to 8 m.,
Wilga	<i>Geijera parviflora</i>		medium	medium	
	<i>Grevillea spp</i>		medium	medium	
Willow-leaved hakea	<i>Hakea salicifolia</i>	Wint.-spring	medium	low	8M
Happy Wanderer	<i>harpenbergia Viola</i>	Spring			Twining creeper, purple flowers
Dead Nettle	<i>Lamium Album</i>				Perennial mat forming plant 20 cm
Tea tree	<i>Leptospermun spp</i>	Sept on	medium	low	dark jelly like honey
Tulip Tree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>				Deciduous tree to 25m., large white flowers
Paperbarks	<i>Melaleuca spp</i>	Spring			
White cedar / bead tree	<i>Melia azedarach</i>		medium	medium	Approx. 10 m.,
Persian lilac					
Flowering Plums	<i>Prunus spp</i>		medium	medium	
Sweet Pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>				Light coloured rank flavoured honey
Black Locust / false acacia	<i>Robinia Pseudocacia</i>		high	medium	plant suckers, pale honey with a delicate flavour, deciduous spreading tree to 12 m,
Blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus l.</i>		white, thin	green	
Pussy Willows	<i>Salix caprea</i>	Aug - Sept	nil	good	7M
Weeping Willows	<i>Salix babylonica</i>	sept	good	low	16M
Pepper tree	<i>schinus molle</i>				Weeping tree to 15 m,
Turpentine	<i>Syncarpia Glomulifera</i>				Upright tree to 20 m
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>		pale yellow	medium, olive	
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Late spring		good	
Lime / linden tree	<i>Tilia europoea</i>				deciduous tree up to 35 m.,

## Summer Flowering

Common name	Botanical name	period	honey Yield	pollen Yield	
Wattle	<i>Acacia spp</i>	early spring	generally no honey	good quantities	
Lily Pilly	<i>Acmena Smithii</i>		Low	Low	Small-Medium Tree 8-30 m,
roughbarked Apple	<i>Angophora floribunda</i>		low	medium	Medium spreading tree 10M
Saw-tooth Banksia	<i>Banksia Serrata</i>	Feb	medium	medium	Upright tree/shrub to 10 m, reddish flowers, strong flavor which candies quickly
Silver banksia	<i>B. marginata</i>	Feb – May April - July	high	low	variable in form to 6 m., strong flavor and candies quickly
Coastal Banksia	<i>B. integrifolia</i>				10-13 metres dark with strong flavor, candies quickly and hard
Borage	<i>Borago officinalis</i>				Annual, blue star shaped flowers Honey and pollen when needed
Kurrajong	<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>		Medium	medium	Conical tree to 20 m.,
Prickly Box	<i>Busaria spinosa</i>	Jan			fragrant honey, erect shrub
Scarlet bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon macropunctatus</i>	Nov - march			3M
Swamp bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon paludosus</i>	Dec - march			3M

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

2 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Foxglove	digitalis purpurea				Perennial, 1 – 1.5m., pink flowers
White box	Eucalyptus albens	Jan / June	medium	poor	Up to 25 M., good pale coloured honey
Black Gum	Eucalyptus aggregata		low	low	
Cabbage gum	Eucalyptus amplifolia		medium	high	
Blue / roundleaf box	Eucalyptus bauerana	Oct / Nov	medium	low	
Blakely's red gum	Eucalyptus blakelyi		good	medium	Small medium tree, Koala food tree
Brown Stringybark	Eucalyptus baxterii	Dec - April	yes	yes	10- 15 M, Very dark unpleasant tasting honey
Coastal grey box	Eucalyptus boisistoana	Jan / Feb	medium	poor	10- 15M
Bangalay / southern mahogany	Eucalyptus botryoides	Jan / Feb	medium	high	10 – 40 M, tolerates saline soils, Koala food tree
Apple box / but-but	Eucalyptus bridgeiana	Jan / Feb	medium	high	to 20m
River Red gum	Eucalyptus camaldulensis	Mid dec – end January Every 2-4 years	High	high	Medium- Tall tree, 45 M, needs wet conditions, Koala food tree Copious, pale and thick honey bud set to flowering 12 months 12 months from bus set flowers for 3 weeks
Sugar Gum	Eucalyptus cladocalyx		High	medium	Small to large tree 8 – 35 m
Cabbage gum	Eucalyptus coriacea				dark honey
Mountain Grey Gum	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa	Feb			Tall tree to 50 M amber honey
Alpine ash	Eucalyptus delegatensis	Feb / March	high	medium	dark honey strong almost bitter flavour
	Eucalyptus dumosa	Feb- march			Low pollen
Cut tail, brown barrel	Eucalyptus Fastigata	Dec / Feb	Medium	medium	to 50 M,
Red or broadleaved ironbark	Eucalyptus Fibrosa		Medium	low	
Little red Mallee	Eucalyptus foecunda				Peaks for 10 days, holds buds for 2 years, hot winds frizzle flowers
Red flowering Gum	Euc./Corymbia Ficifolia	Dec / Feb	Medium	medium	W.A. native, small tree to 10 m., red / pink / orange flowers
White stringybark	Eucalyptus Globoidea	March	medium	medium	Good clear amber honey
Red bloodwood	Eucalyptus gummifera	Feb	medium	medium	15 – 30 M, can light amber honey which cause dysentery in bees in a wet season
Scribby Gum	Eucalyptus Haemastoma				small - medium tree, Koala food tree,
Black or bastard box	Eucalyptus Largiflorens	Spring - Sum	high		Light amber honey which candies quickly
Gum Barked coolibah	Eucalyptus Intertexta		High	High	
shining gum	Eucalyptus nitens	Jan / March	medium	medium	
Gippsland Stringy Bark	Eucalyptus Mackintii	Jan / Feb	Medium	Medium	To 30 Metres
Red Stringybark	Eucalyptus Macrorhyncha	every 3 <sup>rd</sup> year mid Jan to mid march	Medium/high	medium	rich dark honey which does not candy, medium tree to 20 m., well drained areas only 14 months from bud set for 4 weeks
Paddy's River Box	Eucalyptus macarthurii				
Maiden's gum	Eucalyptus maidenii	Feb / Sept	good	good	
Red Spotted gum, Brittle gum	Eucalyptus Mannifera	Spring / Aut	Low	high	Medium tree to 20M, drops branches even on still days
Yellow Box	Eucalyptus Melliodora	every 2nd year mid Nov - Feb	High	nil	12 – 30m., Koala food tree excellent pale honey bud set to flowering 11 months
Western grey box	Eucalyptus microcarpa	Mid February	Medium	medium	to 25 m light thick honey with slight tallow-like aroma bud to flower set 3-4 months
Grey Box	Eucalyptus. Moluccana	Late spring	major	minor	Candies rapidly and will ferment quickly
Yellow Stringybark	Eucalyptus Muelleriana	Every 3-5 years	Medium	medium	to 45 M, dark honey, smells like burn't rubber in the hive
Messmate	Eucalyptus obliqua	5 years	medium	medium	flowers every 2 <sup>nd</sup> year, 15 – 60 M., Koala food tree golden amber honey with a mild flavour

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

3 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Grey Ironbark	Eucalyptus Paniculata	1-3 years	High, excellent	nil	large tree to 30 m., Koala food tree
Snow gum	Eucalyptus Pauciflora	2-3 years	High	high	medium tree to 15 m.,
Blackbutt	Eucalyptus Pilularis		Medium / low	medium	dark amber honey, tall tree to 50 m.,
Bimble box	Eucalyptus Populnea		Medium	high	Irregular producer, Koala food tree
Small Fruited Grey Box	Eucalyptus Propinqua		Medium	high	Koala food tree
Grey Gum	Eucalyptus Punctata		Medium	high	Koala food tree
Narrowleaved peppermint	Eucalyptus Radiata	Act / Jan	Low	low	Koala food tree
Mountain ash	Eucalyptus regnans		medium	medium	Very large tree
Red Mahogany	Eucalyptus resinifera		Low	low	
Candlebark gum	Eucalyptus rubida	Nov / Feb	Low	medium	Up to 35M,
Sydney Blue Gum	Eucalyptus saligna		High	high	tall tree to 50 m., Koala food tree
Gully gum	Eucalyptus smithii		low	medium	
Christmas mallee	Eucalyptus socialis	End Dec.			
Apple box	Eucalyptus styratiana		pale yellow		
Iron Bark	Eucalyptus tricarpa	Early			bud set to flowering 6 – 8 weeks Mid January for 8 – 10 weeks
Kurrajong	Brachychiton populneus		Medium	medium	
Silky oak	Grevillea robusta	Summer	medium	medium	Conical tree to 40 m., short flowering period
Brush box	Lophostemon confertus		high	low	To 15 m., also known as tristania conferta
Norfolk island hibiscus	Lagunaria patersini	Sum -			10M
Dead Nettle	Lamium album				Perennial mat forming plant 20 cm
Tea tree	Leptospermum spp	Sept on	medium	low	
mint bush	Prostanthera	Nov- Jan			
Scented paperbark	Melaleuca squarrosa	Oct. - Feb			4-20M
Moonah	Melaleuca laneolata	Sum - autumn			Strong flavour
Catnip / cat mint	Nepeta spp				
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus l.	white, thin	green		
Sage	Salvia spp				
Common Sage	Salvia officinalis				
Cephalaria	Scabiosa alpina				
oregano					
Pepper Tree	Schinus areiran		medium	medium	drought tolerant
Pepper tree	schinus molle				
Queensland box	Tristania conferya	Dec - jan	good		Choice honey

## Autumn Flowering

Common name	Botanical name	period	honey Yield	pollen Yield	
Wattle	Acacia spp		generally no honey	good quantities	
Desert banksia	Banksia ornata	March- july	yes	yes	2M
Hairpin banksia	Banksia spinulosa	Sum. - aut			3 M

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

4 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Heath Banksia	Banksia ericifolia	Aut - win			4M, reddish flowers
White box	Eucalyptus albens	Jan / June	medium	poor	Up to 25 Metres
Western Apple-box	Eucalyptus aromaphloia				Dark murky honey
Apple Box but-but	Eucalyptus bridgesiana	Jan / June	High	high	
Silverleaf stringybark	Eucalyptus cephalocarpa		medium	medium	
bloodwood	Eucalyptus corymbosa		light amber	good	Dark honey, aromatic, rarely pure
Mountain grey gum	Eucalyptus cypellocarpa				tall tree 50 M
longleaf box	Eucalyptus goniocalyx		medium	high	bees winter well on it, deep amber honey
Yellow Gum	Eucalyptus leucoxylon	May / Dec	Medium	low	Long flowering period Good pale honey
Red Spotted gum, Brittle gum	Eucalyptus mannifera	Spring / Aut	Low	high	Medium tree to 20M, drops branches even on still days
Maiden's gum	Eucalyptus maidenii	Feb / Sept	good	good	
Western grey box	Eucalyptus microcarpa		Medium	medium	to 25 m
Swamp Gum	Eucalyptus ovata	March - April	Low	medium	Koala food tree
Snow Gum	Eucalyptus pauciflora Var alpina				Dark amber honey
Iron Bark	Eucalyptus tricarpa		medium		bud set to flowering 5 – 6 months early March for 8 – 10 weeks
Pin cushion hakea	Hakea laurina	Aut. – early winter			5M
Sea urchin hakea	Hakea petiolaris	Aut. - winter			4M
Pepper tree	schinus molle				
Goldenrod	Solidago				Perennial

## Winter Flowering

Common name	Botanical name	period	honey Yield	pollen Yield	
Sunshine Wattle	Acacia terminalis	March – aug	generally no honey	good quantities	5M, occasionally a dark honey from glands on the leaves
Heath Leaved banksia	banksia ericifolia				
Hairpin banksia	Banksia spinulosa	April – July	high	high	to 5 m
Heath Banksia	Banksia ericifolia	Aut - win			4M
coastal Banksia	B. Integrifolia	March – Sept.	medium	medium	4 – 20 M
Silver Banksia	B. Marginata	Sept - April			4-7 M Yellow flowers
Buddleia	Bauera rubioides	Aug - Sept			
Rape, canola	Brassica spp	Aug - Sept			Will vary with different varieties
Tagasate	Chamaecytisus palmensis		medium	low	
White box	Eucalyptus albens	Jan / June	medium	poor	To 25 M., Various times
Blue top stringy bark	Eucalyptus agglomerata	late winter	medium	high	
Lemon scented Gum	Eucalyptus citriodora	Winter / spring	Medium	Medium	Large tree to 30 M
Long leaf box	Eucalyptus goniocalx	Mid march to end May			16 – 17 months from bud set for 4 weeks dark honey with good flavor course granulated when candied
Yellow mallee	Eucalyptus incrassata	Aug - Sept			Heavy frost kills flowers, nice flavoured dark honey
Maiden's gum	Eucalyptus maidenii	Feb / Sept	good	good	
Red Box	Eucalyptus polyanthemus	Mid Sept-			2 year cycle. Bud set to flowering 9 – 10 months, flowers for 5 weeks

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

5 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

		November			Best in drought years
Clematis	Clematis microphylla				vigorous creeper
Narrow leaved Ironbark	Eucalyptus crebra		High	low	
Yellow Gum	Eucalyptus leucoxylon	May - Oct	Medium	low	Bud et to flowering 5 8 months, flowers for 12-16 weeks
Spotted Gum	Euc./ Corymbia maculata	July - Sept	High	high	tall tree to 30 m.,
Swamp Mahogany	Eucalyptus robusta		Medium	low	medium tree to 15 m.,
Black Sallee / muzzlewood	Eucalyptus stellulata	April - Oct	low	medium	Amber coloured honey
Eurabbie / Vic blue gum	Eucalyptus stjohnii	Sept/ jan	Medium	medium	
Mugga / red ironbark	Eucalyptus sideroxylon	2-3 years	high	low	grow wells in poor soils, meduim tree to 15 m., long flowering, plae honey
red iron bark ( <i>Gippland</i> )	Eucalyptus tricarpa				Winter flowering variety, bud set to flowering 5 – 6 months Early may to September
Grevillea 'Moonlight'					medium shrub, large white flowers
	Hakea corymbosa	Wint. – spring			2M
	Hakea verrucosa	winter			2M
Pittosporum	Pittosporum undulatum	Aug / Sept	medium	low	Small tree 4-14M,

Monarch Butterfly Bush	Anchusa asclepias				
Rock daisy	Brachyscone				
Pilliga Bloodwood	Corymbia trachyphloia				
Hawthorn	crateagus oxyacantha				
Eggs & Bacon	Dillwynia spp				Heath like shrub, 1.5m., yellow & red pea shaped flowers
Grey box	Eucalyptus hemiphloia		light, thick		tallowy
White mallee	Eucalyptus grailis		Good	Poor	18M
Buckwheat	Fagopyrum				Dark Honey
Climbing Guinea Flower	Hibbertia				
N.Z. Honey suckle	Knightia excelsa				
Crepe Myrtle	Lagerstromia				
Pigface	Lampranthus				
golden pennants	loudonia behrii				
Boxthorn	Lycium horridum		white	creamy	noxious weed
Lucerne	Medicago sativa		pale yellow		candies quickly
Sweet Melilot	Melilotus Alba				
Pennyroyal	Mentha puleguim				strong flavor
Daisy bushes	Olearia spp				
	Scrophularia nodosa				
Comfrey	Symphytum				
	Thymus spp				
Sweet Scabious	Scabiosa caucasica				
Fan Flower	Scaevola				
	Banksia robur				
Lavendar	Lavandula				

Note Tree and plant size, honey and pollen yield will vary with seasonal and district variations  
Prepared by Jeeralang Apiary Supplies (03) 51222641

08/10/18

6 of 7

# Gippsland Apiarist Association, Trees and Plants for Bees

Native raspberry	Rubus				
Trigger plant	Stylidium graminifolium				
Golden spray	Viminaria denudata				
Christmas Mallee	Eucalyptus socialis		Yes	low	
Giant mallee	Euc. incrassata		yes	low	
Grass Trees	Xanthorrhoea spp		Yes *		Bees use the pollen Produces large amounts of nectar which produces strong unpalatable honey, resin is transferred to the honey combs making them unsightly
horehound			green shade		

Plants detrimental to bees

Snap dragons traps bees

poppy spp poisonous to bees