

THE PLANTS

1. ***Acacia colletioides*** [Wait-a-while, Spine bush]. Can form dense thickets providing habitat and protection for small animals and birds. Like all the *Acacia* species on Gluepot, this wattle is leafless and the spines are modified leaf-stems called phyllodes.
2. ***Amyema preissi*** [Wire leaf mistletoe]. Growing mainly on *Acacia* as a stem parasite. The fruits are eaten by birds which spread the sticky seeds to other plants.
3. ***Alectryon oleifolius*** [Bullock bush]. The seeds require exposure to very high temperatures for germination. Commonly in *Casuarina pauper* forest.
4. ***Casuarina pauper*** [Black oak]. Generally growing where clay soils and periodic inundation occurs. Forms a forest or woodland association, a habitat with which a number of animal species are closely associated.

5. ***Myoporum platycarpum*** [False sandalwood]. Grows as a shrub or a woodland tree on red-brown soils. The sap was used as a resin and a sealant by Aborigines and European settlers.

6. ***Lycium australe*** [Native boxthorn] A more scrambling and fleshy-leaved shrub than the introduced weedy Boxthorn. The tangled shrubs are an important protective habitat for small birds and animals.

7. ***Eucalyptus gracilis*** [Yorrell]. Another common and widespread mallee which grows on brown and limestone soils. Often growing in a single-stemmed tree habit. The fruits are small and have a dark oil gland at the centre of their smoothly-rounded bud caps.

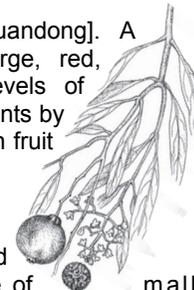
8. ***Templetonia eugena*** [Desert broombush]. Brownish-yellow pea flowers in spring. The leaves are reduced to small scales and photosynthesis occurs in the green stems. Fruit is a triangular bean-pod.

9. ***Eucalyptus oleosa*** [Acorn mallee]. Widespread, common mallee species usually growing on red brown soils. The fruit's cap is smaller in diameter than the cup giving the buds a distinct acorn-like shape.

10. ***Exocarpos aphyllus*** [Leafless cherry] The small red fruits are edible. It is a root parasite closely related to Quandong and Sandalwood. Leaves are reduced to small scales, and the chlorophyll is in the green stems.

11. ***Eucalyptus dumosa*** [Red mallee]. A common and widespread mallee growing on most soil types. The fruits are characterised by being on wing-ridged stems, and having flattish caps with a series of small ridges radiating from the centre.

12. ***Santalum acuminatum*** [Quandong]. A root parasite, producing a large, red, edible fruit containing high levels of Vitamin C. Emus spread the plants by passing the large seeds of eaten fruit through their gut.



13. ***Lomandra effusa*** [Scented matrush]. A widespread sedge of mallee, woodlands and grasslands. Characterised by two sharp spines on the tip of each leaf. The cream flowers are heavily scented.

14. ***Senna artemisioides*** 4 subspecies [Silver cassia]. *Senna* species are distinguished by the arrangement of their leaf-like phyllodes. Previously called *Cassia*, these widespread and common arid-zone plants are related to wattles and have similar bean-pod fruits.

15. ***Scaevola spinescens*** [Spiny saltbush] The small red berries are eaten by birds and animals.

16. ***Acacia nyssophylla*** [Spine bush]. It forms dense thickets which are important protective habitat for small birds, particularly Splendid and Variegated Fairy-wrens. Common and widespread on Gluepot.

17. ***Grevillea huegelii*** [Comb spider-flower]. Generally a straggling and widely scattered small shrub.

18. ***Eremophila glabra*** [Tar bush]. A common low shrub growing in most vegetation types except on sand. Preferentially browsed by feral goats.

19. ***Maireana sedifolia*** [Pearl bluebush]. Grows on brown soils containing limestone. This species is usually heavily browsed by sheep, and is recovering from 150 years of previous grazing on Gluepot.

20. ***Eremophila scoparia*** [Emu bush]. Common on brown soils where it can form dense stands.

21. No longer present

22. ***Zygophyllum aurantiacum*** [Shrubby twinleaf]. A scrambling woody shrub often growing over and through other plants. Distinctive paired leaves.

23. ***Rhagodia gaudichaudiana*** [Cottony saltbush]. Generally growing on limestone soils. This plant has also been protected from grazing sheep within a spiny *Acacia colletioides*.

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24. *Dodonaea viscosa* ssp. *angustifolia* [Narrow leaf hopbush]. The fruits are characterised by four vertical leafy wings. It may form dense thickets.

25. *Triodia scariosa* ssp. *scariosa* [Porcupine grass, Spinifex]. Forms a dense understorey on sand dunes where it is a very important protective habitat for Striated Grasswrens and many other small reptiles and mammals. Resin from it was used by Aborigines.

26. *Olearia muelleri* [Mueller's daisy bush]. This small shrub is often sticky. Usually growing on sandy soils.

27. *Olearia pimeleoides* [Daisy bush] This small and scattered shrub is confined to the sand dunes.

28. *Eucalyptus socialis* [Red mallee] This is the dominant mallee on Gluepot's sand dunes and is characterised by its bud with a long-pointed conical cap.

29. *Nitraria billardieri* [Nitre bush]. Usually growing on floodplains, it forms dense thickets which are significant refuges for animals and birds. The fleshy grape-like berries are an important food source in early summer.

30. *Eremophila maculata* [Spotted fuschia]. The orange or reddish bell-shaped flowers are spotted brown inside. Usually growing on floodplains. The leaves are cyanogenic and new growth is highly toxic.

SAFETY GUIDELINES

A few simple precautions should always be taken when walking at Gluepot.

Dehydration is always a real risk as the temperature can get extremely high (over 45°C), and humidity is normally very low.

- **Carry sufficient water**
- **Protect yourself from the sun**
- **If on a long walk take at least one piece of warm clothing**
- **Carry a compass & plan or map**
- **Carry a snake bite kit.**

WALK DETAILS

850 metre circuit
40 minutes
easy walking, some sand

The Botanic Walk commences at the Visitor Centre in the administration area. Look for the signs adjacent to the Helipad. It forms a loop approximately 850 metres in length. It commences north-east of the Weather Recording Station, passes around to the north of the Homestead and returns to the Visitor Centre along the track on the western side of the Management Camping Ground.

The walk is marked by blue triangles on orange-topped green and white droppers. The plant species named and described in this brochure are marked with numbered plaques.

The walk passes through examples of four of Gluepot's important plant communities. They are *Casuarina pauper* (Black oak) open forest in drainage lines; *Eucalyptus oleosa* mallee over *Senna* and *Acacia* shrubs; *Eucalyptus socialis* mallee over *Triodia scariosa* (Porcupine grass) on sand dunes; and *Nitraria billardieri* (Nitre bush) shrubland on flood plains.

THIS WALK IS HABITAT FOR

Spiny-cheeked and Singing Honeyeaters,
Mallee Ringneck, Mulga Parrots,
other birds using the homestead watering point.

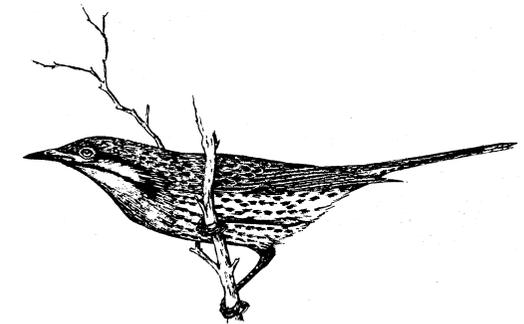
IF YOU BECOME LOST ON THIS WALK

return to the Visitor Centre via the homestead
or the management camping ground.

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BOTANIC WALK

Common plants of Gluepot Visitor Centre environs



Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

**GLUEPOT RESERVE
WALKING TRACK NETWORK**
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