

## 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. The phyllodes have 9 nerves.
2. ***Amyema preissii*** [Wire leaf mistletoe]. Growing mainly on *Acacias* 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. Scattered throughout Gluepot.
4. ***Casuarina pauper*** [Black oak]. Generally growing in clay soils where 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. Early timber cutters sometimes sold it as real Sandalwood, hence the common name.

6. ***Lycium australe*** [native boxthorn.] This small bush is in the same genus as the introduced version. It has small white flowers.

7. ***Eucalyptus gracilis*** [Yorrell]. Another common and widespread mallee which grows on brown and limestone soils. Sometimes growing with 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]. Brown and 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.

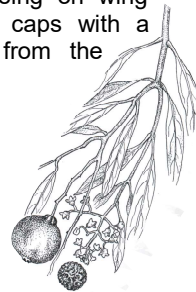
9. ***Eucalyptus oleosa*** [Acorn mallee]. Widespread, common mallee species usually growing on red brown soils. The fruit's cap is smaller in diameter than the cup giving the buds a distinct acorn-like shape.

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

11. ***Eucalyptus dumosa*** [Water 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. ***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.

13. ***Santalum acuminatum*** [Quandong]. A semi 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.



14. ***Senna artemisioides*** sub species *filifolia*. *Senna* species are distinguished by the arrangement of their leaf-like phyllodes. There are many Sub species. Previously called *Cassia*, these widespread and common arid-zone plants are related to wattles and have similar bean-pod fruits.

14B *Senna artemisioides* sub species *coriacea*. One of the many forms of this species. An attractive shrub.

15. ***Rhagodia ulicina***. Hardy spiny low growing shrub. Small leaves. Prickly habit.

15B. ***Cratystylus conocephala*** [Blue bush Daisy.] At a glance is similar to ***Maireana sedifolia*** (Pearl Bluebush) but is actually a member of the daisy family.

16. ***Acacia nyssophylla*** [Spine bush]. It forms dense thickets which are important protective habitat for small birds, particularly Splendid and Variegated Fairy-wrens. Very similar to *Acacia colletioides*. Phyllodes have 16 nerves.

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

18. ***Eremophila glabra*** [Tar bush]. 10 m to the right of the post. Stems sometimes become black—hence the common name.

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 [LARGE GAP]

22. ***Maireana pentatropis*** [Erect mallee bluebush.] *Maireanas* have fruiting bodies with horizontal papery wings. This species also has 5 vertical fan shaped wings on the fruits. (hence its name.)

23. ***Chenopodium curivispicatum*** [Cottony saltbush]. Generally growing on limestone soils. Small low growing chenopod with almost white leaves.

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

## WALK DETAILS

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. Very flammable.

26. *Olearia muelleri* [Mueller's daisy bush]. This small shrub is often sticky. Grows on a wide range of soils.

27. *Olearia pimeleoides* [Daisy bush] This small and scattered shrub grows on a wide range of soils.

28. *Eucalyptus socialis* [Red mallee] This is the dominant mallee on Gluepot's sand dunes and is characterised by buds with a long-pointed conical cap. **LARGE GAP TO ACROSS THE ROAD.**

29. *Nitraria billardieri* [Nitre bush]. Usually growing on floodplains. It forms dense low 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 bush.] The orange yellow or reddish tube shaped flowers are spotted brown inside. Usually growing on floodplains. The leaves are unpalatable but new growth can be grazed by herbivores. END OF BOTANIC WALK

### 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.

**1.2 km circuit. 60 minutes  
easy walking, some sand**

**Note: Bicycles are not permitted on walking tracks**

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

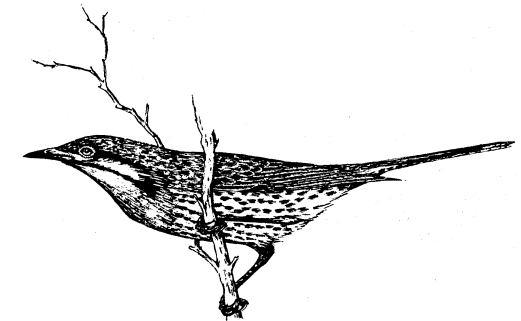
Spiny-cheeked and Singing Honeyeaters,  
Mallee Ringneck, Mulga Parrots,  
other birds using the homestead watering point.

**IF you take this walk please notify another person or a friend. Do not go out of sight of the Track Markers.**

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## BOTANIC WALK

### Common plants of Gluepot Visitor Centre environs



Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater *Acanthagenys rufogularis*

**Birdlife Australia Gluepot Reserve contact:**  
gluepot@gluepot.org  
www.gluepot.org  
08 8892 8600

**GLUEPOT RESERVE  
WALKING TRACK NETWORK**  
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