

# Australian Plants *of* Dangar Island

*for your  
garden.*



*Indigenous: Produced naturally  
in a region. Born of.  
Belonging naturally.*

# Australian Plants

## Indigenous to Dangar Island

### for Your Garden

This list of plants was prepared as part of the Dangar Island Management Plan process. It is being circulated to help residents interested in bringing indigenous plants home to the Island.





Plant local plants because they are:

- beautiful
- easy to maintain
- save on water bills
- attract birds
- provide habitat for fauna
- eliminate the need for polluting fertilisers and sprays
- complement the special bush environment of the Island and surrounding national parks

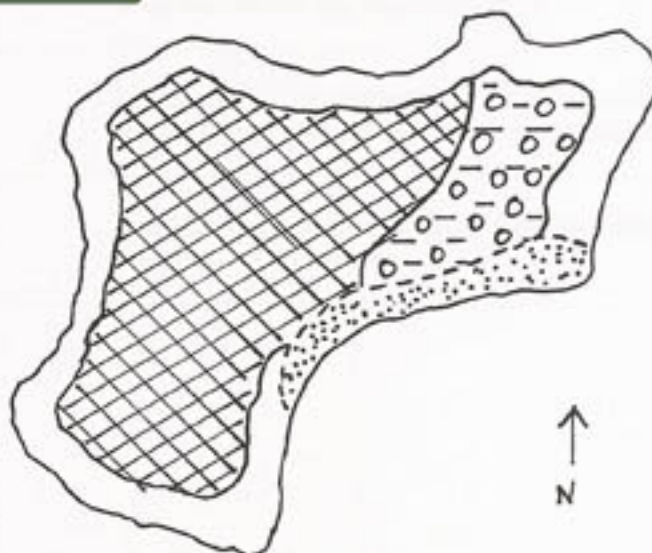
Local nurseries where plants (\*) can be obtained are:

- **Update June 2011:** Long Hill Rd, West Pennant Hills
- **See next page** Nursery, Annangrove Rd., Annangrove

**Key**

	B	Beach
	H	Hillside
	F	Flat
	W	Waterfront

\* Easily obtained from Australian native nurseries



Dangar Island

Updated June 2011

**Hornsby Shire Council's Pennant Hills Nursery**

For enquiries and information regarding the annual plant give away and volunteering at the nursery

Ross Rapmund  
9484 7846.

**Kuringai Community Nursery** - Local natives of Kuringai & Hornsby Shire

430 Mona Vale Rd, St Ives  
9424 0825

**Cumberland Forest Nursery** - Natives from all over eastern Australia

95 Castle Hill Rd, West Pennant Hills  
98713222

**Abulk / Botanica Nursery** - Wholesale and retail indigenous grasses

2300 Silverdale rd, Silverdale  
47742811

**Eastwood Nursery** - Chris and Virginia Miller

91 Pemberton's Hill Rd, Mangrove Mountain  
4374 1399 (phone ahead for visit to site)  
sales@eastwoodnurseries.com.au

**Harvest Seeds and Native Plants**

281 Mona Vale Rd, Terry Hills  
94502699

**Tharwa Propagation Nursery** - Native tube stocks

21 Myoora Rd, Terry Hills  
9450 1967

**Wirreanda Nursery** - Local natives Pittwater and Warringah Shire

7 Wirreanda Rd, Ingleside  
9450 1400

## Medium to Large Trees

Species	Location	Description
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i> (Red Ash)	H	6- 10m high. Smooth grey bark. Leaves dark green, glossy. Flowers tiny pale green. Fruit black, glossy.
* <i>Angophora costata</i> (Smooth Barked Apple)	H (moist areas)	Tall tree to 25m with smooth deciduous bark and beautiful twisted branches
* <i>Angophora floribunda</i>	H,F,W	Bark rough with crooked convoluted branches
<i>Avicennia marina</i> (Grey Mangrove)	W	Grows in tidal sheltered areas around the island. Thick aerial 'breathing' roots project through the mud and high tide level
* <i>Casuarina glauca</i> (Swamp Oak)	F,W	Good for retaining river banks. Medium tree to 20m. Adapted to salty conditions.
* <i>Eucalyptus gummifera</i> (Red Bloodwood)	H	Small to medium tree with large showy clusters of flowers.
* <i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	H,F,W	The blackbutt forms a unique habitat on the island. Large tree to 40m.
* <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> (Swamp mahogany)	F,B (moist areas)	Medium tree 20m- 30m with spreading branches and dense canopy. Crumbly full length bark. Very few left in the Hornsby Shire.
* <i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> (Port Jackson fig)	H,F,W	Large tree to 15m Wonderful organic sculptured trunk, clings and moulds to clefts in rocks.
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i> (Cheese Tree)	H,F,W	Medium to large tree to 25m. Fast growing for warm coastal climates.

## Shrubs to Small Trees

Species	Location	Description
<i>*Acacia floribunda</i> (Sally Wattle)	H	Dense shrub 2- 4m with abundant pale yellow flowers.
<i>Acacia implexa</i> (Hickory)	F,H	Small tree with cream flower heads.
<i>* Acacia longifolia</i> (Sydney Golden Wattle)	H,F,W	Small tree with masses of yellow flower spikes.
<i>Acacia myrtifolia</i> (Myrtle Wattle)	H	Erect shrub with pale cream flower heads.
<i>Acacia suaveolens</i> (Sweet-scented Wattle)	H	Small shrub with pale cream flowers.
<i>* Acacia ulicifolia</i> (Prickly Moses)	H	Needle-like foliage with pale cream flowers.
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i> (Black She Oak)	H,F,W	Small tree to 12m with rugged bark and slender branches.
<i>*Allocasuarina torulosa</i> (Forest Oak)	H,F	Small rounded tree that can grow up to 20m. Drooping greyish foliage. Can also have a bronze purplish hue.
<i>Angophora bakeri</i> (Narrow - leaved Apple)	H	Shrub or small slender tree 2- 10m, rough bark on all limbs with cream flowers.
<i>*Banksia ericifolia</i> (Heath Banksia)	H,F	Shrub 2- 5m with large orange spikes. It carries a heavy load of blossoms in the lean winter months for small nectar feeding birds.
<i>* Banksia integrifolia</i> (Coastal Banksia)	Everywhere H,F,W,B	medium tree to 15m. Leaves dark green and silvery underneath.
<i>* Banksia serrata</i> (Oldman Banksia)	H,W	Small tree to 6m with a tough gnarled appearance. Large flower spikes.
<i>*Banksia spinulosa</i> (Hairpin Banksia)	H Moist areas	Round shrub up to 2m. Spikes Golden yellow to orange narrow stiff foliage Winter flowering.

Species	Location	Description
<i>Breynia oblongifolia</i> (Breynia)	H,F	Small shrub with spreading branches. Small flowers hang from stalks
* <i>Boronia serrulata</i> (Native Rose)	H	Small shrub to 1m. Leaves diamond shaped. Flowers Rose- Pink.
* <i>Callistemon salignus</i> (Willow Bottle Brush)	F (moist areas)	Small tree to 6m with spikes of lemon-yellow flowers.
<i>Cassinia longifolia</i> (Cauliflower bush)	H	Shrub to 3m. Creamy flowers in spring and early summer. Layer of fine felt along flat leaves.
<i>Cassinia uncata</i> (Bent Cassinia)	H	Erect shrub to 2m. Flowers yellowish to white. Short rough leaves with a bent tip.
* <i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i> (Christmas Bush)	H,F	Small tree to 6m Flowers change from white to rich red at Xmas time
<i>Clerodendrum tomentosum</i> (Hairy Clerodendrum)	H,F,W	Tall shrub with dense heads of white flowers followed by fruits of red berries.
<i>Comesperma ericinum</i> (Heath Milkwort)	H (moist areas)	Attractive shrub with pink flowers.
<i>Dodonaea triquetra</i> (Hop Bush)	H,F	Shrub to 2m Interesting seed pods - green to purplish
* <i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i> (Blueberry Ash)	H,F,W	Small tree Masses of fringed white or pink flowers
<i>Eriostemon buxifolius</i> (Box-Leaf Wax Flower)	H,F	Erect shrub 50- 100cm with short stiff leaves with attractive pink flowers.
* <i>Eriostemon hispidulus</i> (Spreading Wax Flower)	H,F	Shrub to 1m. Perfumed white to pale pink flowers.
<i>Exocarpus cupressiformis</i> (Native Cherry)	H	Tall shrub with delicate pendulous branches. The King Parrots love eating the red fruit.

Species	Location	Description
<i>* Gompholobium latifolium</i> (Glory Wedge Pea)	H	Shrub to 2m. Large spectacular yellow flowers.
<i>* Hakea dactyloides</i> (Broad Leafed Hakea)	H	Large shrub to 3m Clusters of fluffy white flowers
<i>* Hakea salicifolia</i> (Willow-leaved Hakea)	H,F,W	Broadleaved tall willowy shrub. Dense clusters of white flowers. Silvery grey fruit with black warts. Likes moist sheltered areas.
<i>* Hakea sericea</i> (Silky Hakea)	H	Shrub to 3m. Needle like leaves. Rough large woody fruit with clusters of pale yellow flowers.
<i>* Hibbertia bracteata</i> (Guinea Flower)	H	Erect shrub to 1m. Yellow flowers. Small broad leaves with a sharp point.
<i>* Hovea linearis</i> (Erect Hovea)	H	1m tall shrub Lilac pea flowers.
<i>Hybanthus monopetalus</i> (Slender Violet)	H,F	Erect shrub 10- 30cm. Leaves soft. Blue- Mauve flowers single petalled.
<i>* Indigofera australis</i> (Native Indigo)	H	Shrub to 1m Spikes of magenta flowers
<i>* Kunzea ambigua</i> (Tick Bush)	H,F,W	Abundant white hairy flowers. Heavily scented flowers attract many small insects.
<i>* Leptospermum attenuatum</i> (Flaky-barked Tea-tree)	H	Small tree with dark papery bark and graceful hanging branches with white cascades of flowers in summer.
<i>Logania aibiflora</i> (Narrow Leaf Logania)	H	Shrub to 2m Attractive shrub - sweet scented white flowers
<i>* Macrozamia communis</i> (Burrawong)	F,W	A cycad. Partly buried trunk with numerous fronds. Plants develop large male and female cones.
<i>Monotoca elliptica</i> (Tree Broom-heath)	H,F,W	Shrub to 4m. Delicate foliage with small white flowers.

Species	Location	Description
<i>Notelaea longifolia</i> (Mock Olive)	H,F,W	Shrub 2- 4m.Small yellowish flowers.Leaves are variable with fruits bitter blackish olive-like drupes
<i>Opercularia aspera</i> (Thin Stink Weed)	H	Wiry ascending shrub to 1m. Unpleasant odour. Square stems, stiff hairs.Leaves rough to touch.
<i>Opercularia diphylla</i>	H	Small shrub 20- 30cm Hairless leaves and stems.
<i>Ozothamnus diosmifolius</i> ( <i>Helichrysum diosmifolium</i> ) (Everlasting Paper Daisy)	H	Shrub to 2m.Leaves tiny,narrow rough to touch. Flowers white in numerous smallheads.
* <i>Persoonia levis</i> (Broad Leaf Geebung)	H	Shrub to 5m Deep red flaky bark Bright green leaves.All <i>Persoonia spp.</i> have Golden-yellow flowers and fleshy fruits.
* <i>Persoonia linearis</i> (Narrow-leaved Geebung)	H	Shrub to 3m.Dark flaky-papery bark.Very narrow crowded leaves.
* <i>Persoonia pinifolia</i> (Pine- leaf Geebung)	H,F	Shrub 2- 4m.Crowded pine-like leaves.Flowers are at ends of branches with clusters of fruit that weigh down the branchlets.Likes sandy soils.
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> (Native Daphne)	H,F,W	Small tree to 10m Widespread on Island. Tends to be invasive. Fragrant flowers.
<i>Platysace linearifolia</i> (Narrow-leaf Platysace)	H	Small spreading shrub with narrow soft leaves clusters of tiny white flowers
<i>Platylobium formosum</i> (Handsome Fiat Pea)	H,F,W	Shrub to 1m Large yellow flowers with red centre
* <i>Pomaderris discolor</i>	H	Shrub to 3m Yellow flowers
<i>Pultenaea flexilis</i> (Yellow Pea Bush)	H,F,W	Erect shrub to 4m. Profuse yellow flowers.
<i>Pultenaea daphnoides</i> (Large-leaf Bush-pea)	H	Slender shrub 2- 3m.Flowers yellow with red markings.Leaves narrow at base broad at tip. Likes moist dense areas.



Species	Location	Description
<i>Rapanea variabilis</i> (Mutton Wood)	H,F	Tall shrub. The leaves are shiny with toothed edges
<i>Wikstroemia indica</i> (Wikstromia)	H,F	Erect shrub to 1.5m. Small green flowers and red berries.
<i>Xanthorrhoea arborea</i> (Broadleaf Grass-tree)	H,F,W	A grass- tree up to 4m tall with tall grass spikes.
<i>Xanthorrhoea media</i> (Forest Grass-tree)	H,F	A grass-tree to 2.5m tall. Long spikes and narrow glossy leaves .

## Ground Covers, Climbers and Herbs

Species	Location	Description
<i>* Actinotus helianthi</i> (Flannel Flower)	H,F (dry areas)	30-150cm herb White flannel-like flowers
<i>Billardiera scandens</i> (Apple Berry)	H	Climber Pale yellow bell flowers
<i>* Blandfordia nobilis</i> (Christmas Bell)	F (moist areas)	Erect plant with clusters of large red and yellow bell-shaped flowers.
<i>Cayratia clematidea</i> (Slender Grape)	H,W	A scrambler with a tuber from which new foliage sprouts each spring. Small green flowers.
<i>Cissus hypoglauca</i> (Native Grape)	H	Robust woody vine. Stems several metres long. Edible black grape fruit. Flowers small Bright yellow. Leaflets tough and waxy.
<i>* Clematis aristata</i> (Travellers Joy)	H,F	Climber. Profuse shower of large white star like flowers.
<i>Commelina cyanea</i> (Scurvy Weed)	H,F,W	Creeping herb with fragile blue flowers. Very similar to Wandering Jew.
<i>Comesperma volubile</i> (Love Creeper)	H	Small, weak twiner with blue flowers
<i>Dianella caerulea var producta</i> (Blue Flax Lily)	H,F	Tufted herb on elongated aerial stems. Fruit a rich purple berry. Blue flowers anthers bright yellow.
<i>Dianella laevis</i> (Smooth flax Lily)	H	Herb. Flowers pale blue with yellow centers
<i>Droseraceae</i> (Tall Sundew)	H,F,W (moist areas)	Very small plant. Delicate but carnivorous.
<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i> (Wombat Berry)	H,F,W	Climber. White flower, big yellow berry.
<i>Geranium homeanum</i> (Northern Cranesbill)	H,F	Small sprawling herb. Pale pink flowers.

Species	Location	Description
<i>Glycine clandestina</i> (Twining Glycine)	H	Climber. small leafed, pale pink to mauve flowers
<i>Glycine microphylla</i>	H,F	Slender twiner. Mauve flowers. Small leaflets.
<i>Goodenia heterophylla</i> (Variable Goodenia)	H	Herb. Grow in clumps, solitary yellow flowers.
* <i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> (False Sarsparilla)	H	Climber. Deep purple pea flower.
* <i>Hibbertia bracteata</i> (Guinea Flower)	H	Erect shrub to 1m. Yellow flowers. Small broad leaves with a sharp point.
* <i>Hibbertia dentata</i> (Twining Guinea Flower)	H	Twining plant showy yellow flowers.
* <i>Hibbertia empetrifolia</i> (Trailing Guinea Flower)	H	Sprawling multi stemmed shrub branches to 40cm long covered in little yellow flowers.
<i>Hybanthus vernonii</i> (Erect Violet)	H	Herb. Blue flower.
<i>Isolepis nodosa</i> (Knobby Club-rush)	F,B,W	Stiff hard stems, 40- 90cm high, terminating with a globular cluster of numerous sessile brown spikelets. Damp, sandy places near saltwater.
* <i>Kennedia rubicunda</i> (Dusky Corai Pea)	H,F,W	Robust climber large with large red pea flowers.
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i> (Wattle Mat-rush)	H,F,W	Erect tufted plant. Flowers yellow to cream.
* <i>Lomandra longifolia</i> (Spiny-headed Mat-rush)	H,F,W	Tufted plant with tough strap-like leaves.
<i>Lomandra multiflora</i> (Lomandra)	H,F	A grass like herb with flowers in dense clusters Concave leaves 30- 50cm long.
<i>Lomandra obliqua</i> (Fish Bones)	H	Small stiff sprawling herb with short glaucous leaves similar shape to Fishbone fern.

Species	Location	Description
<i>Marsdenia suaveolens</i> (Sweet- Scented Doobah)	H	Slender vine or sometimes a short shrubby plant Fragrant white- cream flowers.
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i> (Wonga Wonga Vine)	H,F,W	Woody twining climber with profuse white tubular flowers with red centres.
<i>Parsonsia straminea</i> (Common Silkpod)	H,F	Robust woody climber.Tough thick leaves.Flowers numerous Cream- pink.Fruit long green pods.
<i>Plectranthus parviflorus</i> (Cockspur Flower)	H	Perennial herb with purple to blue-mauve flowers.
<i>Pomax Umbellata</i> (Pomax)	H,F,W	A little spreading shrub 20- 40cm high with a chandelier like flower arrangement.
<i>Pratia purpurascens</i> (White Root)	H,F,W	Herb 15cm long.Leaves purple underneath,white flowers.Has a large succulent white root the juice of which was reputed to be a cure for snakebites.
<i>Scaevola ramosissima</i> (Purple fan-flower)	H	A sprawling plant with purple flowers.
<i>Smilax Glyciphylla</i> (Native Sarsparilla)	H	Climber. Flowers and fruits are not significant - leaves are refreshing to chew. Useful for covering low fence or trellis.
<i>Stylidium productum</i> (no common name)	H (moist areas)	Tufts of grass-like leaves with deep pink flowers at the end of long stalks.
<i>Viola hederacea</i> (Native Violet)	H,F	Pretty creeping herb,forming carpets in any moist shady place,Round,toothed leaves.Flowers white with purple markings.
<i>Viola sleberana</i> (no common name)	H (moist areas)	Small plant with rounded leaves and pale mauve flowers
* <i>Wahlenbergia gracilis</i> (Native Blue Bell)	H	Herb, light blue solitary flowers.
<i>Wahlenbergia graniticola</i> (Granite Blue Bell)	H	Herb, blue to almost mauve flowers.

## Ferns

Species	Location	Description
<i>* Adiantum aethiopicum</i> (Maiden Hair Fern)	H (moist areas)	Small, delicate fern. Forms a spreading clump.
<i>Asplenium flabellifolium</i> (Necklace Fern)	H (moist areas)	Small tufts of slender trailing fronds.
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i> (Gristle Fern)	H,F (moist areas)	Medium to tall fern forming rosette-like clumps
<i>Cheilanthes distans</i> (Bristly- Cloak Fern)	H	Small harsh fern with dense tufts, rusty woolly appearance.
<i>Cheilanthes tenuifolia</i> (Rock Fern)	H,F,W	Small, creeping fern
<i>Culcita dubia</i> (Soft Bracken)	H,F (moist areas)	Tall, spreading fern with tough lacy fronds
<i>* Cyathea australis</i> (Rough Tree Fern)	H (moist areas)	Tall, slender tree fern with rough trunk.
<i>* Davallia pyxidata</i> (Hare's Foot Fern)	H (moist areas)	Medium, epiphytic fern, growing on rocks or trees with long furry rhizome.
<i>Doodia aspera</i> (Rasp Fern)	H (moist areas)	Small, robust fern which forms a spreading, tufted clump.
<i>Lindsaea linearis</i> (Screw Fern)	H,F,W	Slender erect fern 15- 40cm high, likes wet sunny sunny areas.
<i>Lindsaea microphylla</i> (Lacy Wedge Fern)	H (moist areas)	Small fern with delicate lacy fronds.
<i>Psilotum nudum</i> (Skeleton Fork-fern)	H	Small, wiry plant, usually grows in rock crevices.
<i>Pyrrosia rupestris</i> (Rock Felt Fern)	H (moist areas)	Small, soft, fleshy fronds cover trees and rock faces.

## Orchids

Species	Location	Description
<i>Calochilus sp.</i> (Bearded Orchid)	H (moist areas)	Terrestrial orchid. Flowers covered in brilliant purple-red hairs.
<i>Cymbidium suave</i> (Snake Flower)	H	Epiphytic grows on trees and logs. Attractive sprays of greenish flowers.
* <i>Dendrobium linguiforme</i> (Tongue Orchid)	H	Small orchid grows on rocks in sheltered areas. Attractive sprays of delicate white flowers.
* <i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> (King Orchid, Rock Lilly)	H	Grows in large clumps on rocks with long spikes of creamy perfumed flowers.
<i>Dipodium punctatum</i> (Hyacinth Orchid)	H	Leafless terrestrial orchid with a stem covered in up to 50 pink to dark mauve spotted flowers.
<i>Prasophyllum sp.</i> (Leek Orchid)	H (moist areas)	Small terrestrial orchid. Flower stem bears up to 20 small white flowers.

## Grasses

Species	Location	Description
<i>Aristida vagans</i> (Three- awn Speargrass)	H	Slender grass 20- 50cm. Panicle open and much branched. 3 branched awn.
<i>Danthonia tenulor</i> (Wallaby Grass)	H	Erect grass slender stems 50- 70cm, not forming clumps. Pale green spikelets straw colour when old
<i>Dichelachne crinita</i> (Longhair Plume grass)	H	Graceful erect grass 70- 100cm. Dense plume like panicle. Common on sandy soils.
<i>Digitaria parviflora</i> (Smallflower fingergrass)	H	Tufted grass with leafy stems 45- 150cm long. Spikelets on one side of wavy axes.
<i>Echinopogon caespitosus</i> (Tufted Hedgehog Grass)	H	Slender erect grass 60- 100cm with short dense bristly head.
<i>Entolasia marginata</i> (Panic Grass)	H	Sprawling grass with broad, short, flat, stem leaves. Greyish green.



Species	Location	Description
<i>Entolasia stricta</i> (Wiry Panic Grass)	H	Wiry grass in a dense spreading tuft. Leaves and stems finely rough to touch.
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i> (Blady Grass)	H,F	Erect grass to 1m. Broad erect leaves. Feathery silky inflorescence
* <i>Microlaena stipoides</i> (Weeping Grass)	H,F	Small slender grass, dark green with nodding spikelets. Very common on the island, likes shady places and can be mowed.
<i>Oplismenus aemulus</i> (Basket Grass)	H,F,W everywhere	Small grass ascending stems, short broad leaves. Hairy glumes with red awns. Lovely groundcover.
<i>Oplismenus imbecillilis</i> (Basket grass)	H,F,W everywhere	Similar species to the preceding, only slender longer leaf proportions. Likes shady places.
<i>Stipa pubescens</i> (Tali Speargrass)	H	A tufted grass to 1m. Tight bundles of twisted awns Sandy or rocky soils.
* <i>Themeda australis</i> (Kangaroo Grass)	H,F	Grass with a tuft of slender green leaves and long wiry stem to 1m. Distinctive brown and purplish spikelets. Wonderful feature grass.

## Sedges

Species	Location	Description
<i>Caustis flexuosa</i> (Old Man's Beard)	H	Erect sedge 60- 120cm. masses of curly branchlets Leaves reduced to brown sheaths along the stems
<i>Gahnia aspera</i> (Rough Saw-sedge)	H,F,W	Small tufted sedge 40- 60cm. Bright red- brown nuts. Common in sandy soils.
<i>Gahnia clarkei</i> (Tali Saw- sedge)	H	Tall leafy sedge to 2.5m. Dense thickets on marshy sites.
<i>Gahnia sieberana</i> (Red-fruited Saw-sedge)	H	Tall leafy sedge to 2m. Spikelets numerous, dense. Common on damp sandy ground.
<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i> (Variable Sword- sedge)	H,F,W	Stems 50- 100cm high. Sharp and pointed. Spikelets green nuts turn brown. Moist sandy soils.
<i>Lepidosperma lineare</i>	H	Leafy sedge 40- 50cm. Slender leaves.

## Bibliography

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*Flora of Dangar Island*, Bruce Fitzgerald

*Key Guide to Australian Palms, Ferns and Allies*, L Cronin

*Native Plants of the Sydney District*, A Fairley & P Moore

*Native Plants of the Sydney Region*, M Baker, R Corringham and J Dark

*Vegetation study of Kiparra Park, Dangar Island*, Jacqui Vollmer

The original *Plant List* booklet was compiled by Ana Pollak & Helen Witty  
The revised edition is by Sarah Galvin, 25 / 4 / 99

This is not a complete vegetation study of all the native plants on Dangar Island. It is a reference for people to use as a guide to help retain the flora and fauna of this unique river environment.



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