

Popular Australian plants – what makes them so

By Karen Smith

With the rich diversity of plants we have in Australia it is not too difficult to find an array of plants to suit every garden design. The recent years of drought have seen an increase in the use of many Australian plants due to their hardiness. We asked a few growers which plants they found to be their top five best sellers and what it is that makes them so popular.

Five of the best recommended by Bushland Flora Australian Native Plant Nursery

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Acacia cognata dwarf 'Mini Cog' (PBR). Compact weeping growth that stays dense all year round. Excellent border, rockery or pot plant or for a low level planting in any landscape. Popular due to its low maintenance and attractive foliage. Copes with frost and dry conditions.



Lomandra 'Lime Tuff' (PBR) is a hardy evergreen tuft, with lush fine lime green foliage all year round. Requires no maintenance. Full sun and shade, even under trees. 'Lime Tuff' has tolerated temperatures in the high 30s to mid-40s after just being planted out in the garden.



Westringia 'Wild River' is an unnamed species that originated from New South Wales. Dark green foliage and rich mauve flowers throughout the year; grows in sun to part shade and is suited to most well drained soils. Once established requires little maintenance and tolerates frosts and periods when conditions become dry. This plant grows to a height from 0.5–1.0 metre and to a width of 0.5 – 1.0m and is suitable for low level screening.



Dampiera linearis Compact forms in the industry come under marketing names such as Cobalt Mound, Blue Moon or Ultra Violet. These varieties are used as an alternative to exotic perennial garden beds by replacing them with a native equivalent. Dampieras and Scaevolias can be used as colourful borders for informal and formal gardens.



Acacia lasiopcarpa 'Glow Wattle' is a prostrate form which can be used as spreading ground cover: Height is approx 0.3m with a spread of 1–1.5m. When not in flower this plant has fresh fern-like lime green foliage. 'Glow Wattle' is a versatile plant that withstands both dry and frost; making it very hardy and adaptable plant to use for large landscapes to small gardens.