

**INDIGENOUS PLANTS**  
**OF THE**  
**PARRAMATTA AND HILLS DISTRICTS**

including the Cumberland Plain and extending to the Hawkesbury River

**A List of Plants for Gardens of the Area**

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for the Parramatta and Hills District Group  
Australian Plants Society (1996)

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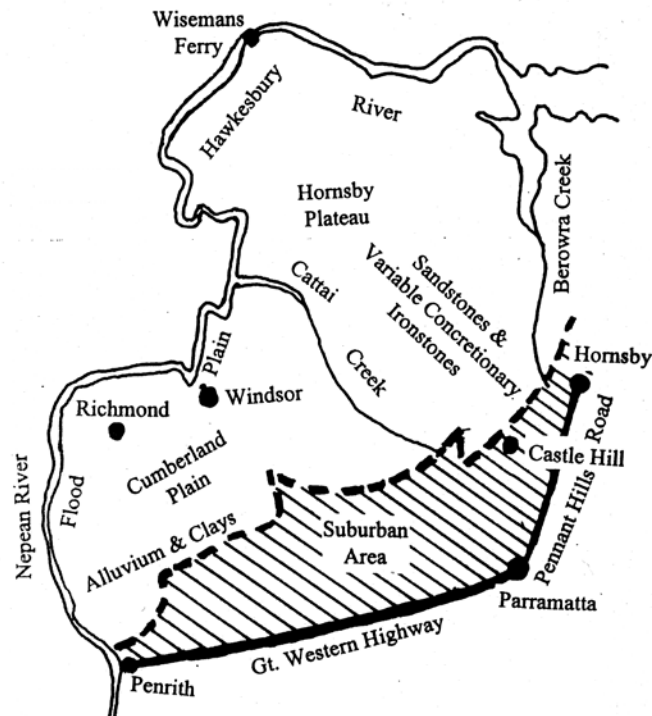
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# Australian Plants Society

## Parramatta and Hills District Group

### District Plant List

The area dealt with is in the following diagram



1. The purpose of this list is to bring into cultivation plants indigenous to this area.
2. The criteria for selection are species which are considered to have horticultural potential.
3. Gardens throughout the district will vary. Soil profile, drainage, aspect and size of garden will influence the choice of plants which may be grown.

#### Soils Three main types:

1. Hawkesbury Sandstones, often deeply dissected, (ridges and gullies), with concretionary ironstone ridgetops. They occupy the Northern Section
2. Clay/Alluvium (shale derived) of the Cumberland Plain (now mainly suburbs and cleared land) of the Western Section.
3. Alluvium Flats of the Hawkesbury River. River Flood Plain.

#### Habitats

Heath: Swamp: Scrub Woodland: Forest: Rainforest: Estuarine.

The combination of soils and habitat has produced a rich diverse flora from creepers to trees.

Note: A small proportion of plants listed may be purchased from nurseries.

The majority, however, will have to be propagated from seeds or cuttings.

To this end advice from members of the Parramatta Hills Group of the Australian Plants Society may be sought. In fact joining this group gives access to practical advice, a library, plants grown by members, a seed bank and cutting material.

Visits to members' gardens provide the opportunity to see many of the plants listed in cultivation, and to get an indication of their horticultural requirements.

Please note that many Australian plants sold by nurseries come from areas very different to Sydney. Some of them are unsuitable for cultivation without special attention to such specific needs as climate, soil, drainage etc.

### Explanation of Column Headings

**Plant Name:** Botanical names are given. Most plants do not have a common name or often have confusing nursery names, which may vary from place to place. Plants marked # are the authors' selection – the criteria being the relative ease to both acquire and grow these plants under average garden conditions.

**Height / Width:** The average dimensions in metres expected in cultivation. These may vary according to local conditions. Where plants are creepers, prostrate or climbers, (Metres) initials are used. See key

Cl	Climber
Cr	Creeper
P	Prostrate

**Flower:**

**Colour:** Letters have been used to designate colours. Where a flower is bi-coloured, each letter is separated by a vertical stroke, and the first letter indicates the dominant colour.

C	Cream	M	Mauve (Violet, Purple)
B	Blue	W	White
Br	Brown	R	Red
G	Green	O	Orange
Gr	Grey	Y/R	Yellow and Red
Y	Yellow	R/O	Red and Orange
P	Pink		
HOPS	Winged fruit (hops) of Dodonaea species. Its main feature		

**Time:** Numbers indicate the month(s) within the calendar year in which the plant is in flower; 1 indicates January and 12 indicates December.

**Soil Types:** Four are defined but further subdivisions are possible.

C	Clay	Usually red, may be yellow occasionally while compacted below about 20cm. Surface layer may be loam or sandy.
S	Sand	Sand to an approximate depth of 40cm or more
SL	Sandy Loam	Open textured garden type soil, usually grey or dark. Quite friable to at least 30cm.
SC	Sandy Clay	Open textured yellow or red sand grading into clay at about a spade depth.

**Propagation:** Designated by a letter

S	Plants grown from seed with or without pre-germination treatment
C	Cutting grown plants from terminal side shoots or from rooted pieces.
D	Plants with multiple stems and roots which may be divided. Plants send out runners which may be severed and grown as individuals.

**Remarks:** Under this heading, remarks have been made which apply to the individual nature of a particular species.