

The Urrbrae Wetland

Indigenous Plant Trail

The Urrbrae wetland indigenous plant trail consists of a number of provenance plants that were used by Aboriginal People for food, medicine, fiber and tools.

Each of these plants is marked with a small sign, containing information about the traditional uses and cultural importance of the plant.

Kurana people have been consulted throughout this project, however the majority of information printed here and on the signs is from published resources.

Do NOT pick or remove any plant material.

Education @ the wetland

Groups are welcome to take a self-guided tour of the Indigenous Plant Trail. An activity booklet is provided, that encourages students observe, record and analyse the types of local plants that assisted the Aboriginal people to live successfully and sustainably for 1000'S of years.

To plan your visit, please contact the Wetland Manager or visit the Urrbrae Wetland Website www.urrbraewetlandlc.org



Drooping Sheoak

Allocasurina verticillata

Description: A small to medium tree which grows 5 – 8m tall and is distinguished by its weeping, needle like leaves.

This species has separate male and female plants, with the only the females producing oval fruit cones (3-4cm in length) and the males producing drooping golden flowers on the needle tips in the autumn months.

Other Information: The endangered glossy black cockatoo depends on this plant for survival, and the seed are eaten by a range of native parrots and cockatoos.

Aboriginal Uses: This tree provides excellent hardwood, which was used to make clubs, shields and boomerangs.

The cones are available throughout most of the year and were soaked in water to give it a lemon flavour.

The needle like leaves were chewed at times when water was scarce. This increased saliva flow, which decreased the need for water.

Other Uses: The hard wood of this tree also made excellent fire wood, which lead to massive clearance by the early settlers.

References

[1] Florabank, 'Allocasurina verticillata' http://www.florabank.org.au/lucid/key/species%20navigator/media/html/Allocasuarina_verticillata.htm

Bagust, P & Tout-Smith, L (2010) 'The Native Plants of Adelaide: Returning the vanishing natural heritage of the Adelaide plains to your garden', Government of South Australia's Department for Environment and Heritage, South Australia

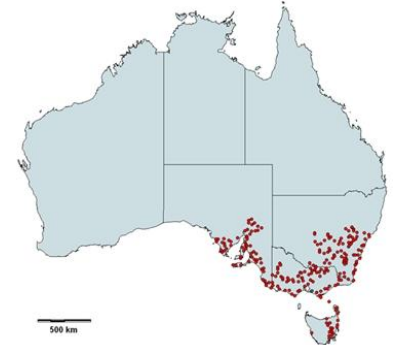
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'The Kuarna Seasonal Trail Excursion' (1985) Aboriginal Community College Inc

City of Mitcham (2012), 'Aboriginal Life and Use of Wetlands' , <http://www.mitchamcouncil.sa.gov.au/page.aspx?u=1499>

Urrbrae Wetland does not guarantee, and accepts no legal liability arising from or connected to, the use of or reliance on any material contained on this fact sheet or on any linked site.

Do not pick or eat native plants as some plants contain poisonous substances. This trail and associated information has plants that may look similar to other species or may exhibit characteristics similar to species described but are totally different in their uses.



Distribution Map [1]



Young tree



Female Flower



Male Flower



Contact

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