



Alluvial Flats, Watercourses and Wetlands

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ALLUVIAL FLATS, WATERCOURSES & WETLANDS

The Alluvial Flats, Watercourses, & Wetlands planting guide lists the dominant trees, shrubs, groundcovers and vines that are native to the local area. Both botanical and local common names are provided for easy reference. Topographic preference and usefulness has also been provided to highlight the benefits of each species.

The aim of the planting guide is to provide landholders and community groups with a list of native species for revegetation and rehabilitation projects.

These species are generally available from the Bushland Friendly Nurseries of Ipswich.

The Bremer River Basin is an extensive area of alluvial flats, watercourses, and wetlands, west south-west of Ipswich City, bordered by the Little Liverpool Range, the Great Dividing Range, Flinders Peak and associated mountains, and the Brisbane River to the north.

Seven vegetation communities have been identified in the Bremer Basin, including:

- Swamp Tea Tree (*Melaleuca tamarascina* ssp. *irbyana*)
- Paperbark Tea Tree (*Melaleuca quinquinervia*)
- Queensland Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*)
- Riparian
- Freshwater Wetlands

Swamp Tea Tree Community

With only 3% of the original area remaining this vegetation community is classified it as *Endangered*. Swamp Tea Tree forests can be found on the grey cracking clay soils in the Bremer Basin, forming a low, closed canopy, reaching a height of 10-12m. The distinctive understorey comprises native herbs, grasses, sedges and forbs. In some areas the Swamp Tea Tree appears as an understorey shrub beneath Queensland Blue Gum (*E. tereticornis*) and Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*).

Paperbark Tea Tree Community

This community is exclusive to the alluvial sandstone soils of Six-mile and Sandy creeks. Other canopy species in this community include Queensland Blue Gum (*E. tereticornis*) and Swamp Box (*Lophostemon suaveolens*).

Queensland Blue Gum Communities

Although the Forest Red Gum occurs throughout Ipswich, they dominate the alluvial flats. The understorey consists predominantly of Maiden's Wattle (*Acacia maidenii*), Red Ash (*Alphitonia excelsa*) and native grasses, with Weeping Bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*) and some rainforest species occurring along the watercourses. Other eucalypt species, such as Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*E. crebra*), Gum-Topped Box (*Eucalyptus moluccana*), and Pink Bloodwood (*Corymbia intermedia*) co-occur in some areas and become more dominant in the foothills and slopes.

Riparian Communities

A narrow fringe of riparian vegetation remains along many of the waterways in the Bremer Basin. Extensive areas of this vegetation community have been removed or severely degraded due to competing land uses. This vegetation can be broadly divided into two groups, Eucalypt emergent and rainforest.

The most common is the Eucalypt emergent community. This community has a canopy species of Queensland Blue Gum (*E. tereticornis*), with River She-oak (*Allocasuarina cunninghamiana*), Weeping Bottlebrush (*C. viminalis*) and Matt Rush (*Lomandra longifolia*) dominating the lower

