

Aboriginal people of the Barossa Region

To the north and west of Nuriootpa and Angaston is Ngadjuri country. To the south and west, are the plains of the Kurna people, while Peramangk country extends south from Angaston.

One meaning of Nuriootpa is 'meeting place' as Aboriginal groups gathered here for trade and ceremony.

The Register of 1 May 1852 also records 'Nooriutpa', 'Ngu-raitpa' or 'neck country', a Peramangk word that refers to the neck of the giant being Nganno whose body became the Mount Lofty Ranges.

Peppermint Box *Eucalyptus odorata*

Peppermint Box has significant cultural importance to Aboriginal people in the Barossa Valley and Mount Lofty Ranges. The Ngadjuri have also been called the Peppermint Box people, as they used this tree for many different things.

The gum blossom nectar is sweet and used to sweeten water. White waxy bumps, that are actually the housing of lerps, which are small insects that live on the leaves, are scraped off and also added to make sweet drinks.

The wood is strong and used for bowls, shields and spears. Leaves have medicinal properties.

Peppermint Box Grassy Woodland is a critically endangered plant community, listed under Federal Legislation due to land clearance.

Opening Hours:

Garden: 7 days a week from sunrise to sunset

Community Nursery and NRC:

Monday by appointment

Tuesday 9am - 4.30pm

Wednesday 9am - 12.30pm

Thursday 9am - 4.30pm

Friday by appointment

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Follow us online for information to upcoming events and workshops

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**Government
of South Australia**

Northern and Yorke
Landscape Board



Traditional Uses Trail

Follow this Self-Guided Trail to learn about plants used by First Nations people of the Barossa region.

The Barossa Bushgardens is beside the North Para River, where Ngadjuri, Peramangk and Kurna people often met.

Traditional Use includes food, tools, shelter, medicine and ceremony.



The Barossa Council

Plant List

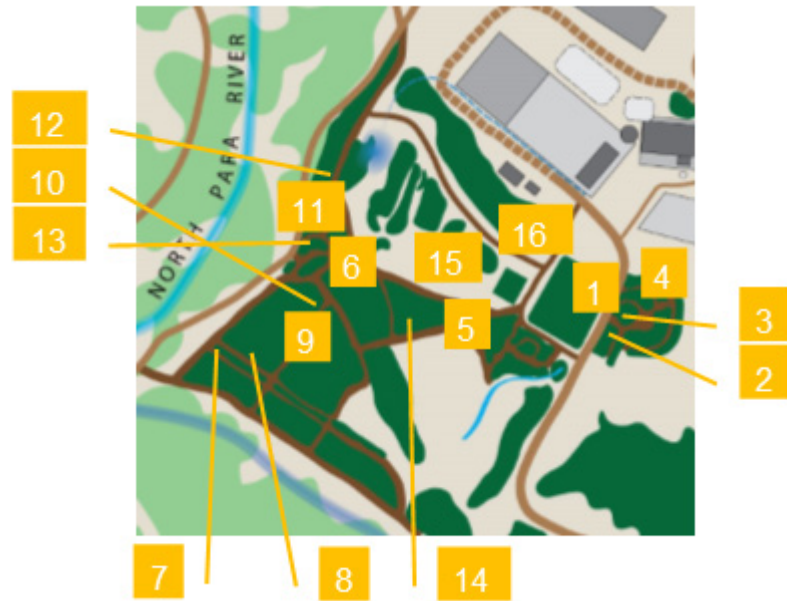
1. *Clematis microphylla*

Old Mans Beard Warmed leaves a poultice for rheumatism and inhaled to relieve head-ache. Cooked roots edible. Stalks for body adornments and to bind stone tools.



2. *Carpobrotus modestus*

Pigface Edible leaves. Crush leaves to relieve burns and bites. Leaf juice for upset stomach; and gargle for sore throat. Fruit a laxative.



3. *Xanthorrhoea semiplana*

Yacca Leaves dried/rolled for string. Chew leaf base for water. Gum binds tools/weapons and thrown into fire, inhaled to treat colds. Seeds ground into flour. Flower stem used as a spear shaft.



4. *Senna artemesiodes*

Silver Cassia Seeds, gum/resin edible, laxative and used as a glue.



Plant List

5. *Dianella revoluta*

Flax Lily Roots boiled for cold remedy. Leaves split down the middle, rolled on thigh into twine and woven.



6. *Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp pruinosa*

Blue Gum Young wood for spears. Steam from boiled leaves relieves many illnesses. Possum habitat.



7. *Hardenbergia violacea*

Native Lilac Leaves boiled into a sweet drink. Flowers used as decoration or soaked in water to make purple dye.



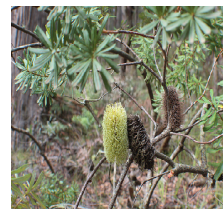
8. *Acacia pycnantha*

Golden Wattle Green seeds eaten raw, mature seeds roasted and ground into flour. Resin eaten or used as glue. Flowers worn in the hair for ceremonies by young women.



9. *Banksia marginata*

Silver Banksia Flowers have sweet nectar and soaked overnight to flavour water. Dried flowers used to strain water for drinking.



Plant List

10. *Dodonaea viscosa*

Sticky Hopbush Smoke from burning leaf/twig for pain relief. Leaf chewed to relieve toothache (juice not swallowed). Leaf poultice to heal inflammation and antibacterial.



11. *Themeda triandra*

Kangaroo Grass Seeds ground by stone to produce flour mixed with water to make damper.



12. *Bursaria spinosa*

Christmas Bush Fragrant cream flowers encourage butterflies and many fauna that are harvested to eat.



13. *Kunzea pomifera*

Muntries Berries eaten raw or pounded into paste and dried for trade. Stems/bark have wax that nourishes skin.



14. *Enchylaena tomentosa*

Ruby Saltbush Eat fruit fresh or dry. Soak flowers for a tea. Red dye from berries used as a body paint.



15. *Lomandra sp.*

Iron Grass Seeds ground to flour for damper. Leaves softened in water, woven into mats, baskets, adornments. Leaf base chewable.



16. *Eucalyptus camuldulensis*

River Red Gum Bark for coolamons and shields. Bruised/smoked leaves inhaled for colds; boiled to extract oil for sprains. Grubs in trunk harvested by men; in roots by everyone. Hollows used for storage.

