Western Local Land Services

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji (north of Pooncarie)

Knowledge shared by the Barkindji people

NSW GOVERNMENT

Australian Government | National Landcare Programme

This booklet was the product of an earlier project undertaken by a legacy agency of Western Local Land Services. It has been re-branded in line with Western Local Land Services publication standards and guidelines. Western Local Land Services would like to acknowledge and thank all who contributed their knowledge, time, expertise and financial support to the original project.

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Foreword

Western Local Land Services is committed to working with the Aboriginal communities of our region to improve their involvement in natural resource management; to learn and share ecological cultural knowledge and understanding of their country with future generations.

Aboriginal people have a cultural, spiritual and social connection to the land and have an important role in environmental management. Aboriginal people possess special knowledge, rights and interests in relation to the way that natural resources are managed and used. It is important that Aboriginal cultural knowledge of natural resources is only used in accordance with the wishes of the custodian of that information.

This project, with the strong support of the Barkindji Traditional Elders, has provided a great opportunity to record aspects of Aboriginal life and to build a better understanding and permanent record of Aboriginal tradition in this part of New South Wales for future generations.

With the co-operation of the Barkindji Community, north of Pooncarie, it has been possible to coordinate a complex plant identification process where common and traditional plant names of cultural significance have been scientifically recorded. With this knowledge of traditional plant names and uses, a comprehensive dictionary has been composed which also highlights the different language groups that occur throughout the country according to Aboriginal tradition.

The effort to revive and preserve the rich linguistic and oral history of the Barkindji traditional people and preserve their perspectives, stories of country, plants and history of the area around Menindee Lakes and Kinchega National Park has provided invaluable background for awareness and knowledge of the Aboriginal cultural heritage values in the landscape.

The involvement of Elders and community members has also assisted in rekindling the spiritual connections that the Barkindji people have with country by recording the traditional knowledge of local vegetation and biodiversity information as an educational resource for future generations and to preserve their spiritual and cultural significance. I invite you to read this valuable information and support Aboriginal communities to regain and strengthen access to their past as a pathway to revitalising their culture.

Magnus Aitken
Chair
Western Local Land Services

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

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Aboriginal People
Please note that this report may contain photographs and references to some Aboriginal Elders, Traditional Owners and knowledge holders who are now deceased.

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Acknowledgements

Western Local Land Services wishes to acknowledge the Barkindji Elders (past and present) and the Barkindji community (north of Pooncarie) for welcoming us on their country and for sharing with us their stories and information on their country and their plants. The Barkindji people attended workshops and field trips where they provided information on their traditional uses of native plants in the study area, and permitted the recording of Barkindji traditional language including their cultural stories and history. Without the provision of this invaluable information, the project and this publication would not have been possible.

Western Local Land Services acknowledges the following Barkindji contributors: Evelyn Bates, Harold Bates, Dawn Riley, Claude Briar, Marietta Files, Caitlyn-Amber Coff, Patsy Quayle, Patricia Doyle, Barbara Quayle, Stephanie Bates, Darlene Newman, Robyn King, Marindah Doyle and Richard Bennett.

Western Local Land Services gratefully acknowledges the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW) for their permission to conduct field work in the Kinchega National Park, and Menindee Local Aboriginal Land Council for assistance in hosting workshops.

Western Local Land Services also wishes to acknowledge the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme for providing funding for this project.

There were many other people who contributed to the Barkindji plant names included in this booklet. For a complete list of these names and other reference material, please refer to the references section in the back of this booklet.

Project participants (Left to Right): Evelyn Bates, Harold Bates, Dawn Riley, Claude Briar, Marietta Files, Caitlyn-Amber Coff, Patsy Quayle, Patricia Doyle, Barbara Quayle, Stephanie Bates, Darlene Newman, Robyn King, Marindah Doyle and Richard Bennett

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Introduction

Western Local Land Services commissioned this Ecological Cultural Knowledge project to record the traditional language and different uses of native plant materials in the designated study area. The study area is the Barkindji country (north of Pooncarie) in Western Local Land Services, in western New South Wales (refer to map on page 3). Western Local Land Services hopes to support the spiritual connections that the Barkindji people have with their country through the recording of this information as a resource for future generations.

This booklet outlines plant descriptions and their uses, including oral history provided by the contributing Barkindji people, especially in regard to traditional uses according to Aboriginal customs and practices. Where known, the traditional Barkindji names of plants have been included along with the scientific and common names.

Permission has been granted by the participating Barkindji Elders for publication of this material. The project aims to protect and preserve the stories of the Barkindji people. Some of these stories are included in this booklet as a means of 'setting the scene' for the background and country where the listed plants are found.

The booklet is intended as an educational resource for all communities. It is not intended to be used as a technical resource. It will assist Western Local Land Services to protect the cultural heritage values of culturally significant vegetation in the region.

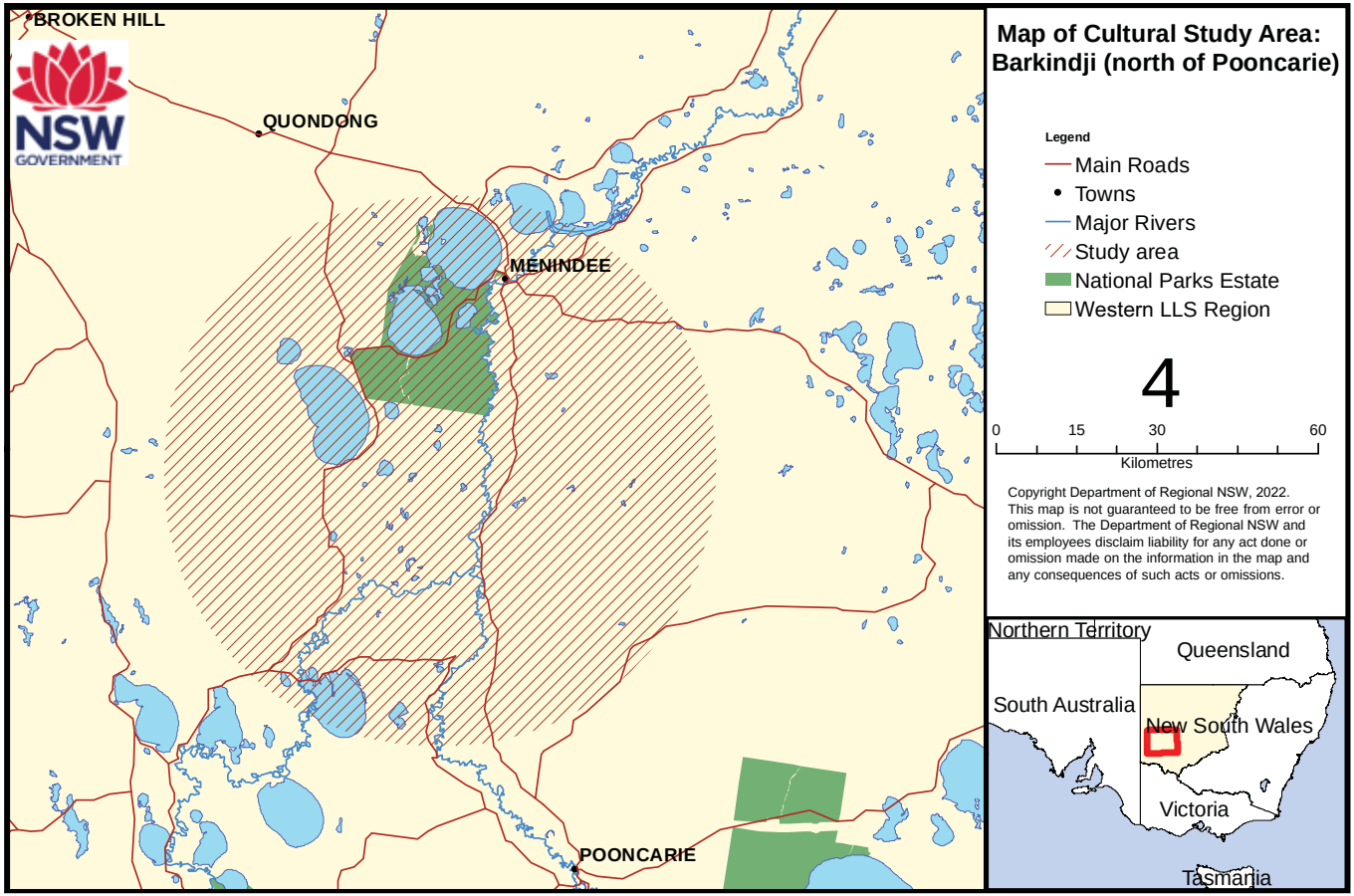
The plants included are not intended to be a definitive list and not all plants found in the study area have been included. The booklet focuses on the plants which have particular meaning and purpose to the participating Barkindji people. The booklet compliments two other booklets - Barkindji - south of Pooncarie and Barkindji/ Maraura.

A preliminary workshop was held to determine the more important plants in the project study area that had particular meaning and purpose to the contributing Barkindji people. From this information, a list of the thirty most important plants was compiled.

Following this workshop, a field trip was undertaken to selected conservation areas within the project study area, containing many of the plants identified in the workshop. During the field trip, audiovisual footage was captured of the contributing Barkindji people sharing their oral histories and stories and knowledge on traditional plant use. A second workshop was held to endorse the information gathered, which is presented in the following pages of this booklet.

Western Local Land Services is appreciative of the opportunity to collaborate with Barkindji Elders to gather the material and, through a partnership approach, achieve the aims of this Ecological Cultural Knowledge project.

MAP OF CULTURAL STUDY AREA



Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Cultural history

The Barkindji have occupied the area of the Darling River, western NSW, with these peoples knowing the river as Barka and identifying themselves as Barkindji (Hardy 1976).

The Barkindji peoples hugged the area of the Darling corridor and its surrounding rangelands, exploiting the resource rich area of the river, and also foraging within the rangelands during the cooler months and for seasonally available resources. The plants and animals of the region provided the Barkindji peoples with a varied diet. Plants played an economic role within the subsistence strategy, but also by providing further equipment to support hunting and gathering activities: bark, reed and grass vessels, nets and baskets; and hardwoods used to produce spear shafts, shields, digging sticks and boomerangs. Faunal resources available within the region, terrestrial, avian and aquatic provided the Barkindji with an important high protein and nutrient rich diet.

For the Barkindji, the Darling River and the Great Darling Anabranch, lakes and associated wetlands were a central component of their lifeway, providing them with economic resources and

Caitlyn - Amber Coff and Patsy Quayle - Darling River floodplain, with Black Box scar tree in background

Project participants (Left to Right): Patricia Doyle and Evelyn Bates at the National Parks and Wildlife Service, Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW), discussing Nightshade

The information provided within this section has been obtained from a number of documentary sources including, ethnographic and historic records, language research and other previous studies. It should be recognised that the information compiled and presented within this section may not represent the opinions of the Barkindji community regarding all traditional affiliations and tribal boundaries.

supporting trade and ceremony.

Results

Interviews and discussions with the Barkindji participants during fieldwork recorded information on 45 plant species. This includes one group of related species: the solanums (*Solanum sp.*). This number of species is symptomatic of the practical accessibility of a variety of environments i.e. during fieldwork to Kinchega National Park the Darling River system was in flood therefore riparian zones and lakes were inundated and during the project no sand dunes and sand plain environments were visited. Due to this, and in consultation the project participants, information from a previous Lower Murray Darling Catchment Management Authority project which was conducted in the southern part of Barkindji country around Lake Victoria (Lott *et al*. unpublished), has been used to supplement this report.

Information on the botanical characteristics and features of the plant species presented in this publication have been compiled using field observations and data available on PlantNET: an online product compiled and edited by the National Herbarium of New South Wales (Royal Botanic Gardens & Domain Trust, Sydney Australia).

The knowledge presented in this book covers 45 plant species (or groups). The knowledge has been categorised into four groups: food, tools, ceremonial and medicine. Information from multiple knowledge categories have been recorded for some species. The overall number of use categories presented is summarised in the following table.

How to use this Book

The plant species have been categorised according to their form: trees, shrubs, herbs, climbers, grass/sedge/rush and tuber. The species are listed in order of scientific name within each of these categories.

Filming Welcome to Country for DVD production

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Life Form

Trees

Small Trees / Shrubs

Forb / Herb

Climbers

Reed / Grass

Tubers

Traditional uses groups

Ceremonial

Food

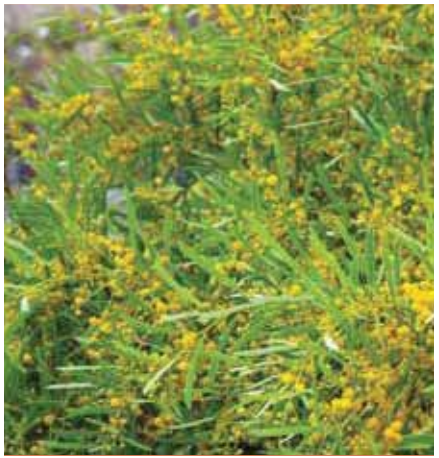
Medicinal

Tools / Artefacts

Descriptions of cultural uses of plants are direct quotes, as told by the Barkindji Elders involved in this project.

Western Local Land Services and/or contributors accepts no responsibility for the result of actions taken or decisions made on the basis of information contained herein or errors, omissions or inaccuracies presented here. Some plants are dangerous and may have harmful effects if not identified and prepared correctly. Western Local Land Services does not accept any responsibility for any accident arising from the use of plants mentioned herein.

Patricia Doyle near Black Box scar tree



Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Tree Section

Malka

Common name: Mulga
Barkindji name: Malka
Scientific name: *Acacia aneura*

"As with most Acacias, the seeds of the Mulga were utilised as a food source. The seeds taste like sesame seeds. The Mulga apple, which is formed on the branches by an insect, tastes like apple without the sweetness."

Description: Small shrub to 8m high, with the branches ascending or horizontal. Leaves variable, 3-7cm long, 1-2.5mm wide, narrow-linear in shape. Flowers bright yellow, in stalked spikes 15-30mm long. Pods 20-35mm long, 5-14mm wide, flat or oblong. Flowering occurs at any time of the year, after suitable rains.

Habitat: Found mostly on sandplains, dunefields and red earth country.

Distribution: Dominant in north and north-west New South Wales.

Wattles (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Wattles
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Acacia sp.*

"The seeds of many acacia species were collected, ground and made into either an edible raw paste or cooked ."

Description: an interesting feature of the wattles is the variety of foliage forms. The only true leaves are the 'feathery' or bipinnata leaves, i.e,. Those divided firstly into pinnae, with each pinna further composed of pinnules (leaflets). However, in the majority of our species, the bipinnata leaves of the seedling are soon replaced by leaf-like bodies called phyllodes, which perform the functions of leaves. The number and pattern of the veins (or nerves) on the phyllodes surface can be important for identification, especially where a penniveined (feather-like) pattern can be contrasted with several longitudinal veins.

The individual flowers of wattles are tiny and regular with long yellowish stamens. They have the familiar cream or golden soft balls of blossom. The fruiting pods, which all species produce, can be useful for identification, especially in summer.

Purple-wood Wattle (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Purple-wood Wattle
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Acacia carnoreum/ carnei*

"The wood of this tree is purple. The plant is very special for women."

Description: Shrub or small tree, to 4m high, the smaller branches hoary, faintly ribbed "leaves" 2-6cm long, 1.5-2mm broad, rigid, 4-angles, with vein at each angle, sharp pointed, initially silvery downy, later hairless. Flowers yellow, in heads 5-6mm diameter which are borne singly or in pairs in the leaf axils on hairy stalks 1-3cm long, each head composed of 40-50 minute individual flowers. Pods 2-5cm long, 8-12mm broad, quite hard and woody, with short white downiness, slightly constricted between the seeds. Flowering reputedly autumn, winter and spring but occurs very infrequently.

Habitat: Mulga communities on sand dunes; level sandy sites; alluvial accumulations along watercourses

Distribution: Relatively rare, restricted to the Broken Hill district and the north-western corner of New South Wales.

Maapu

Common name: River Coobah
Barkindji name: Maapu
Scientific name: *Acacia stenophylla*

"The seed pods were roasted, the seeds picked out and eaten."

Description: Straggly tree to 10m high, with drooping leaves and small branches. Leaves 15-40cm or more long, 3-6mm wide, slightly curved, thick, rigid. Flowers pale-yellow, in globular heads 6-9mm in diameter. Pods 10-20cm long, to 10mm wide, leathery, thick. Flowering occurs mainly during summer-early autumn.

Habitat: Occurs on heavy clay soils in River Red Gum communities along river and creek banks and swamp margins. Also found in mitchell grass, black box, bimble box, coolibah and belah communities, usually in close proximity to a river or creek channel.

Distribution: Found throughout New South Wales, along rivers and creeks (permanent or ephemeral).

Prickly Wattle (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Prickly Wattle
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: ***Acacia victoriae subsp. victoriae***

"The seeds are collected and ground for making bread. They are collected by placing a drop sheet under the bush and then hitting the branches with a stick. Despite the numerous spines on this plant, emus and other native animals eat the flowers."

Description: Erect shrub or small tree, to 4m high, sometimes with brambly appearance, the branches downy or hairless, the foliage often with a whitish bottom. "Leaves" broad linear, 2-5cm long 3-7mm broad, with one central vein, rounded at the tip and often with a short broad stiff point, grey green coloured, usually with 2 spines (stipules) to 8mm, long on the branch at the base of the leaf. Flowers pale cream to bright yellow in globular heads 5-6 mm. Pods flattish, 4-7.5cm long, 6-13mm broad, straight. Flowering occurs in late spring summer.

Habitat: Variable; open black box communities on heavy grey clay soils; mulga communities on sand plains.

Distribution: Throughout the northern and western parts of New South Wales, with the exception of the Cobar pediplain; does not occur in the extreme south-east of New South Wales.

Panpa, Thulpuru, Thurpa

Common name: Western Rosewood, Bullock Bush, Cabbage Bush
Barkindji name: Panpa, Thulpuru, Thurpa
Scientific name: ***Alectryon oleifolius subsp. canescens***

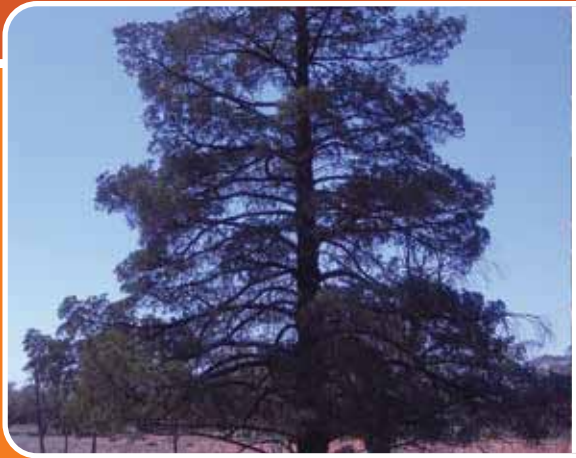
"The leaves can be boiled and the liquid is used as a medicine for skin conditions. It can be rubbed on the skin or the person can have a bath in it."

Description: Small to medium tree, to 9m high, with pale-grey or brown rough, deeply fissured bark, sometimes little more than a shrub. Leaves alternate, lanceolate or linear- lanceolate, 3.5 -14cm long, 6-12mm wide, stiff, greyish green, with prominent veins, sometimes curved at the end covered with very short hairs. Flowers cream, small and inconspicuous, borne in clusters in the leaf axis, without petals the calyx cup-shaped and irregularly toothed at the tip. Fruit composed usually of 2-3 (sometimes 1or 4) globular 1-seeded lobes about 6mm across, the outer covering usually breaking away at maturity; seeds glossy black with a red fleshy appendage which on some trees is very large. Flowering occurs in late spring-summer.

Habitat: Most common on sandy soils containing limestone nodules, less common on other soils types; found in numerous vegetation communities.

Distribution: Throughout New South Wales.

Pinpa



Common name: Murray Pine, Mallee Cypress Pine, White Cypress Pine
Barkindji name: Pinpa
Scientific name: *Callitris gracilis subsp. murrayensis, C. verrucosa, C. glaucophylla*

"The trunks of these trees give out a resin when wounded and the seeds are surrounded by a resin in the cone. This resin is used as a glue, for example, to cement the heads of reed spears."

Description: Tree with a single trunk to about 20m tall, the bark rough and furrowed. Leaves are aromatic, with bluish-grey foliage appearing jointed and needle-like. The fruit is a globular woody cone about 2cm in diameter, with 6 segments. Flowering during spring-early summer.

Habitat: Found on coarse-textured red and brown earths and occasionally on silty soils associated with streams in the eastern part of New South Wales. Also occurs on shallow soils well up the slopes of hills.

Distribution: Widely distributed throughout most of New South Wales, except along the coastline.

Wild Orange (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Wild Orange
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Capparis mitchellii*

"The fruit of this tree is eaten."

Description: Shrub or small compact tree, to 6m high, with a dense and often broad crown. Leaves ovate or broadly oblanceolate, 2-6cm long, dull-green, tapering at the base into a short stalk; usually 2 small curved spines are present at the base of each leaf but these may be absent on the flowing branches. Flowers large, with 4 white creamy petals 2cm or more long and numerous (about 50) . Fruit a large globular berry, about 5cm diameter; seeds 10mm long, embedded in a pulp enclosed on the thick skin. Flowering occurs mostly in late spring-summer.

Habitat: Variable, often in woodlands on sandy to clay loam soils, less common on rocky hillsides but apparently confined to these areas in the far west; occasionally extends onto clay soils.

Distribution: Predominately in the northern half of the New South Wales, extending west as far as Mootwingee and Tibooburra, but has been recorded from between Wentworth and Pooncarie in the south-west.

Kariku

Common name: Belah
Barkindji name: Kariku
Scientific name: *Casuarina pauper*

"The wood of this tree was used for manufacturing spears."

Description: Tree to about 15m high, with slender branchlets about 1-2mm thick, striated, jointed. Bark is dark-grey, finely fissured in a regular pattern of squares. Fruits form an oblong woody cone about 20mm long, with several rows of prominent protruding valves. Flowering usually occurs summer to autumn.

Habitat: Occurs on sandy red earths, sand plains, floodplains and foothills. May be found as individuals or in dense stands.

Distribution: Widespread in the western half of New South Wales.

Partiku

Common name: Creek Wilga
Barkindji name: Partiku
Scientific name: ***Eremophila bignoniiflora***

"The leaves are used for medicine. The stems and leaves are boiled in water and the liquid is used to treat skin conditions (e.g. eczema) and to draw out boils. The liquid can be used to treat mouth ulcers."

Description: Tall shrub or small tree, 3-7m high, with a dense rounded crown, old bark dark-grey, rough, fissured and somewhat segmented into squares. Leaves alternate, pale green, lanceolate or linear-lanceolate, 3-18cm long, 2-14mm wide, narrowed at the base. Flowers cream-coloured with purplish flecks on the inner surface, borne singly, rarely paired, on rather sticky stalks in the leave axils, each flower 22-30mm long, broadly bell-shaped with 5 rounded lobes, Fruit a more or less succulent tapering ovoid drupe, 15-20mm long. Flowering occurs mainly in spring, also in winter.

Habitat: Periodically flooded heavy clay soils or river and creek floodplains, in drainage lines and near lakes; recorded in coolibah, black box, river red gum and lignum communities.

Distribution: Occurs mainly in the northern half of New South Wales.

Partiku

Common name: Emubush
Barkindji name: Partiku
Scientific name: *Eremophila longifolia*

"The leaves of this red-flowered emubush are eaten as a medicine for stomach complaints. The leaves are used to 'smoke' people for ceremony and to cure certain sickness. The leaves are burnt and the smoke is used to smoke the houses/residences of deceased people."

Description: Shrub to 3m, or tree to 7-8m high, with drooping branches and foliage, the mature bark dark-grey. Leaves alternate, dull-green, linear to linear-lanceolate, 3-20cm long, 4-7mm wide. Flowers pinkish to reddish-brown, spotted inside, borne singly or in groups of 2-3 . Fruit a blackish-purple, 5-12mm long. Flowering throughout most of the year.

Habitat: Occurs on most soil types but is most common in sandy loam or clay loam textured red earths or plain, undulating country or hillsides.

Distribution: One of the most widely distributed plants in New South Wales.

Pamara, Kamuru

Common name: River Red Gum
Barkindji name: Pamara, Kamuru
Scientific name: *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*

"The bark can be used for coolamons and canoes. Square pieces of the bark were cut for drying possum skins. Some trees were blazed to show landmarks for making clubs. The seeds were ground for food and the flowers soaked in water and drank. The bark and gum have medicinal uses . Smoke from the leaves is used for keeping mosquitos away and also in traditional smoking ceremonies."

Description: Medium-sized to large tree, 25-40m high. Bark dark, rough and persistent on the lower trunk, smooth elsewhere. Leaves alternate, 12-22cm long, 8-15mm wide, thin, drooping, green or blue-green. Flowers cream coloured, in clusters of 5-10. Fruit hemispherical to top-shaped, 7-8mm wide, with sharply triangular protruding valves.

Habitat: Most extensive on grey heavy clay soils along riverbanks and on floodplains subject to frequent or periodic flooding.

Distribution: Occurs throughout New South Wales, except for coastal areas.

Kurkuru

Common name: Black Box
Barkindji name: Kurkuru
Scientific name: *Eucalyptus largiflorens*

"The bark is useful for making coolamons. The wood of this tree is very hard and used for making implements. The thick bark is used in bundle burials. The wood is good wood for cooking emu, kangaroo and johnny cakes as the heat is high and consistent. Adding leaves to the fire provides good flavour to the meat. The leaves are also used in traditional smoking ceremonies."

Description: Tree to 20m high, with a large spreading crown and drooping branches. Bark hard, dark, rough and somewhat furrowed. Leaves alternate, 6-12cm long, 1.5-2.7cm wide, thick, dull-green or grey. Flowers off-white, in clusters of 3-7. Fruit hemispherical, 5mm diameter. Flowering occurs in spring-summer.

Habitat: Found on heavy clay soils of ephemeral alluvial plains and along dry-lake margins.

Distribution: Occurs throughout western New South Wales.

Kaarima

Common name: Mallee
Barkindji name: Kaarima
Scientific name: *Eucalyptus sp.*

"These are multi-stemmed eucalyptus trees. The big old mallee roots are good to dig up and drain for water."

Description: Eucalypt species, described as 'Mallees', are characterised by a growth habit in which several stems arise from an underground woody stock (a swollen lignotuber), and bear an open umbrella-like crown. The leaves are especially tough and leathery, minimising water loss and resisting wilting. If the aerial parts of the plant are burnt or broken off, new shoots will sprout from the lignotuberous root-stock, usually producing the 'whipstick' type of growth.

Habitat: Mallees are generally inland from the open forests associated with 'slopes' of the Main Divide, but in parts of South Australia, mallee scrub comes right to the coast. Soils vary, but are mostly alkaline, and commonly contain free lime, often as calcium carbonate nodules.

Distribution: Predominately found in southern New South Wales and northern Victoria.

Leafless Ballart (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Leafless Ballart
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Exocarpos aphyllus*

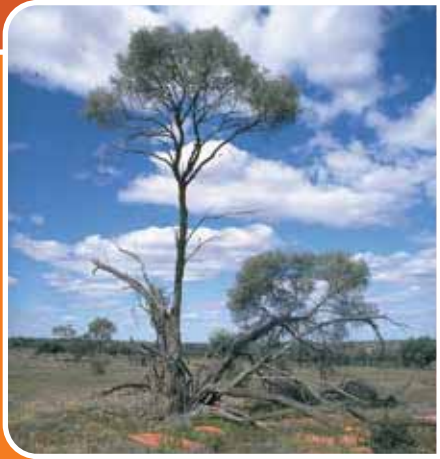
"This tree produces an edible fruit which is small and red with a dark seed on the top."

Description: Much-branched shrub or small bushy tree, to about 4 m tall, often yellowish-green in colour with rigid striate branchlets which appear leafless. Leaves reduced to small scales which are soon shed. Flowers minute, stalkless, in short dense spikes or clusters. Fruit a small globular nut 4-5 mm diameter, seated on a globular stalk 7-8 mm diameter which is at first very succulent, berry like and bright red, later withering to a narrow red cylinder.

Habitat: Numerous woodland communities, mainly on sandy soils but also on well-drained clays.

Distribution: Widespread throughout New South Wales, becoming rare or absent in the extreme north-west of New South Wales.

Parnta



Common name: Silver Needlewood
Barkindji name: Parnta
Scientific name: *Hakea leucoptera*

"The roots of this tree are dug up and drained to obtain water."

Description: Small shrub or tree to around 8 m. Leaves alternate, rigid, cylindrical to about 8 cm long and 1.5 mm wide, with a sharp point at the tip. Flowers white, hairless, tubular at the base, the tube 5-6 mm long. Fruit a woody capsule, 20-30 mm long, opening in two longitudinal halves. Flowering occurs late spring-summer.

Habitat: Grows in a wide range of grasslands, shrublands and woodlands, in sandy to clay soil.

Distribution: Found throughout the western half of New South Wales.

Hooked Needlewood (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Hooked Needlewood
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: ***Hakea tephrosperma***

"The flowers of this tree are sucked or put in water to make a sweet drink."

Description: Superficially similar in general appearance to Needlewood *(H. leucoptera)* but differing from that species in having curved points in the leaves, very small hairy flowers, and a dark coloured wing on the seed. Flowering occurs in spring.

Habitat: As for needlewood. Usually grows in soils of coarse texture, with a wide range of associated species in many woodland communities including mulga, nelia, cypress pine and belah.

Distribution: Throughout New South Wales, becoming less frequent in the north-west.

Kampuka, Pintyinya

Common name: Sweet Quandong
Barkindji name: Kampuka, Pintyinya
Scientific name: *Santalum acuminatum*

"The fruit flesh which covers the large seed is eaten. The flesh can be turned into jams, chutneys, sauces, pies or slices. The kernel (nut) can be used to make jewellery and can be crushed up and eaten. The kernel can also be ground up and used for skin conditions."

Description: Spindly shrub or shapely tree to about 5m tall, with somewhat drooping branchlets, the bark is brown and slightly furrowed. Leaves opposite, shortly stalked, olive green, lanceolata, 5-7cm long, 4-10mm wide, tapering to a curved point. Flowers whitish or cream, about 2mm long. Fruit fleshy, bright red, globular, 2-3 cm. Flowering occurs in spring-summer.

Habitat: Sands, sandy loams, gravelly ridges and occasionally on rocky hillsides, in numerous woodland communities.

Distribution: Widespread throughout New South Wales, becoming infrequent in the north-west.

Project participants discussing Pink Eremophilla

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Small Tree / Shrub Section

Panparla, Paalaka

Common name: Old Man Salt Bush
Barkindji name: Panparla, Paalaka
Scientific name: ***Atriplex nummularia***

"Although this plant is not eaten by people it is highly valued as a stock feed during dry periods. It is grown in some places for this purpose. The leaves can be wrapped around or rubbed on meat and cooked to add seasoning and flavour."

Description: Large grey-scaly shrub, with brittle woody branches, up to 2m high and 4-5m wide. Leaves almost circular, 10-25mm long. Flowers in loosely branched clusters at the end of branches. Fruiting body round or fan-shaped, 5-8mm long. Flowering occurs mainly during spring-early summer. Male and female flowers occur on separate plants.

Habitat: Found mostly on clay soils, usually in flat or low-lying situations, but found on most soil types at all levels. Also found in Mallee and most other communities.

Distribution: Occurs throughout the western plains of New South Wales.

Ruby Saltbush (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Ruby Saltbush
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Enchylaena tomentosa*

"The fruit is eaten when it is ripe (yellow or red). The fruit is a good source of vitamin C."

Description: Perennial shrub to about 1m high with stems covered with woolly hairs. Leaves cylindrical, 6-15mm long, covered with short hairs. Small flowers occur singly in leaf axils. Fruit succulent, 4-6mm wide, green, yellow or red, drying to black. Flowering occurs throughout most of the year, but mainly in spring to early summer.

Habitat: Occurs on a wide variety of soil types in all vegetation communities.

Purnta

Common name: Turpentine Bush
Barkindji name: Purnta
Scientific name: *Eremophila stuartii*

"The branches and leaves of this tree were broken off and used as brooms. The leaves are broken off and placed over burials for repatriation to country. This works because the fine foliage helps the accumulation of sand over the burial."

Description: Sticky hairless shrub, 1-4m high, with slender branches and dark grey finely-fissured bark. Leaves alternate, bright-green, strongly aromatic, linear or rarely linear-lanceolate, 1-4cm long, 1-3.5mm wide. Flowers lilac or pale-mauve, borne singly on sticky and sometime curved stalks 6-13mm long in the leaf axils, each flower 1-15mm long, downy outside, bell shaped with 5 oblong petals. Fruit is a slightly pointed ovoid drupe, 4mm long. Flowering occurs mainly in spring, but flowers may be present throughout the year.

Habitat: Sandy and loamy red earths in mallee, mulga and bimble box communities; solonized brown soils in belah-rosewood woodlands, associated with numerous other shrub species.

Distribution: Occurs over much of New South Wales, with the exception of the south-eastern section; it is not found on alluvial soils of any of the major floodplains.

Nightshades and Potatobushes (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Nightshades and Potatobushes
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Solanum sp.*

"The seeds were dried and ground into a spice for cooking. The fruit is used in making chutney. The fruit when dried has a similar taste to tomato."

Description: Often bushy forb to 25cm high, grey or silvery-green, prickles usually on branches. Leaves stalked, oblong, 1-5cm long, 0.3-1cm wide, often folded, densely downy. Flowers purple, 20-30mm wide, 4-lobed. Fruit is yellow to yellow-brown and 8-15mm wide. Flowering occurs throughout the year, but mostly from spring to summer.

Habitat: Grows mainly on sandy soils.

Distribution: Occurs mostly in the south-west corner of New South Wales.

Thargomindah Nightshade (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Thargomindah Nightshade
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Solanum sturtianum*

"Fruits can be collected and made into chutney."

Description: Much-branched shrub, to 1m high with a dense pale inconspicuous downy covering, the branches usually with a few stiff prickles. Leaves stalked, 4-7cm long, lanceolata, narrowed at the base, the margins entire. Flowers borne in short-stalked clusters on the branches, purple, very conspicuous, about 25mm diameter, with 5 broad blunt lobes; calyx about 4mm long, with 5 narrow lobes, enlarging in fruit. Fruit a globular berry, 10-15mm diameter, green or yellowish-brown at first, black when ripe; seeds blackish, with a wrinkled margin. Flowering occurs most of the year.

Habitat: Saltbush and mulga communities on desert loams and skeletal soils.

Distribution: Mainly confined to the Broken Hill area but also recorded from near Fords Bridge, New South Wales.

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Forb / Herb Section

Paalam, Paltharu

Common name: Darling Lily
Barkindji name: Paalam, Paltharu
Scientific name: *Crinum flaccidum*

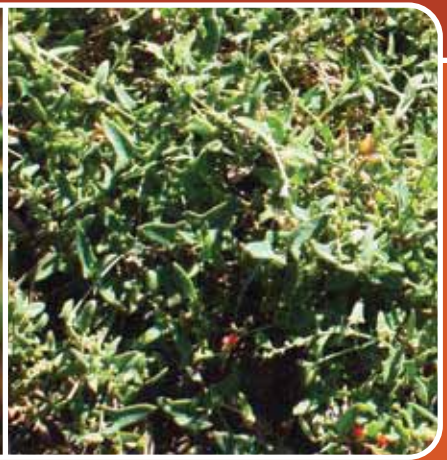
"The leaves of this plant are boiled and eaten."

Description: Large perennial "lily", emerging annually from a pale egg shaped bulb 7-10cm diameter. Leaves all rising from the base of the plant-lax, flat, soft, to 50cm long, 1-4cm wide. Flowers large, white or creamy, strongly scented, with a slender tube 5-10cm long which expands into 6 equal "petals" 5-7.5cm long and 1.5-2.5cm wide (at centre); Flowering occurs in summer-autumn.

Habitat: On a wide range of soil types; most abundant on alluvial soils of flood-outs and floodplains of ephemeral streams; usually in open or sparsely-timbered situations.

Distribution: Widely distributed throughout New South Wales although now infrequent or eliminated from many south-eastern parts; the frequency of occurrence increases to the west and north.

Climbing Saltbush, Wild Tomato (Barkindji Name not Known)



Common name: Climbing Saltbush, Wild Tomato
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: ***Einadia nutans subsp. eremaea***

"The fruit is red when ripe and eaten raw in a variety of foods. It can be dried and eaten with bread and cheese. It tastes and smells like tomato."

Description: Herbaceous perennial, with weak trailing or climbing stems. Leaves green, hairless or almost so, on slender stalks, 3-5mm long, longer than broad, often lobed at the base. Flowers orange berry, globular or egg shaped, 2-3mm diameter. Flowering occurs throughout the year, mostly summer-autumn.

Habitat: On a wide range of soil types and in most vegetation communities.

Distribution: Widespread throughout New South Wales.

Pigweed (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Pigweed
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: ***Glinus oppositifolius, Portulaca oleracea***

"This plant is succulent and grows with its stems running along the ground. As it grows larger the stem becomes reddish. The leaves and stalk are eaten raw when travelling in the bush to wet the mouth."

Description: Succulent prostrate annual forb, with thick and often reddish brownish stems to 30 or 40cm long. Leaves mostly alternate, fleshy, oblong-cuneate to obovata, 1-2cm long. Flowers stalkless, solitary or clustered in the leaf axils, with 4-6 petals about 5mm long and scarcely exceeding the length of the petals. Fruit a membranous capsule, the upper part lifts off to release the tiny black seeds. Flowering occurs in summer.

Habitat: On a very wide range of soil types and in most vegetation communities.

Distribution: Widespread throughout New South Wales.

Ngartu, Thanduka, Thantaka

Common name: Nardoo
Barkindji name: Ngartu, Thanduka, Thantaka
Scientific name: *Marsilea drummondii*

"The nardoo seed cases were ground and then yandied in a dish to separate the soft spores from the seed cases. The spores are soft and were mixed with water to make a dough which was cooked and eaten."

Description: Perennial fern, with hairless or sparsely hairy rhizomes, fronds (leaves) clover like, with 4 narrow to broad obovata-cuneate "leaflets" at the end of a stalk 2-30cm long. In plants growing in water the floating leaflets are broadly rounded, hairless, the 4 leaflets together about 2-5 (up to 7)cm diameter. In terrestrial plants the leaflets are often smaller, sparsely to densely hairy. Reproducing by spores contained in sporocarps (fruiting bodies) 4-9mm long, slightly pointed or rounded at the tip, densely covered with fawn hairs, with 2 teeth near the sporocarp- stalk junction, the sporocarps spilt when ripe to release the spores. Spores released late spring- autumn.

Habitat: Margins of waterholes, clay pans, swamps, rivers, roadside table drains and depressions in most communities.

Distribution: Throughout New South Wales.

Native Mint (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Native Mint
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Mentha australis*

"The leaves of this plant have a mint flavour. It can be used as a salad green or as a breath freshener. Presence of cattle has a negative effect on this plant."

Description: Slender perennial forb, 30-80cm high and to 1cm diameter, yielding a strong mint smell when crushed. The stems are soft and sprawling or erect, square, hairless or covered with rough hairs on the pale prominent angles, especially on the younger parts. Leaves opposite, lanceolata or ovate-lanceolate, 2-5cm long, 4-15mm wide, tapered at the tip, the margins smooth or slightly toothed, the tip pointed, the upper surface minutely hairy or hairless, the lower surface especially on the main veins. Flowers small, white or purplish. Fruit composed of 4 brown 1-seeded ovoid nutlets. Flowering occurs summer- autumn.

Habitat: Damp, periodically flooded areas near watercourses, lakes, waterholes and ground tanks, often growing beneath river red gum, black box, coolibah and river cooba (*Acacia stenophylla*); on sandy or heavy clay soils.

Distribution: A widespread species found in many districts in New South Wales.

Kaanpi

Common name: Pigface
Barkindji name: Kaanpi
Scientific name: *Sarcozona praecox*

"The fruit and green leaves of this herb are eaten raw and the juice is used for salt. The juice of the fruit and leaves is used as a medicine. It is squeezed onto the eyes or rubbed onto the skin."

Description: Succulent forb with stems trailing along the ground. Leaves opposite, 6-10cm long, 5-8mm wide. Flowers usually in threes at the ends of the branches, light purple, rarely white, with 4-28mm long petals. Fruit succulent, egg-shaped, 10-20mm long. Flowering occurs in late winter-spring.

Habitat: Grows on heavy or sandy soils and is often found growing in saline areas. Has been found in communities containing Bladder Saltbush and Black Bluebush.

Distribution: Occurs throughout most of the western half of New South Wales.

Panyuwanpa, Pulapul, Parlampa

Common name: Milk Thistle
Barkindji name: Panyuwanpa, Pulapul, Parlampa
Scientific name: *Reichardia tigitana*

"This plant has been introduced into Barkindji country. It has a yellow flower, grows up to 1.1m and is very common in lawns, pastures and by the roadside. The stem of the soft part of this plant is peeled and the inner flesh eaten."

Description: Erect hairless annual forb, with hollow stems 30cm to over 1m high, exuding a milky sap when broken. Leaves thin and soft, dull green, deeply lobed, the margins irregularly and sharply toothed and ending in soft spines. Flower heads with numerous yellow "petals" borne in clusters on short stalks at the ends of the stems; involucre ovoid at first, becoming conical, 10-12mm long, hairless, of numerous unequal bracts in several rows. Seeds brown, obovata-oblong, about 3mm long, scarcely 1mm wide, flattened, with 3 or rarely 5 longitudinal slightly roughened ribs, wrinkled transversely, not winged, crowned with a tuft of numerous white silky hairs. Flowering occurs mostly in spring.

Habitat: On most soil types and in most plant communities.

Distribution: Throughout New South Wales.

Sturt's Desert Pea (Barkindji Name not Known)

Common name: Sturt's Desert Pea
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Swainsona formosa*

"The flower is picked and the black middle part is sucked for the sweet nectar. This plant flowers in late winter or early spring. It is especially prominent after good winter rain."

Description: Robust silky-hairy annual or perennial forb, with long stout prostrate or ascending stems to 2m long. Leaves alternate, each composed of 9-15 or most ovate to obovata-cuneate leaflets 10-30mm long. Flowers deep-red (or rarely paler to almost white) with a swollen black or dark purple centre, large, pea-like, drooping, about 10cm long when opening fully. Fruit a swollen pod, 5-6cm long, 4-5mm broad, leathery, downy, containing many small seeds. Flowering occurs late winter-spring, less commonly autumn.

Habitat: Mainly sand plains with the calcareous soils in mulga and belah-rosewood communities; also found on brown gibber soils, and on sandy souls in bimble box communities in its most easterly occurrences.

Distribution: Mainly in the far west of New South Wales, in the Broken Hill, Menindee, Wilcannia and Tibooburra areas, but also occurs in sections between Wanaaring, and Lake Cargelligo area, where it may now be extinct due to heavy grazing and cultivation for crops.

Parlumpa, Panpurla

Common name: Wild Spinach
Barkindji name:
Parlumpa, Panpurla
Scientific name: *Tetragonia moorei*

"The leaves are eaten raw as a salad green. The leaves can also be boiled to make tea."

Description: Robust annual or biennial forb, more or less covered with small glistening watery blisters, the stems thick and rather succulent when young but becoming woody later. Leaves alternate, thick and fleshy, triangular-ovate or lanceolata, 2-8cm long, tapering into a slender stalk. Flowers small, greenish, more or less stalkless, borne singly or in pairs in the leaf axils. Fruit at first green and succulent but becoming pale-brown and hard, 5-15mm long and broad, thick and angular at base, with 3-4 horns at the tip. Flowering occurs in spring-summer.

Habitat: On a wide range of soil types from sands to heavy clays; found in most vegetation types; very prevalent on loam soils in bladder saltbush and black bluebush communities.

Distribution: Widely distributed throughout New South Wales; abundant in the south-west, becoming less frequent or absent on the Cobar pediplain and in the extreme south-east.

Phunta, Kalampa, Kura-Kura

Common name: Cooper's Clover
Barkindji name: Phunta, Kalampa, Kura-Kura
Scientific name: *Trigonella suavissima*

"The green leaves of this plant are eaten as a vegetable and as a medicine against indigestion."

Description: Slightly hairy fragrant annual forb, with prostrate or ascending to erect stems to 80cm long. Leaves alternate, consisting of three obovata leaflets borne at the end of a leafstalk 3-5cm long, the leaflets shortly stalked, 6-10cm long, entire or with toothed margins; stipules small, with a few coarse teeth. Flowers pale yellow, pea like, about 5-6mm long, in almost stalkless clusters of 4-8 in the lead axils, the calyx about 4mm long. Fruit a linear pod, 8-18mm long, 2mm broad, downy, curved upwards, 3-4 times longer that the calyx, net-veined, variably constricted between the 3-5 smooth seeds. Flowering occurs in winter-spring.

Habitat: River banks, lagoons and floodplains on heavy clay soils in black box, coolibah and river red gum communities; also ephemeral drainage lines in the far west, often on sandy to clay loam red earths and duplex soils.

Distribution: Mainly in the north and north-west of New South Wales, extending to the south-west along the major river floodplains.

Barkindji Ecological Cultural Knowledge

Climber Section

Tangled Burr-daisy (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Tangled Burr-daisy
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Calotis erinacea*

"The outer layer of the stem is stripped and dried and is used as string for making rope and baskets."

Description: Hairless perennial forb, much branched and rather tangled, to 1m or more in height and diameter. Leaves alternate, the lower ones linear to linear-cuneate, to 6cm long and 7mm wide, usually broadly toothed from the base; upper leaves pointed, mostly entire. Flowerheads yellow, about 1.5cm diameter, borne at the ends of leafless stalks; "petals" 24-50, 5-6mm long, narrow; involucre of 10-22 lanceolate to broad elliptical hairless bracts 2.5-4.5mm long. Seeds light- to dark brown, flattened, about 3mm long, with 2-4 spreading spines so that the total number may be 2-9. Flowering occurs mostly in spring.

Habitat: Dune crests and sand hummocks with deep red sands; sand hills and other sites with well drained sandy soils; in mulga, mallee, white cypress pine and other communities.

Distribution: Mainly in the western half of New South Wales, with only scattered occurrences in the eastern half.

Mallee Strangle-vine, Dodder-laurel (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Mallee Strangle-vine, Dodder-laurel
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Cassytha melantha*

"The fruit of this vine is eaten raw."

Description: Stout-stemmed twining parasite, attached to trees or shrubs by roots or suckers arising from stems. Leaves reduced to minute scales. Flowers small, inconspicuous, greenish-brown outside, cream inside, somewhat widely spaced, in short clusters borne on downy stalks 15-20mm long, individual flowers appearing as an ovoid body about 4mm long covered with short blackish hairs opening in 3 parts, the parts not opening widely. Fruit green, globular, fleshy, hairless, 7-10mm diameter, turning brown with maturity. Flowering occurs in summer.

Habitat: Most frequent in the mallee communities but also found in other woodlands such as belah-rosewood communities.

Distribution: Mostly confined to the major areas of mallee in the central-east and south-west, with a very disjunct occurrence in the extreme north near Barringun.

Kakar

Common name: Bush Banana
Barkindji name: Kakar
Scientific name: *Marsdenia australis*

"The fruit of this vine is eaten. When the fruits become soft they can be peeled and the seeds and the inner flesh of the fruit can be eaten. The fruit is cooked in ashes and resembles a cob of corn."

Description: Slender or woody creeper, growing on trees, logs and fences, often 2m or more in height. The branches, stems and flower-stalks exude a white milky sap when broken. Leaves opposite, 4-10cm long, rather thick, hairy when young. Flowers creamy, sometimes greenish, 8mm long, bell-shaped. Fruit a thick-walled broad-tapering pod, 4-10cm long, drooping, green-coloured and finely hairy. Flowering occurs in late spring-summer.

Habitat: Variable, most common on sandy soils in Mallee, Belah-Rosewood or Mulga communities.

Distribution: Widespread throughout the western half of New South Wales.

Thapi, Nhilyi, Maathi

Common name: Harlequin Mistletoe
Barkindji name: Thapi, Nhilyi, Maathi
Scientific name: ***Lysiana exocarpi subsp. exocarpi***

"The fruit is eaten by adults and children."

Description: Stem parasite, with hairless, drooping branches. Leaves opposite or sometimes clustered, flat, hairless lanceolata, 3-15 cm long, 3-10 mm wide, not thick, often curved, narrowing towards the base, the veins indistinct. Flowers borne in the leaf axils, in pairs or threes on a very short common stalk about 0.5-1.5 mm long, each flower on a further slender stalk 2-5 mm long; the bud tubular, curved, 25-50 mm long, swollen in the middle and comprised of 6 segments which are united for about ¾ of their length, the segments yellow or red when open, becoming greenish in the upper free parts. Fruit and ellipsoidal to ovoid blunt-ended berry 6-10 mm long, green at first but ripening to red or black. Flowering occurs in summer-late winter.

Habitat: Parasitic on a wide range of host species.

Distribution: Recorded only for the southern part of New South Wales.

Menindee Lake

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Reed / Grass Section

Lemon Grass, Scent Grass (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Lemon Grass, Scent Grass
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Cymbopogon ambiguus*

"The leaves are boiled in water to provide a lemon flavour to the water which is then drank. The leaves are also used as a herb to flavour fish."

Description: Perennial grass, usually tussocky, 30-100cm high. Leaves bluish-green when young, becoming reddish, 22-45cm long, narrow, folded, tapered to a fine point, curled and twisted with age. Flowerhead sparse to rather dense, 8-35cm long, 2-3cm wide densely or sparsely silky-hairy, consisting of a number of erector slightly spreading "spikes" 12-25mm long borne in pairs at the ends of short branches, each pairs subtendered and sheathed by a leaf like bract 2-2.5cm long. Flowering occurs throughout the year.

Habitat: Mainly on sandy alluvial soils in channels and along terraces of creeks draining hilly country.

Distribution: Most frequent in the western part of New South Wales, in the Broken Hill district and northward along the Barrier Range and associated ranges.

Sedge (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Sedge
Barkindji name: Not Known
Scientific name: *Cyperus sp.*

"This plant is used for making string. This string is then used to make baskets and other tools. "

Description: Grass or rush-like plant, often occupying damp places; stems hollow or solid, and often 3-angled; flowers are located in spikes or spikelets, the fruit is a dry nut.

Habitat: Edges of water courses and wetlands.

Distribution: The Murray-Darling system.

Pulyu-Pulyu

Common name: Common Reed
Barkindji name: Pulyu-Pulyu
Scientific name: ***Phragmites australis***

"The stems of this grass are used for making spears, necklaces, snorkels for duck hunting and nets. Resin from the roots is collected, melted down and used on the mouth pieces of didgeridoos to allow the player to make a tight seal. "

Description: Robust perennial grass, 1.5-3m high, spreading by rhizomes. Stems cane-like, rigid, smooth, hairless. Leaves mostly on the stems, flat, 20-60cm long, 10-30mm wide, tough, smooth, hairless. Flowerhead dense, soft, brown to purplish, silvery white at maturity, 15-40cm long, with numerous short branches. Flowering occurs summer-early winter.

Habitat: Grows in wet places especially at the edge of ponds and streams. Usually occurs on heavy clay soils.

Distribution: Occurs mostly in the southern half of western New South Wales.

Pula

Common name: Porcupine Grass
Barkindji name: Pula
Scientific name: *Triodia scariosa*

"The leaves of this grass are rubbed onto a hunter's body to mask their smell so that kangaroos won't smell the hunter. This works because kangaroos lie in this grass so they are used to the smell."

Description: Dense perennial tussock grass, to 60cm high and up to 90-120cm wide, with rigid flower-stems to 90cm high. Very old plants form rings up to 3m in diameter with a dead centre. Leaves are 7-22cm long, rigid and needle-like, finely and firmly sharp-pointed, greyish or bluish-green. Flower heads 10-20cm long, 10-25mm wide, straw-coloured when mature. Flowering occurs in spring-early summer.

Habitat: Most commonly found on sandplains and dunes on sandy red earth soils in mallee communities.

Distribution: Found throughout most of New South Wales, but less commonly in the north-west and south-east.

Cumbungi (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Cumbungi
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Typha domingensis*

"The inside of the stem was used to make string. The fibrous parts were obtained, twisted into a knot and chewed. The remnant fibre after chewing was used to make string which was then used to make tools such as nets, bags and brow bands. It was also used in making other tools such as binding weapons. The roots of this plant are cooked and eaten."

Description: Robust semi-aquatic perennial reed, to 2m tall or more, with rhizomes to about 20mm wide and stems to 20mm wide. Leaves occur in 2 rows along each stem; the blade flat, tough, 10-25mm wide and 1-2m long. Flowers massed in 2 dense spikes, one above the other, at the end of each stem. Flowers spikes cylindrical, velvety, brownish, 10-25cm long, 1-2cm wide. When mature, the spike releases copious amounts of tiny fluffy seeds. Flowering occurs in summer.

Habitat: Grows in swamps, margins of lakes and streams, irrigation channels and drains; inhabits fresh or slightly brackish water to 1.5m deep.

Distribution: Widely distributed throughout New South Wales, becoming less frequent in the drier north-west.

Ecological Cultural Knowledge - Barkindji

Tuber Section

Mirica

Common name: Native Licorice
Barkindji name: Mirica
Scientific name: *Glycyrrhiza acanthocarpa*

"The root of this plant can be eaten."

Description: Erect rather sticky almost hairless subshrub, from 60cm to more than 1m high, with a strong root system. Leaves alternate, strongly aromatic when crushed, each composed of 4-6 pairs of oblong-lanceolate to ovate leaflets. Flowers lilac, pea-like, about 7mm long, concentrated in the upper part of the stalk. Fruit a rusty coloured pod, 5-6mm long, ovoid, covered with hard straight or curved prickles and usually containing one kidney-shaped olive-green seed which is mottled with black. Flowering occurs in spring-summer.

Habitat: Various, including deep white sands of lake shores, and red earths in bimble box communities but most commonly on heavy grey and brown clays in yellow box, black box and river red gum communities which are subject to occasional inundation.

Distribution: Most frequent in the south-east of New South Wales, but extending to the far north-west; not recorded in the north-eastern parts.

Native Yam, Yam Daisy, Murnong (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Native Yam, Yam Daisy, Murnong
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: *Microseris lanceolata*

"The tubers of this plant are dug up and cooked."

Description: Hairless perennial forb, to 40cm high, rising annually from fleshy tapering root. Leaves all at the base of the plant, linear-lanceolate or oblanceolate, shiny dark olive-green. Flowerheads large, with numerous and leafless stalk, the head dropping before opening; "petals" longer than the involucre cylindrical, green, 20-25mm long, the inner bracts lanceolata, unequal, in 2 rows, with 2-3 rows of smaller outer bracts. Flowering occurs in spring.

Habitat: Variable; occurs on shallow sandy soils of stony hills, in currawang, white cypress pine, tumbledown gum and dwyer's mallee gum communities; also on sandy clay loam soils in mallee communities and on grey heavy clay soils in grassland and bladder saltbush communities.

Distribution: Usually found in the south-eastern part of New South Wales.

Poached Eggs (Barkindji name not known)

Common name: Poached Eggs
Barkindji name: Not known
Scientific name: ***Polycalymma stuartii***

"This plant has an edible tuber which is dug up, cooked and eaten. The plant is only visible during late winter/early spring, drying out and withering in late spring. The best time to collect and eat the tubers is during mid spring before the plant dries out."

Description: Stout erect tufted annual forb, 10-50cm high, woolly or hairy and sticky, the stems simple or branching at the base. Leaves linear or linear-lanceolate, 2-7cm long, woolly, light green. Flower heads white with large yellow centre, hemispherical, 2-4cm diameter, borne on long stalks; involucre of numerous white bracts in many rows forming "petals" 5-7mm long. Seeds densely silky hairy. Flowering occurs in spring.

Habitat: Sandplains and dunefields, usually on deep sands and sandy red earths; more prevalent on areas of stable soil, somewhat less abundant on unstable dune crests.

Distribution: Common throughout the western half of New South Wales, west of a line from Bourke to Balranald, with scattered occurrences in the eastern part of New South Wales.

Project participants on the field trip:
(Back row L to R) Patricia Doyle, Stephanie Bates, Dawn Riley, Robyn King, Darlene Newman, Patsy Quayle, Richard Bennett, Claude Briar;
(Front row L to R) Marindah Doyle, Caitlyn-Amber Coff, Harold Bates, Evelyn Bates

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19 Pamara
13 Panpa
27 Panparla
41 Panpurla
39 Panyuwanpa
39 Parlampa
41 Parlumpa
23 Parnta
17 Partiku
18 Partiku
42 Phunta
14 Pinpa
25 Pintyinya
52 Pula
39 Pulapul
51 Pulyu-Pulyu
29 Purnta
36 Thanduka
36 Thantaka
47 Thapi
13 Thulpuru
13 Thurpa

Common names

16 Belah
20 Black Box
13 Bullock Bush
46 Bush Banana
13 Cabbage Bush
34 Climbing Saltbush
51 Common Reed
42 Cooper's Clover
17 Creek Wilga
53 Cumbungi
14 Cypress Pine
33 Darling Lily
45 Dodder-laurel
18 Emubush
47 Harlequin Mistletoe
24 Hooked Needlewood
22 Leafless Ballart
49 Lemon Grass
21 Mallee
14 Mallee Cypress Pine
45 Mallee Strangle-Vine
39 Milk Thistle
8 Mulga
56 Murnong
14 Murray Pine
36 Nardoo Native Licorice
37 Native Mint
55 Native Licorice
56 Native Yam
30 Nightshades
27 Old Man Salt Bush
38 Pigface
35 Pigweed
57 Poached Eggs
52 Porcupine Grass
30 Potatobushes
12 Prickly Wattle
10 Purple-Wood Wattle
11 River Coobah
19 River Red Gum
28 Ruby Saltbush
49 Scent Grass
50 Sedge
23 Silver Needlewood
40 Sturt's Desert Pea
25 Sweet Quandong
44 Tangled Burr-Daisy
31 Thargomindah Nightshade
29 Turpentine Bush
9 Wattles
13 Western Rosewood
14 White Cypress Pine
15 Wild Orange
41 Wild Spinach
34 Wild Tomato
56 Yam Daisy

Scientific names

8 *Acacia aneura*
10 *Acacia carneorum*
10 *Acacia carnei*
9 *Acacia sp.*
11 *Acacia stenophylla*
12 *Acacia victoriae subsp. victoriae*
13 *Alectryon oleifolius subsp. canescens ol-oleifolius subsp. canescens*
27 *Atriplex nummularia*
14 *Callitris gracilis subsp. murrayensis*
14 *Callitris verrucosa*
14 *Callitris glaucophylla*
44 *Calotis erinacea*
15 *Capparis mitchellii*
45 *Cassytha melantha*
16 *Casuarina pauper*
33 *Crinum flaccidum*
49 *Cymbopogon ambiguus*
50 *Cyperus sp.*
34 *Einadia nutans subsp. eremaea*
28 *Enchylaena tomentosa*
18 *Eremophila longifolia*
17 *Eremophila bignoniiflora*
29 *Eremophila sturtii*
19 *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*
20 *Eucalyptus largiflorens*
21 *Eucalyptus sp.*
22 *Exocarpos aphyllus*
35 *Glinus oppositifolius*
55 *Glycyrrhiza acanthocarpa*
23 *Hakea leucoptera*
24 *Hakea tephrosperma*
47 *Lysiana exocarpi subsp. exocarpi*
46 *Marsdenia australis*
36 *Marsilea drummondii*
37 *Mentha australis*
56 *Microseris lanceolata*
51 *Phragmites australis*
35 *Portulaca oleracea*
57 *Polycalymma stuartii*
39 *Reichardia tigitana*
25 *Santalum acuminatum*
38 *Sarcozona praecox*
30 *Solanum sp.*
31 *Solanum sturtianum*
40 *Swainsona formosa*
41 *Tetragonia moorei*
42 *Trigonella suavissima*
52 *Triodia scariosa*
53 *Typha domingensis*

Participants of this project also recorded oral histories,
stories and knowledge that were captured during the field trip.
Please go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ehxA8ck1ba4
to watch the footage.

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Cultural Sensitivity Warning: this booklet may contain images of deceased people.

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