

Environmental Weed Alternatives

These alternatives are based on similar hardiness, distinguishing features and height.

Small birds such as Fairy Wrens, Fire Tails and Spinebills find refuge in prickly shrubs such as Firethorns and Cotoneaster. Replacing these shrubs with other spiky leaved plants (eg *Acacia genistifolia*, *A. siculiformis*, *Bursaria spinosa*) will keep the small birds protected from predators.

Weed Species	Distinguishing features	Alternatives
<i>Acacia baileyana</i> - Cootamundra Wattle	Grey foliage Very hardy Food for local birds	<i>Acacia covenyi</i> – Blue bush <i>Acacia dealbata</i> – Silver wattle <i>Acacia iteaphylla</i> – Flinders Range Wattle
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> – Scotch Broom	Hardy	<i>Davesia mimosoides</i> – Blunt-Leaf Bitter-Pea <i>Acacia vestita</i> – Hairy Wattle
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> – Glossy Tree Privet	Glossy green foliage	<i>Callistemon</i> ‘Endeavour’ <i>Fraxinus griffithii</i> – Evergreen Ash
<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i> - Cotoneasters	Red Fruits Food for birds	<i>Grevillea iaspicula</i> – Wee Jasper Spider Flower <i>Grevillea</i> ‘Deua Flame’
<i>Pinus radiata</i> – Radiata pine	Windbreak	Depending on purpose: <i>Eucalyptus macarthurii</i> <i>Eucalyptus aggregata</i>
<i>Salix sp</i> - Willows	Tolerant of waterlogging	<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i> – River She oak <i>Eucalyptus viminalis</i> – Ribbon Gum
<i>Populus alba</i> - White poplar	Tall and bushy	<i>Platanus sp</i> – Plane Trees <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> ‘Red Spire’
<i>Populus nigra</i> “Italica”	Tall and bushy	<i>Betula pendula</i> – Silver Birch
<i>Pyracantha sp.</i> – Firethorns	Food and refuge for small birds	<i>Acacia genistifolia</i> – Prickly Moses <i>Bursaria lasiophylla</i> <i>Callistemon</i> “Western Glory”
<i>Crataegus Sp.</i> - Hawthorn	Refuge for birds	<i>Prunus moseri</i> <i>Prunus blireana</i>
<i>Hedera helix</i> – English ivy	Climber and/or groundcover for sun or shade	<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> – False Sarsparilla <i>Ficus pumilla</i> – Climbing Fig
<i>Vinca major</i> – Blue periwinkle		<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i> – False Sarsparilla <i>Solanum jasminoides</i> – Potato Vine <i>Myoporoum parvifolium</i> – Creeping Boobialla
<i>Lonicera japonica</i> – Japanese honeysuckle		

Other interesting information!

Recent studies suggest that Platypus will not inhabit creeks or rivers of high willow occurrence. Insects on which platypus rely cannot sustain populations in impenetrable willow roots.

