



Plants: Cultural and Practical Uses



KULIMPA
(Tea Tree / *Melaleuca glomerata*)

Cultural: indicator that *bawa* (water) was nearby

Practical: Bush broom, to make a *yatha* (bough shelter), wind break, used to cool water down, boiled for a bath



PAJILA
(Caper bush / *Capparis spinosa*)

Cultural: food for both Robe River Kuruma people and bush turkey

Practical: a very popular sweet fruit similar to *Guava*



KALUMPU
(Bush Tomato / *Solanum diversiflorum*)

Cultural: indicator of passage of fire and coming of rain

Practical: similar to the tomato, ripe fruit is yellow and seeds are discarded (poisonous)



MUSK BASIL
(*Basilicum polystachyon*)

Cultural: indicator of *bawa* (water) nearby

Practical: placed inside kangaroo and fish meat for flavour



MARNTHATUNU
(Slender Dodder / *Cassytha capillaris*)

Practical: used as *jami* (medicine) for conjunctivitis



PUNAANGU
(Bloodwood / *Corymbia hamersleyana*)

Cultural: used as medicine for many ailments and potent tonic

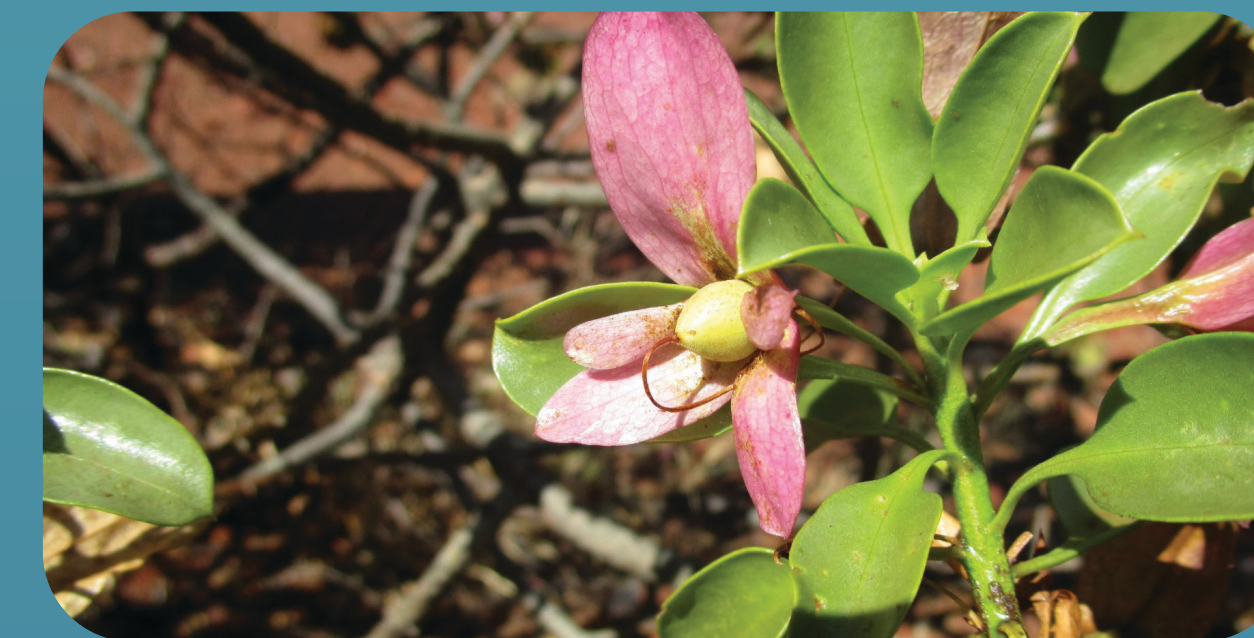
Practical: the sap crystallizes when dried and is deep red. It can be diluted with water or boiled as a powerful medicine to treat chest ailments, gout and many other illnesses



PARTIRRI
(Camel Bush / *Acacia inaequilatera*)

Cultural: Medicine tree and edible seeds (*mama*)

Practical: Boil the sap until red. Once cool, treat boils, measles, chicken pox



JILANPA
(Turpentine bush / *Eremophila fraseri*)

Cultural: very popular medicinal plant / insect repellent

Practical: a *jami* (bush medicine) that treats colds, gout, headaches, nasal congestion



PUKARTI
(Marruwa / snakewood / *Acacia xiphophylla*)

Cultural: very popular, indicative of clay soils, highest firewood quality

Practical: slow burning coals for meat, damper cooking, *pilu* (bardi grub), found in roots and edible