

AUTUMN 2011



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NEWSLETTER



Hopefully now the floods, cyclones and bushfires are behind us and Australia can look forward to a happier and safer year. Our thoughts go out to all those who have been affected including our fellow Anzacs across the ditch in Christchurch.

Autumn is a great time to get back into the garden as traditionally lower temperatures and rainfall make it a more enjoyable experience. Plants usually establish with greater success as well. For greater assurance that your plants take off quicker, throw a little slow release fertiliser in the bottom of the hole when planting and water in with a liquid fertiliser such as Fish and Kelp. This will strengthen the plant, making it more resistant to drought, insects and fungal diseases.

You'd better hurry if you don't want to miss out on the few giant Grass Trees we have left. The *Xanthorrhoea glauca* variety is unique to the Australian landscape and thrives in well drained soils or pots. The trunk sizes range from 900mm to 1600mm with a diameter of 300mm. As they grow 30cm in 25 years you can imagine how old they are! They all come with Queensland Parks and Wildlife tags.



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For a unique fruit tree that requires very little maintenance it's hard to go past the Australian Desert Lime. We're excited to have received a large supply of these hardy, grafted, outback limes. The tree bears clusters of small, round, grape-like fruits which are beautiful in drinks, cooking or jams. No need to skin the fruit, just use it whole. Because these plants are grafted you'll only have to wait 4 or 5 years to get some decent cropping. They're \$39.99 in a 200mm pot.



An Aussie Lime

One of my favourite hedging plants would have to be Acmena Allyn Magic. This compact plant makes an excellent small hedge to about 50cm and produces flushes of colourful new growth throughout the year. It can be grown in pots or the ground and won't attract the pesky psyllid insect. Drought and frost tolerant this plant will suit a wide variety of landscaping uses.



A great small hedge

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An excellent new grevillea has come onto the market which will grow half a metre tall and 1.5 metres wide. Grevillea Loopy Lou will flower most of the year with a bright display of yellow and pinky/red. It's quite hardy in a well drained soil and a dose of native fertiliser twice a year will promote even more flowering. An occasional prune can thicken up this plant although it may not need it. Frost and drought tolerant.



The name wasn't our idea, honest.

Inside the nursery, between the main shop and the aquarium, we have a fully grown Phaleria clerodendron (Scented Daphne). This spectacular tree bears clusters of white, sweetly scented flowers on the trunk and branches. The flowering period is only a few weeks, however the tree flushes around ten times a year! This tree is quite fast growing and is very hardy once established, although it can tolerate damp soils. After the flowers drop to form a carpet of white on the ground the tree develops glossy fruits which can attract some birds. This specimen tree is one of the most ornamental, native rainforest trees you will ever see so if you can't find it just ask one of our staff to show you. We sell the plants in a variety of sizes.



Picture this in your yard

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Tibouchinas have been popular in Brisbane gardens for years due to their hardiness and abundant purple flowering for much of the year. However these days there is a fantastic range of dwarf Tibouchinas, such as Groovy Baby which only reaches a height of about 60cm and Little Beauty, Jazzie and Jules which grow to about one metre. These fast growing and dense shrubs will reward you with vivid purple flowers for very little effort. Simply prune once a year and fertilise every six months. We also stock the taller varieties such as Alstonville, Noelene and Kathleen which can reach around 5 or 6 metres and make a beautiful specimen tree.



Pretty in purple

Frangipani trees are a part of the Brisbane gardening experience and the beautiful and fragrant flowers have made it a favourite for many. They are prone however, to the dreaded rust. The problem with most fungicides is they need to be sprayed onto the leaves to be effective. With the new Rust-Rid the mixture can be applied as a root drench in a watering can. One application each month from November to March will help prevent the rust forming. It can also be used in a foliar application on smaller trees. The 200mL concentrate is \$32.99 and will make almost 200 litres of mixture.



Keep yours healthy

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Our resin, kit water features have always been popular. They are easy to install and look after and add a soothing effect to the home or garden. We've just started to receive the new range and there are some beautiful new designs. Lightweight and durable, these features will be a focal and talking point. Just ask one of our staff to show you.



Simply add water

A new range of stylish plastic pots has arrived! These lightweight pots have a ceramic-like appearance and come in three colours, red, white and black and two shapes, round and square. The self-watering design makes plant care a breeze, simply fill the reservoir at the base of the pot when required and the capillary action will draw water upwards as the plant needs it. This will prevent over watering and also drying out. Save time, save water and save plants.



Stylish and practical

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We're currently having a pot sale. 30% has been taken off selected pots in the Terra Firma range. These coloured, clay pots are produced in a variety of natural shades and a wide assortment of shapes and sizes. They are all hand fired in gas kilns to produce a strong and durable product. Come and take a look in our pot area.



The right pot at the right price

Happy gardening all!Eliot Holzworth