

AUTUMN 2012



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NEWSLETTER



Many are looking forward to the cooler days ahead especially after the spate of hot days we've been having. Once again gardening will become less of a chore and more of an enjoyable pastime. It's time to start improving the soil of the vege patch ready for the winter edibles by adding composts, manures, fertilisers and mulch. The more you put into your plot the better and tastier your produce will be. If you're not sure how to go about it just ask one of the Blue Shirts (staff).

Lomandra "Lime Tuff" is a relatively new addition to the Lomandra family and is proving to be one of the best yet. It is a small growing, compact grass .5m high by .5m wide with bright lime-green foliage and yellow flowers in summer. It grows in full sun or part shade and can tolerate dry or wet soils once established. Great for borders, rockeries or mass plantings that have height restrictions. If you're into low maintenance gardening this is a must as it virtually looks after itself. Just the occasional slow release fertiliser will keep it looking good throughout the year.



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Cooler weather also means spectacular Grevillea blooms. Most grevilleas will do their best work winter to spring so now is the time to plant a few out. Two of the better taller varieties would have to be Honey Barbara and Coastal Lemon Glimse. Both will reach a height of around 3 to 4 metres with a 2 metre spread but can be pruned back if desired. Honey Barbara will flower for most of the year and bears beautiful honey-orange flowers that the birds absolutely love. Coastal Lemon Glimse has a lovely contrast between the light lemon-cream flowers and the grey foliage. Both these grevilleas are specimen trees/shrubs so make sure to plant them in plain view to enjoy them fully and to make the neighbours jealous. Of course with any Grevillea use a native fertiliser and plant into a well drained soil. The more sun the better.



Want another hardy native? Well there's the new Westringia "Grey Box". This low shrub will reach an average height of 40cm with a similar width. It can be pruned to form a low hedge or left unpruned will naturally develop a rounded, ball shape. The small white flowers show up well against the dense, grey foliage. This frost and drought tolerant shrub is a fantastic plant for hedges, mass planting or containers. All it requires is a free draining soil and a fair bit of sun.



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We have Finger Limes! It's been almost a year but we've finally managed to track down some grafted "Rainforest Pearls". This variety of native lime is unique to our sub-tropical rainforests and has delicious and refreshing fruit great in drinks and cooking. The tree itself will get to around 4-6 metres high if left unpruned and is bird and butterfly attracting. Plant into a rich, well drained soil and keep the fertiliser up to it to get the best possible fruit yield. Being a grafted plant it should start bearing in about 2 or 3 years. Try planting a Lemon Scented Myrtle next to it to create a real bush tucker theme in your yard. Your taste buds will never be the same again.



Asplenium australasicum or Bird's Nest Fern is something many people are familiar with but not everyone know just how many situations it can be used in. This native fern grows from New South Wales up to Cape York and is tolerant of a wide variety of climates. It is an excellent choice for an understory plant in a well lit but shaded position or filtered sunlight. Grow it attached to a tree, on a rock, in a well drained soil or in a pot. It also makes a fantastic, hardy indoor plant. Although drought tolerant an occasional watering and fertilise will ensure the leaves stay glossy and green throughout the year. To create a bold, dramatic feature in your garden or home pick up one of these Aussie beauties today.



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Water poppies are a great addition to any pond. These plants grow similar to water lilies with their roots submerged while producing floating or emergent leaves throughout the year, even in winter when the water lilies will die back. Lovely yellow-cream flowers will protrude from the round, glossy green leaves. The poppies are great for shallow ponds where lilies won't grow and will cool and shade the water thus reducing any algae problems you might have. Fish will also love the added protection. As long as your pond receives half a day of sunlight these spectacular water plants will thrive for you with no attention needed.



Cuphea Jocelyn's Pink is a dwarf form of the ever popular Cuphea with dense foliage and dainty pink flowers year round. It is ideal for small gardens, hedges, borders or containers as it only reaches 30cm high by 30cm wide. Mass plantings look spectacular with an overwhelming display of colour in your garden. Suited to full sun to part shade in well drained soils. As it flowers so often regular applications of fertiliser should be used. This versatile shrub will reward you with reliable performance with minimal maintenance and bring a fascinating character to your garden.



Sure we carry a lot of Searles products, but for a good reason. They work! The Flourish range are blended, soluble, complete plant feeds that contain micronutrients such as copper, zinc, iron and manganese to cover most mineral deficiencies. It's easy to apply, simply mix the powder with water in a watering can and pour over the leaves and roots of your plants for fast acting results. The range is quite extensive including Native, Tomato and Vegetable, Green and Growth, and Orchid Booster to name a few. There is also a slow release organic range which when used in conjunction with the liquid feeds will keep any plant you have looking it's best.



One product that everyone should have in the shed if they grow fruit or vegetables is Potash. This high potassium based feed is primarily used to promote bigger and healthier flowers and fruit. It will also stimulate disease and frost resistance. It comes in a liquid form for quick acting results or the slow release granules.

Trace Element Mix can also be used to treat and prevent common deficiencies such as poor growth, deformed and yellow leaves and deformed fruit. Simply mix up the powder and pour over the leaves and roots. Your plants will love you for it!



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We've set up a discount table for giftware which you'll find on the left as you walk out of the main shop into the nursery. The items are in great condition and undamaged so why are we reducing them by 50% I hear you ask? We try and rotate our lines as often as we can to keep the gift section looking fresh so we need to clear out the older stock. Have a browse and pick up a bargain today.

Just a quick reminder if you didn't already know, we have a Landscape Architect that comes in most weekends. Michael Wayman is an experienced architect who can assist you with unique landscape and residential design. Sit down and have a chat to him to see how he can help you.

Happy gardening all!Eliot Holzworth