

PLANTS AND FIRES

When planning a garden or landscaping in fire prone areas, it is probably important to consider fire danger in terms of those plants that may increase the risk associated with fire.

Gum trees and many paperbarks and little tea trees have very high oil contents and for this reason create an added risk in fire prone areas.

Others such as frangipani are not a problem but they are deciduous so you had better clean up after them or you may have an increased fire risk on the ground.

The most fire retardant plants tend to be very hardy evergreens with dark green foliage.

If you wish to establish a garden within a fire prone area the following plants may be appropriate:

- *Drypetes deplanchii* (Yellow tulip)
- *Buckinghamia celcissima* (Ivory Curl Flower)
- *Backhousia citridora* (Lemon Myrtle)
- *Randia fitzalanii* (Native Gardenia)
- *Austromyrtus bidwillii* (Python Tree)
- *Cupaniopsis anarcardiodes* (Tuckeroo)
- *Yarpullia pendula* (Tulipwood)
- *Syzygium australe* (Brush Cherry)
- *Canthium odoratum* (Shiny Leaf Canthium)
- *Canthium coprosmoides* (Supplejack)
- *Aidia racemosa* (Aidia)
- *Bridelia leichardtii* (Bridelia)
- *Rapanea variabilis* (Rapanea)
- *Jagera pseudorhus* (Foam Bark Tree)
- *Planchonia careya* (Cocky Apple)

Before establishing any plants near homes or buildings in fire prone areas, advice should always be sought from a Nursery or Horticulturist.