

Plants for clay soils or clay loams

The following plants generally tolerate (or in some cases prefer) clay soils that are poorly drained but not boggy in winter, and that tend to dry out in summer. Of course, other factors can play a part in a plant's success, so this list is a guideline only.

See also our Plant database: <https://resources.austplants.com.au/plant-database/>

Shrubs and trees

Plant botanical name	Characteristics
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	Bright yellow flowers, feather foliage, up to 15 metres high
<i>Acacia fimbriata</i>	Yellow flowers, up to 8 metres high
<i>Acacia glaucoptera</i>	Bizarre foliage, yellow flowers, up to 1.5 metres high
<i>Acacia iteaphylla</i>	Pale yellow flowers, weeping greyish foliage, up to five metres high
<i>Acacia parramattensis</i>	Cream ball shaped flowers, up to 10 metres high Flowers in summer
<i>Acacia pubescens</i>	Yellow flowers, rare local species, up to 3 metres high
<i>Acacia prominens</i>	Yellow flowers, up to 9 metres high
<i>Astartea fascicularis</i>	Small pale pink flowers, up to 1 metre high
<i>Baeckea linifolia</i>	White flowers, weeping shrub to 4 metres high
<i>Baeckea virgata</i>	Masses of white flowers, to 4 metres high
<i>banksia integrifolia</i>	Yellow flower spikes, to 15 metres high
<i>Bauera sessilifolia</i>	Mauve pink flowers, erect shrub to 2 metres high
<i>Callistemon species</i>	Most species are suitable and have flower colours in the red, pink, mauve tones (green in <i>C. pinifolius</i>)
<i>Calytrix tetragona</i>	Starlike flowers from white to deep pink, variable height up to 2 metres
<i>Correa alba</i>	White flowers, to one metre high
<i>Correa</i> "Dusky Bells"	Pinkish flowers, to 1.5 metres high
<i>Correa reflexa</i>	Various colours, to 1.5 metres high
<i>Darwinia citriodora</i>	Reddish orange flowers although not prominent, lemon scented leaves, to 1 metre high

<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	White or pink flowers, a slender tree to 8 metres high
<i>Grevillea</i> ‘Canterbury Gold’	Golden coloured flowers, a prostrate to 2 metres high
<i>Grevillea</i> ‘Moonlight’	Cream flowers, to 4 metres high
<i>Grevillea barklyana</i>	Pink toothbrush flowers, a large shrub/tree to 8 metres high
<i>Grevillea juniperina</i>	Many flower colours available, a prostrate plant to 1.5 metres wide
<i>Grevillea lanigera</i>	Cream to pinkish flowers growing to 1.5 metres high
<i>Grevillea sp. grafted</i>	Many of the <i>Grevillea</i> species that have been grafted onto a hardy rootstock such as <i>Grevillea robusta</i>
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native frangipani with yellow fragrant flowers, growing to 6 metres high
<i>Indigofera australis</i>	Sprays of deep pink flowers, variable 1 to 2 metres high
<i>Kunzea parvifolia</i>	Pink flowers, a spreading plant to 1.4 metres high by 3 metres across
<i>Leptospermum</i> ‘Cardwell’	White flowers, a weeping shrub to 1.5 metres high
<i>Leptospermum petersonii</i>	White flowers with lemon scented leaves, growing to 6 metres high
<i>Leptospermum scoparium</i>	White flowers growing to 2 metres high
<i>Melaleuca fulgens</i>	Red or orange flowers to 1.5 metres wide and 1.5 metres high
<i>Melaleuca hypericifolia</i>	Orange to red flowers to 3 metres across by 2.5 metres high
<i>Melaleuca lateritia</i>	Orange to red flowers, to 2 metres high
<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>	White flowers, prickly leaved paperbark, a small tree to 8 metres high
<i>Melaleuca thymifolia</i>	Purple flowers, 1 metre wide by 1 metre high
<i>Philotheca difformis</i>	White starry flowers up to 1 metre high
<i>Philotheca myoporoides</i>	White starry flowers up to 1 metre high
<i>Thryptomene saxicola</i>	Paynes hybrid has pink flowers and grows to 1.2 metres high
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	White flowers to 2 metres high by 4 metres wide
<i>Westringia longifolia</i>	White to pale blue flowers, to 2 metres high

Ground cover shrubs

Plant botanical name	Characteristics
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i> 'Roller Coaster'	A vigorous prostrate shrub with yellow flowers
<i>Bauera rubioides</i>	Pink flowers, 1 metre high by 2 metres wide with purple flowers
<i>Brachyscome angustifolia</i>	A spreading shrub about 1 metre high
<i>Brachyscome multifida</i>	A spreading shrub about 1 metre high
<i>Commelina cyanea</i>	Native Wandering Jew with small blue flowers. Can be very vigorous on clay
<i>Grevillea</i> 'Royal Mantle'	Red toothbrush flowers, to 2 metres wide
<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>	White flowers to 1.5m high, more if some moisture

Vines, climbers that act as ground covers

Plant botanical name	Characteristics
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	A prostrate or climbing plant with purple flowers. There are also white cultivar and shrubby forms available
<i>Hibbertia serpyllifolia</i>	Yellow flowers growing to about 1 metre high
<i>Kennedia rubicunda</i>	A prostrate runner with red flowers

Grasses

Plant botanical name	Characteristics
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Blue flowers with strap like leaves, to 1 metre high
<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Bright blue flowers with yellow anthers on spikes to 1 metre followed by bright blue fruits
<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	Clumping strappy leaves to 1.5 metres high and about 1 metre wide
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Clumping strappy leaves, to 1 metre high
<i>Oplismenus spp</i>	Basket grass, a thick mat forming grass or ground cover for shady damp areas. Can be mown
<i>Viola betonicifolia</i>	A tiny shrub with violet flowers grows to 20 centimetres high

Viola hederacea

A tiny shrub with violet flowers grows to 20 centimetres high
