

TREE PLANTING IN THE GLEN INNES DISTRICT

Author G.G. Robinson



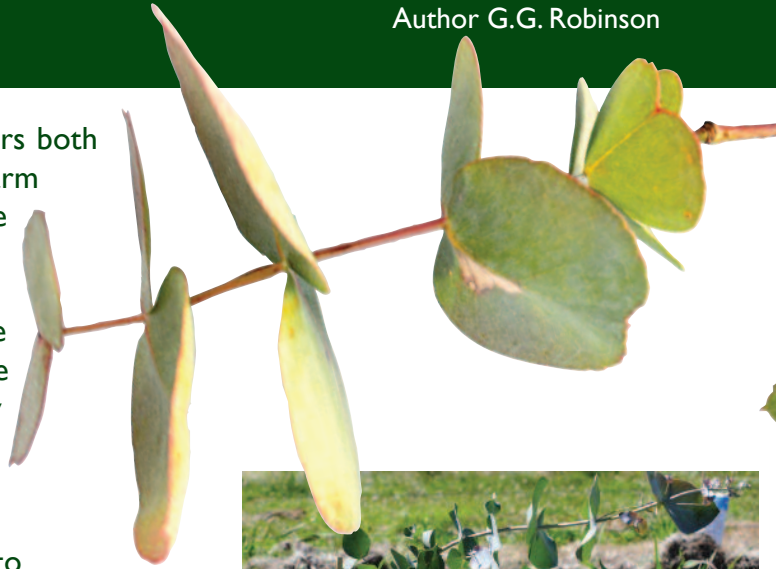
Planning and preparation are key factors both for the successful establishment of farm tree planting projects and to maximise the benefits obtainable by planting trees. Establishment is more difficult in cleared areas because many of the species which were found in the undisturbed plant community actually developed under the protection of an existing canopy.

How can conditions be modified to improve the establishment of new plantings? Probably the most important factor to consider is exposure to cold, both above and below ground. The most important source of warmth is the sun and this warmth should be harvested whenever possible and the best place to do this is in the soil.

There are two factors to be considered in using soils for temperature storage. The ability of the soil to absorb heat – dark soils absorb more heat than light soils. The ability to conduct heat to the lower layers – heavy soils are the better conductors.

Any method of darkening the surface of light coloured sandy soils will improve heat absorption and improve the survival of newly planted trees and shrubs in cold weather. The use of mulches in open paddock situations is not favoured because they insulate the soil (mulches have poor ability to absorb and conduct heat; they also have a high reflectance capacity which can predispose plants to frost damage at night). On the other hand compost or leaf-mould can be very beneficial where plants are protected by already established trees or in a garden situation where frost risk is often less.

Protection from grazing is essential for newly planted trees. Even with fenced areas protection by milk cartons can improve survival by reducing evapotranspiration during the initial establishment period; the cartons may also reduce frost damage and can often improve survival by reducing damage caused by hares and rabbits. Cartons also help during maintenance by their ready location and offer some protection from spray drift. **DON'T** apply fertiliser into the carton – plants can be killed by burning at the collar.



Trees planted 2011 near Glen Innes.
Photo - Donna Davidson



Seedling planted at Ben Lomond 2010
Photo - J Bavea



Trees planted 2010 near Glencoe.
Photo - G Price

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Tree species for general plantings on most sites

Angophora floribunda – Rough-barked Apple
Eucalyptus acaciiformis – Wattle-leaved
Peppermint
E. brunnes (deanii) – Round-leaved Gum
E. caliginosa – Broad – leaved Stringybark
E. camphora – Swamp Gum
E. dalrympleana – Mountain white Gum
E. melliodora – Yellow Box
E. nicholii – Narrow-leaved black Peppermint
E. nova-anglica – New England Peppermint
E. viminalis – Manna (ribbon or white) Gum
E. pauciflora - Snow Gum
appears less suited to western areas
E. radiata – Narrow-leaved Peppermint
appears less suited to western areas
E. stellulata – Black Sallee
appears less suited to western areas
E. blakelyi – Blakely's Red Gum
not suited to the eastern granites
E. bridgesiana – Apple Box
not suited to the eastern granites

Understorey species for general plantings

Acacia dealbata – Silver Wattle
A. filicifolia – Fern-leaf Wattle
A. pravissima – Oven's Wattle
A. rubida – Red-stemmed Wattle
A. siculiformis – Dagger Wattle
Banksia integrifolia - Wattle Honeysuckle
Callistemon seiberi – River Bottlebrush
Callitris oblonga – Dwarf Cypress Pine
Hakea macrocarpa – Small-fruit Hakea
Leptospermum brevipes – Grey Tea-Tree
L. minutifolium – Small-leaved Tea-tree
L. polygalifolium (syn. Flavescens) – Common Tea-tree

Species for the upper slopes with better fertility and/or drainage (eastern parts)

Eucalyptus andrewsii – New England Blackbutt
E. cameronii – Diehard Stringybark
E. fastigata – Brown Barrel
E. oblique – Messmate

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Species for warmer sites in the western parts of the district

Eucalyptus albens – White Box
E. banksia – Tenterfield Woollybutt
E. conica – Fuzzy Box
E. crebra – Narrow-leaved Ironbark
E. macrorhyncha – Red Stringybark
E. molluccana – Grey Box
E. sideroxylon – Mugga or Red Ironbark
E. youmanii – Youman's Stringybark

Species for the valley floors and sites with poorer drainage

Angophora floribunda – Rough-barked Apple
Eucalyptus acaciiformis – Wattle-leaved
Peppermint
E. aggregate – Black Gum
E. amplifolia – Cabbage Gum
E. crenulata – Buxton Gum
E. camphora – Swamp Gum
E. macarthurii – Paddy's River Box
E. nova-anglica – New England Peppermint
E. stellulata – Black Sallee

Other local and non-local species with some good success are;

E. archerii, E. badjensis, E. benthamii, E. cinerea, E. laevopinea, E. mannifera, E. michaeliana, E. neglecta, E. parvifolia, E. pulverulenta, E. rubida and E. scoparia.

Eucalypt species suites to low windbreaks (10m or less);

E. archerii, E. crenulata, E. neglecta, E. parvifolia, E. stellulata, E. approximans, E. moorei and E. pulverulenta



Visit the office at the National Parks and Wildlife Service building, 68 Church Street, Glen Innes.
Post: PO Box 660 Glen Innes NSW 2370
Phone: 02 6732 3443
Mobile: 0427 325 901
Email: glenrac@glenrac.org.au
Website: www.glenrac.org.au