

12. On your left is **Acacia murrayana**, an open bush with gold balls of flowers and slender green leaves (photo below). This plant is native to arid inland Australia.



13. Also on your left is **Ptilotus obovatus** a small bush with silver foliage and pale mauve heads of flowers (photo below left). This plant is widespread in arid inland Australia.



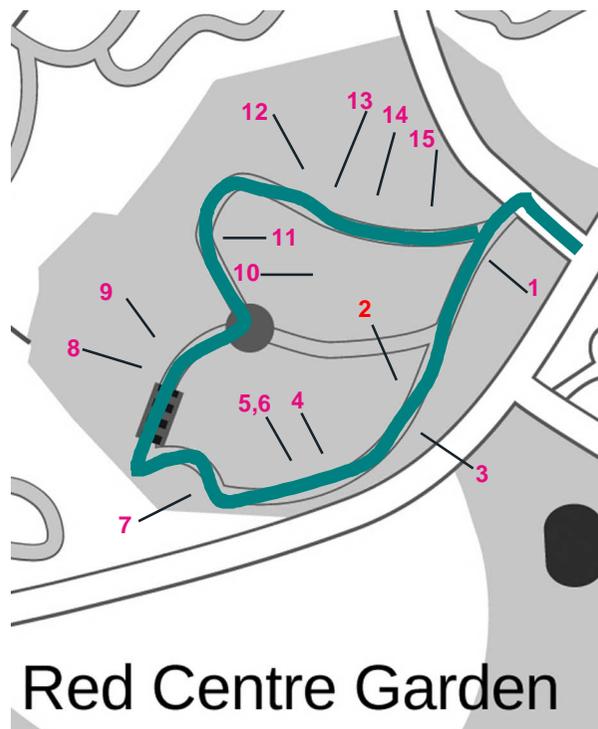
14. Still on your left is **Acacia minyura** or Desert Mulga from Central Australia with grey-blue foliage and short yellow rods of flowers on a small mounded bush (photo above right). This plant occurs naturally in arid parts of central and western Australia.



15. Continuing on your left is **Allocasuarina decaisneana** or Desert Oak, an iconic tree of central Australia showing healthy new growth (photo above). The young trees are often called 'feather-dusters' because of their shape.



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Red Centre Garden



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Featuring the plants of the Australian National Botanic Gardens, Canberra, ACT written and illustrated by Friends Rosalind and Benjamin Walcott

Today we will walk around the Red Centre Garden



1. As you enter the Red Centre Garden on your left is **Solanum sturtianum**, or Sturt's Nightshade, with purple flowers with yellow anthers on an open bush of grey green foliage (photo above). The ripe fruit of this plant is reported to be toxic to stressed sheep and cattle.

2. Continue on the path to see on your right **Acacia kempeana**, also called Wichetty Bush, a small shrub with grey-green leaves and yellow rods of flowers (photo next page top left). This plant is found in arid areas of Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia and South Australia.



3. On your left is ***Eremophila longifolia*** or Berrigan, a large bush or small tree with long, narrow grey-green leaves, light green fruits and dusty pink tubular flowers (photo above right). This plant is found across all the drier areas of mainland Australia.



4. On your right is ***Gossypium sturtianum*** or Sturt's Desert Rose, the floral emblem of the Northern Territory (photo above). This plant is a woody shrub with grey-green water-shedding leaves and glorious purple flowers with maroon centres.

5 and 6. On your right is ***Eremophila willsii* ssp. *willsii*** with purple bell flowers on sparse stems of grey-green foliage (photo below and next page top). This plant was named after W.J. Willis, a nineteenth century explorer and is found in central Australia. This subspecies has leaves covered in very fine hairs.



7. High on your left is ***Agonis flexuosa***, or Willow Myrtle, a small tree with fibrous brown bark, weeping fine green leaves and small white flowers (photo below). This plant is found only in southwestern Western Australia.



8. Cross the viewing platform and go down the steps to see on your left ***Rhagodia spinescens***, a mounded plant with striking grey foliage (photo below). This plant occurs widely across all mainland states of Australia and is moderately palatable to stock.



9. On your left is ***Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata*** with thin linear foliage and dark brown spent scapes full of seed (photo below). This plant occurs only in South Australia, along St. Vincent's Gulf to the northern Mt. Lofty Ranges.



10. Perched on the rise to your right is ***Grevillea juncifolia*** or Honeysuckle Spider-flower, with narrow grey upright foliage and long racemes of yellowish-white flowers (photo below). This grevillea grows in dry inland Australia.



11. Further on your right is ***Sida calyxhymenia***, or Tall Sida, an erect, open, grey leaved bush with small pale yellow cup flowers (photo below). Sida is another plant which is palatable to stock and lives for a long period. It occurs widely in central and western Australia.

