



---

## INDIGENOUS GARDEN

---

### *Avicennia marina* (Mangroves)

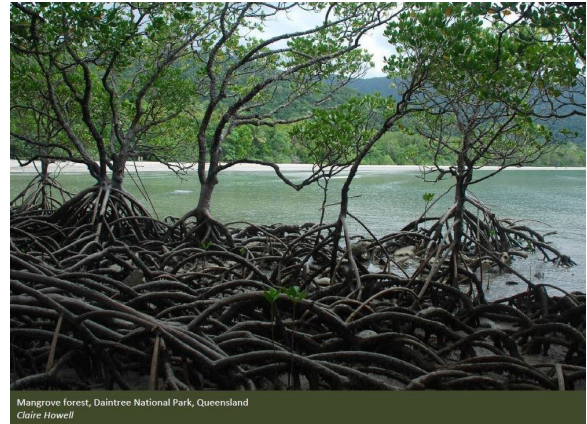
#### Indigenous use

Mangroves have traditionally been used by Indigenous Australians as sources of food, including mangrove fruit. Mangrove timber has traditionally been used to make canoes, paddles and weapons such as shields, spears and boomerangs.

#### Description

The Mangrove forest type occurs in many of Australia's coastal regions, but has a total area of only 0.9 million hectares, or 0.6% of Australia's native forest cover. Australian Mangrove forests contain 41 species of mangrove from 19 plant families. More than half of the world's mangrove species are found in Australia.

Mangroves have a characteristic growth form, including aerial structured roots and exposed breathing roots. By having this it helps the Mangroves to cope with regular tidal inundation and lack of oxygen in the soil.



Mangrove forest, Daintree National Park, Queensland  
Claire Howell



#### Habitat

*Acacia mearnsii* is native to south-eastern Australia and Tasmania. Grows commonly in moist soil types of grassland, forest edges and gaps, road sides and riparian zones (banks of watercourses) and savanna.