

MLG nursery and planting guide

Step 2 – Requesting plants: How to request plants from the Murrumbateman Landcare nursery

Financial members of MLG can obtain native plants each year at no charge. Plants are not available to non-members. MLG covers the cost of producing the tubestock and relies on volunteer labour.

The MLG Nursery propagates around 40 species of plants suitable for the local area. Most of these have been selected for being 'climate ready', meaning that they also grow in hotter areas and we use genetically diverse seed to improve resilience to climate change.

Please think about what your property needs before you place a request. Feel free to email our nursery managers for guidance (mlg_nursery@yan.org.au).

Requesting plants

Members can request plants by filling in the MLG Nursery request form — NSW Landcare Gateway.

Download and complete the form and send it by email to mlg_nursery@yan.org.au. Please give the file a meaningful name by adding your name to the file name and saving it.

If you are unable to complete the request form, please contact the nursery and we can explore other options with you.

Members will be alerted by email In January when requests can be placed. Please send your request form before the advertised cut-off date, and talk with our nursery people as early as possible if you are planning a larger order.

You can request either a mix of species, or particular species. You are encouraged to order in lots of 20 (one tray) or 10 (half a tray).

Requesting mixed trays

It is a good idea to plant a variety of plants – from trees to understorey shrubs and even flowers and grasses. This creates a more natural habitat for wildlife to forage for food, find shelter and breed. Planting in species groups means that plants can crosspollinate and regenerate.

Local Landcare experts have curated **landscape mixes** of suitable species for 4 different landscape types. This means you can simply choose which mix will suit your property. The 4 landscape types, and the mix of plant species you will receive in each tray, are:

- **slopes** plants for grassy woodland and forest on better soils and mid to lower slopes and flats (comprising about 20% eucalypts, 60% acacias, 20% flowers and grasses)
- ridges plants for dry forest on poor shallower soils, upper slopes and rocky ridges (comprising about 25% eucalypts, 15% other trees, 50% acacias and other shrubs, 10% flowers and grasses)

- **riparian** plants for damp sites including streambanks, dams and damp areas on flats (comprising about 20% eucalypts, 50% acacias and other shrubs, 30% flowers and grasses)
- garden plants for garden sites close to a house (comprising about 10% trees, 45% acacias and other shrubs, 45% flowers and grasses)

Requesting particular species

If you have some existing vegetation, you can think about what species you might need to add to the mix to improve the biodiversity of your property. Please choose species that will suit your site.

Tree guards

Everyone is encouraged to use tree guards as they generally improve survival. Milk carton style cardboard guards with two bamboo stakes are available from the nursery at cost price of 90c each. You can obtain these when picking up your plants.

Numbers of plants

We encourage members to think about resources before making an order – planting requires time and effort. The nursery is staffed by volunteers, so we want to make sure that our efforts and resources are resulting in healthy plants growing in areas where they will thrive and benefit the environment.

Please note that the nursery cannot guarantee that requests will be completely filled; we do our best but it depends on several factors, including germination rates and total number of requests.

Orders up to 100 plants

Members can request up to 100 plants by simply filling in the request form.

- Complete the form: <u>MLG Nursery request form NSW Landcare Gateway.</u>
- Email to our nursery managers: mlg_nursery@yan.org.au.

Orders between 100 and 500 plants

Orders of between 100 and 500 plants are welcome using the same request form as above; however, we require some information about the planting site and the strategy for getting the plants in the ground (e.g. Where will the plants go? Who will be planting? Will the ground be ripped? Will fencing be needed? etc).

Requests for orders of 500+ plants

Requests for orders over 500 plants are also welcome for those with a suitable revegetation plan. For these larger orders, we would appreciate a 1-page plan for the revegetation site, preferably including a google map with the site outlined, a plan for fencing if needed, and a strategy for planting. This will constitute a 'landholder agreement' and we need these to continue to get grant funding.

In addition, we would like to give members the opportunity to attend at least one large scaleplanting each year. This helps to build the Landcare community and gives members good experience in planting – and the host gains the benefit of extra hands to help with planting. Please include your availability for hosting such an event in your project plan.