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Honey flora calendar for December

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Common Name	Botanical Name	Where Found	Honey		Quality of Pollen	Remarks
			Quality	Quantity		

Snap and Rattle, Yorrel, Small-budded Mallee	<i>Eucalyptus</i> F. Muell.	<i>gracilis</i> ,	Widespread throughout the wheat belt. Range from Great Southern, Salmon Gums to Karoo	Good	....	Good	....	Good	....	Very different reports about this tree from various areas. Some areas report excellent flows and high quality honey in others the tree is not regarded as a nectar-bearing tree at all.
York Gum	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Benth.	<i>loxophleba</i> ,	From the Murchison River on the road to Carnarvon to the Great Southern, Salmon Gums	Good	....	Excellent	....	Poor	....	Major honey plant, but is deficient in pollen. When the Cape Weed is in flower the bees will produce quite a lot of surplus. Bud development is about 9-10 months. As it grows on good agricultural areas most of it has been cleared.
White Gum or Wandoo	<i>Eucalyptus</i> - Schau.	<i>redunca</i> ,	Spring White Gum is found mainly on the tops of hills. Starting mid-September and going through to Xmas time in the area from Belgart to Wandering	Excellent	....	Excellent	....	Poor	....	Flowers well into late spring or early summer and it seems to be open first on the gravelly hills in the Dale, York and Dalwallinu areas.
Chittick	<i>Lambertia inermis</i> , R.Br.		Southern sand plain	Good	....	Good	....	Good	....	Flowers most of the year with its flush period in spring. Regarded as a good flower by local beekeepers.
Lemon-scented Gum	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Hook.	<i>citrodora</i> ,	Planted extensively around Perth. A native of N.S.W.	Good	....	Good	....	Good	....	A number of beekeepers have reported flows from this source.
Clelands Blackbutt	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Maiden	<i>Clelandi</i>,	....	Unknown	....	Unknown	....	Unknown	....	From reports from non-beekeepers, this could be one of our future honey plants.
Rough Fruited Gum	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Luehm.	<i>corrugata</i> ,	Grows between Westonia and Southern Cross	Unknown	....	Unknown	....	Unknown	....	From reports from non-beekeepers, it is a long flowering tree and attracts considerable attention from birds.
Yellow Tingle	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Maiden	<i>Guilfoylei</i> ,	Southern coastal lands, forests, usually found on river, creek banks and valleys	Good	....	Good	....	Good	....	This tree has been reported as a most unreliable producer as it seems to be sensitive to cold weather.
Lerp Mallee	<i>Eucalyptus</i> Labill	<i>incrassata</i> ,	Widespread	Good	....	Good	....	Good	....	Many different reports. Information is needed on this plant to correct information we have already.

Angular Mallee	<i>Eucalyptus</i> <i>incrassata</i> , Labill. Var. <i>angulosa</i> or <i>E. angulosa</i>	Widespread	Good	Good	Good	Reported as a good honey producer in the Eastern States. Is not worked by beekeepers here.
	<i>Eucalyptus</i> <i>leptophylla</i> , F. Muell.	Widespread	Good ?	Good ?	Good ?	Differing reports, most of them saying this tree is of little use to the beekeeper. Honey flow thin and light in colour with mild flavour.
Jarrah	<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i> , Sm.	One of the main forest trees in Western Australia	Good	Good	Excellent	One of the major honey plants. It needs a wet spring to set its buds. A dry but humid early summer to produce heavily. The coastal Jarrah seems to produce better than hills Jarrah.
Crown Top Mallee	<i>Eucalyptus</i> <i>pileata</i> , Blakely	....	Unknown	Good ?	Good	One of the varieties we need more information about. Some good reports.
Diamond Bush	<i>Bossiaea</i> <i>Laidlawiana</i> , Tovey et Morris	In the Karri forests	Good	Good	Excellent	One of the best pollen plants we have here in Western Aus- tralia. Its main disadvantage is that it tends to make the hive swarm.
Honeysuckle	<i>Lambertia</i> <i>multiflora</i> , Lindl.	....	Good ?	Good ?	Good	Red flowers on the sand plain and yellow flowers in the Darling Range and south.
Silver Banksia or Yel- low Banksia	<i>Banksia attenuata</i> R.Br.	Sand plain	Good	Good	Good	Regarded as a very good producer by those beekeepers who live in the area where it grows.
Boree Paper Bark	<i>Melaleuca pauperiflora</i> , F. Muell.	....	Good	Good	Good	Not extensively worked by beekeepers.
Taylorina	<i>Psoralea pinnata</i> , Linn.	Albany area	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Connoisseur's honey. Very limited area. The honey is greatly sought by those who appreciate good honey.
Karri	<i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> , F. Muell.	Main Karri area	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	The major flow starts in November-December. However, if bees are taken down in this time into the forest the in- termittent flow from the Karri due to rain will cause excessive swarming.
Wild Hops	<i>Chorilaena hirsuta</i> , Benth.	Karri area	Good	Good	Good	Bees work this in the rain as flowers are abundant. 56 lb. is the average usual from this flow. The activity of bees on this flow seems to be associated with the weather con- ditions. Flowers over a long period.
Sand Plain Woody Pear	<i>Xylomelum angustifolium</i> , Kipp	....	....	....	....	Excellent pollen yield.

It will be seen from this list that information concerning many nectar-bearing plants is far from adequate. We would appreciate further information from beekeepers.

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