

Farm Dams Technical Guide

Design & construction of high-performing dams

Appendix 2: Plant species lists for revegetating dams

Fringing terrestrial species

These plants grow on land, but some species, including many of those listed, can withstand temporary inundation.



Common name(s)	Scientific name	Dam zone						Waterlogging tolerance	Natural habitat	Plant type
		Inflow	Margins	Shallow water	Deep water	Dam wall	Spillway			
Common swamp wallaby grass	<i>Amphibromus nervosus</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial grass
Purple wiregrass	<i>Aristida ramosa</i>					●		None	Grassland	Perennial grass
Speargrasses	<i>Austrostipa</i> spp.					●		None	Grassland	Perennial grass
Redleg grass	<i>Bothriochloa macra</i>					●		None	Grassland	Perennial grass
Tall sedge	<i>Carex appressa</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial sedge
Plains sedge	<i>Carex bichenoviana</i>	●					●	Low	Drainage zones	Perennial sedge
Knob sedge	<i>Carex inversa</i>	●					●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial sedge
Poong'ort, hollow sedge	<i>Carex tereticaulis</i>	●	●				●	Low	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial sedge
Swamp goodenia	<i>Goodenia humilis</i>		●				●	Moderate	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial mat-forming herb
Variable raspwort	<i>Haloragis heterophylla</i>	●					●	Moderate	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial mat-forming herb
False sarsparilla	<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>					●		None	Grassland, woodland	Perennial scrambling herb
Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle tripartita</i>	●	●				●	Low	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial creeping herb
Swamp isotome	<i>Isotoma fluviatilis</i>	●	●				●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial mat-forming herb
Austral rush	<i>Juncus australis</i>	●					●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial rush
Sea rush	<i>Juncus kraussii</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial rush ‡
Matted pratia	<i>Lobelia pedunculata</i>	●	●				●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial mat-forming herb
Spiny-headed mat-rush, basket grass	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	●	●				●	Low	Woodland, grassland, drainage zones	Perennial tufted herb
Woodruff	<i>Luzula densiflora</i>	●					●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial rush
Lesser loosestrife	<i>Lythrum hyssopifolia</i>	●	●				●	Low	Drainage zones, riparian	Annual erect herb
Purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	●	●				●	Low	Drainage zones, riparian	Perennial erect herb
Weeping grass	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i>	●				●	●	Periodic only	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial grass.
Creeping knotweed	<i>Persicaria prostrata</i>	●	●				●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial mat-forming herb
Tussock grass, river tussock grass	<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	●	●				●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial grass
Snow grass	<i>Poa sieberiana</i>					●		None	Grassland	Perennial grass
Large river buttercup	<i>Ranunculus papulentus</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	Riparian	Perennial herb ‡
Wallaby grasses	<i>Rytidosperma</i> spp.					●		None	Grassland	Perennial grass
Fluke bogsedge, common bogsedge	<i>Schoenus apogon</i>	●					●	Moderate	Grassland, drainage zones	Annual or perennial Sedge
Kangaroo grass	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	●				●	●	Low	Grassland, drainage zones	Perennial grass ‡

Emergent species

These plants grow in water and in damp soil at the margins of water, but can cope with drying out. All are naturally found in riparian and drainage areas.



Stream clubrush
(*Bolboschoenus fluviatilis*)



Common rush
(*Juncus usitatus*)



Pondweed
(*Potamogeton sulcatus*)

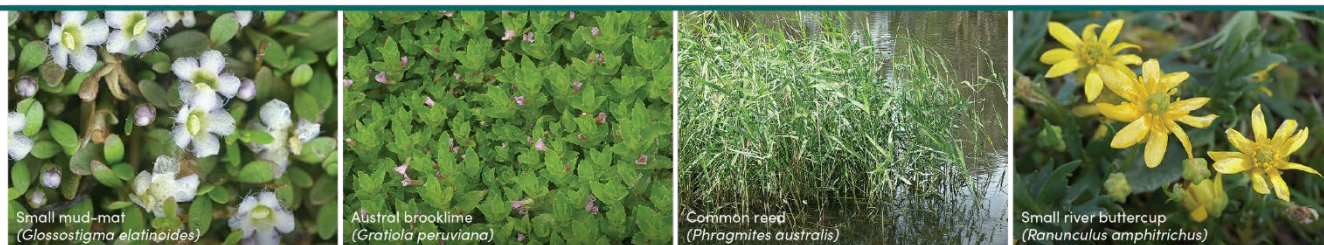


Water plantain
(*Alisma plantago-aquatica*)

Common name(s)	Scientific name	Dam zone						Waterlogging tolerance	Suitable water depths (m)	Plant type
		Inflow	Margins	Shallow water	Deep water	Dam wall	Spillway			
Water plantain	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>		●	●				High	0–0.2	Annual or perennial erect herb
Jointed twigrush	<i>Baumea articulata</i>		●	●				High	0–1	Perennial sedge ‡
Soft Twig-rush	<i>Baumea rubiginosa</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge ‡
Sea clubrush	<i>Bolboschoenus caldwellii</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge ‡
Stream clubrush	<i>Bolboschoenus fluviatilis</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge ‡
Tassel sedge	<i>Carex fascicularis</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge
Tufted sedge	<i>Carex gaudichaudiana</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge
Water ribbons	<i>Cycnogeton (Triglochin) procerum</i>			●	●			High	1–2	Perennial aquatic herb
Giant Sedge, Tall Flat-sedge	<i>Cyperus exaltatus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge
Leafy Flat-sedge	<i>Cyperus lucidus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.2	Perennial sedge
Star fruit	<i>Damasonium minus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.2	Annual or perennial erect herb
Common spikerush	<i>Eleocharis acuta</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Perennial sedge
Tall spikerush	<i>Eleocharis sphacelata</i>			●	●			High	0–5	Perennial sedge
Knobby clubrush	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>		●	●				Moderate	0–0.3	Perennial sedge ‡
Nodding clubrush	<i>Isolepis cernua</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	0–0.1	Perennial sedge ‡
Common rush	<i>Juncus usitatus</i>	●	●				●	Moderate	0–0.2	Perennial rush
Erect Marsh-flower	<i>Liparophyllum exaltatum</i>		●	●				High	0–0.5	Perennial aquatic herb
Button rush	<i>Lipocarpa microcephala</i>	●	●				●	Low	0–0.2	Annual sedge
Slender knotweed	<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>		●	●				High	0–0.5	Perennial semi-aquatic herb
Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton cheesmanii</i>		●	●	●			High	2	Perennial aquatic herb
Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton sulcatus</i>		●	●	●			High	3	Perennial aquatic herb *
River clubsedge	<i>Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani (validus)</i>		●	●				High	0–1	Perennial sedge ‡
Sharp clubsedge	<i>Schoenoplectus mucronatus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.5	Perennial sedge ‡
Floating Bur-reed	<i>Sparganium subglobosum</i>		●	●				High	0–0.5	Perennial sedge
Narrow-leaved Cumbungi, Bulrush	<i>Typha domingensis</i>		●	●				High	0–0.5	Perennial rush ‡ *

Semi-aquatic species

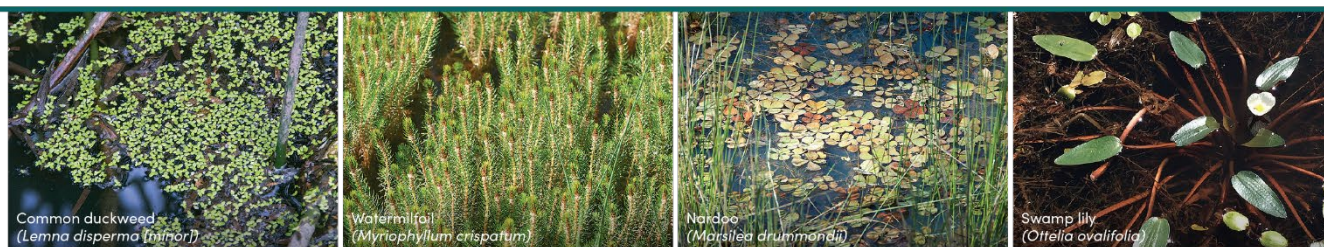
These plants can grow submerged or partly submerged in water.



Common name(s)	Scientific name	Inflow	Margins	Dam zone				Waterlogging tolerance	Suitable water depths (m)	Plant type
				Shallow water	Deep water	Dam wall	Spillway			
Waterwort	<i>Elatine gratioloides</i>		●	●				High	0–0.3	Annual mat-forming herb
Small mud-mat	<i>Glossostigma elatinoides</i>	●	●				●	Low	0–4	Perennial mat-forming herb ‡
Australian sweet-grass	<i>Glyceria australis</i>		●	●				Moderate	0–0.1	Perennial grass
Austral brooklime	<i>Gratiola peruviana</i>		●	●				Moderate	0–0.2	Perennial mat-forming herb
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>		●	●	●			High	0–4	Perennial grass ‡ *
Small river buttercup	<i>Ranunculus amphitrichus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.1	Perennial herb ‡
River buttercup	<i>Ranunculus inundatus</i>		●	●				High	0–0.1	Perennial herb

Aquatic species

Aquatic plants grow fully submerged in water. All are commonly found in riparian areas. In dry conditions, some can persist as semi-aquatic plants.



Common name(s)	Scientific name	Inflow	Margins	Dam zone				Suitable water depths (m)	Plant type
				Shallow water	Deep water	Dam wall	Spillway		
Watershield	<i>Brasenia schreberi</i>			●	●			0.3–2	Perennial herb
Common duckweed	<i>Lemna disperma (minor)</i>			●	●			0.2–10	Annual herb ‡
Nardoo	<i>Marsilea drummondii</i>			●	●			0–1	Perennial fern. Nardoo is toxic to stock so only plant in fenced dams.
Coarse watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum caput-medusae</i>		●	●	●			0–2	Perennial and semi-aquatic herb
Watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum crispatum</i>		●	●				0–0.5	Perennial and semi-aquatic herb
Red watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum verrucosum</i>		●	●	●			0–1.5	Perennial and semi-aquatic herb ‡
Wavy marshwort	<i>Nymphoides crenata</i>			●	●			0.05–1.5	Perennial herb
Entire marshwort	<i>Nymphoides montana</i>			●	●			0.05–2	Perennial herb
Swamp lily	<i>Ottelia ovalifolia</i>			●	●			0.2–1	Annual or perennial herb
Ferny Azolla	<i>Azolla pinnata</i>			●	●			0–5	Perennial fern *

Key to plant lists:

‡ Tolerates low to moderate levels of salinity.

* Can become dominant under high nutrient and/or warm water conditions. Avoid introducing to small dams.

Note: These plant lists are suitable as a guide across the woodland landscapes NSW and Victoria, within the Sustainable Farms project area.