

GARDEN NOTES

DAVID'S GARDEN

My partner and I moved from Yarraville in 2009, attracted by the larger size of land and the charm of the house. The garden at that point was a dustbowl and we removed all the vegetation and desiccated stumps, except for the jacaranda at the back of the garden. I have done all the landscaping and the garden has evolved with no overriding plan in mind, other than to fit in as many productive plants as possible. My partner is less interested in edibles and was given more say in the front garden which has a lot of natives and is generally a low maintenance space.

More recently I have become aware of limitations of the 'edible only' policy and have started collecting ornamental plants such as flowering annuals, bromeliads, aroids, ferns, succulents and orchids. The orchids have become a focus and the collection takes residence in the shade house. It's in its infancy and in a few years, I hope to have year-round flowering.

Getting back to the edibles, I have prepared a table detailing a selection of fruiting/edible plants that I have collected, including notes on where they are in the garden and from where and when I acquired them. *A copy is available as a separate document at the front entrance or it can be printed from the OGV website.* It is broken down into plant families (e.g. Rutaceae for plants in the citrus family).

Below is a very shortened version which identifies all the edible plants via their species, common name and variety.

I hope you enjoy the garden and I apologise for its relative starkness. A lot of the form and colour emerges from spring and develops over summer from self-seeding annuals and deciduous perennial foliage.

David Elliot

Species / common name / variety	Species / common name / variety
Myrtaceae (Guavas)	Rutaceae (Citrus & related)
<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> / Feijoa / 3 varieties: Apollo / Naziemetz / Mammoth	<i>Clausenium wampi</i> / Wampi / variety Guy Sam
<i>Psidium cattleianum</i> / Cherry Guava 2 varieties: red and yellow	<i>Casimoroa edulis</i> / White Sapote / varieties Lemon Gold and Ortega
<i>Psidium</i> sp. (may be a cultivar of <i>Psidium cattleianum</i> but likely a separate species)	<i>Glycomis pentaphylla</i> / Gin Berry
<i>Eugenia selloi</i> / Pitangatuba	<i>Citrus reticulata</i> / Mandarin / Afourer variety
<i>Eugenia uniflora</i> / Brazilian Cherry	<i>Citrus latifolia</i> / Tahitian Lime
<i>Eugenia myrcianthes</i>	<i>Citrus limon</i> / Eureka Lemon
<i>Eugenia aggregata</i>	<i>Citrus paradisi</i> x <i>Citrus reticulata</i> / Tangelo / Dwarf Minnelo variety
<i>Myrciaria cauliflora</i> / Jaboticaba	Navel Orange / dwarf Caro Caro
<i>Myrciaria glomerata</i> / Yellow Jaboticaba	Kaffir Lime

Species / common name / variety	Species / common name / variety
Moraceae (Figs / Mulberries)	Rosaceae (Brambles, Stone Fruit, Apples, etc)
<i>Ficus carica</i> / Common Fig / multi-grafted	<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> & <i>A. lamarckii</i> / Saskatoon Berry
<i>Ficus palmata</i> / Purple Heart	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> / Loquat / Nagisakewase variety
<i>Ficus opposita</i> / Sandpaper Fig / variety Bird's Eye	<i>Prunus domestica</i> / Plum / Louisa variety
<i>Morus nigra</i> / Black Mulberry	<i>Prunus persicaria</i> x <i>P. domestica</i> / Nectarine x Plum / Spiczee variety
	<i>Prunus armenica</i> x <i>P. domestica</i> / Apricot x Plum / Spring Satin variety
	<i>Malus domestica</i> / Apple / multiple varieties
	<i>Rubus</i> sp. / Berries
Solanaceae (Nightshade)	Vitaceae (Grapes)
<i>Cyphomandra betacea</i> / Tamarillo / Denmark Gold variety	<i>Vitis labrusca</i> and hybrids 10 varieties: Concord, Canadice, Autumn Royal, Canada Muscat, Red Labrusca, Kyoho, Summer Muscat, Delaware, Glenora
<i>Solanum muricatum</i> / Pepino	<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> / Scuppernong / Adonis Variety
Caricaceae (Papaya)	Miscellaneous
<i>Carica</i> / Babaco	<i>Fuchsia paniculata</i> / Mexican Blueberry
<i>Carica goudotiana</i> / Papayuelo	<i>Punica granatum</i> / Pomegranate / Wonderful variety
<i>Carica pubescens</i> / Mountain Papaya	<i>Annona cherimola</i> / Cherimoya or Custard Apple
	<i>Cornus mas</i> / Cornelian Cherry / 2 cultivars
	<i>Canna edulis</i> / Arrowroot
	<i>Zingiber mioga</i> / Myoga Ginger / Japanese Ginger

These notes can be downloaded from the Open Gardens Victoria website
www.opengardensvictoria.org.au

Open Gardens Victoria is a not-for-profit organisation that promotes the benefits of gardens and gardening by assisting garden owners to open their private gardens to the public. Monies raised at the gate are shared between OGV and the garden owner – whose share is often directed to charity.

Surplus OGV funds are allocated to horticultural, educational or community projects.

DETAILED PLANT SCHEDULE

DAVID'S GARDEN

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Myrtaceae (Guavas)			
<i>Feijoa sellowiana</i> / Feijoa / 3 varieties: Apollo / Naziemetz / Mammoth	Daley's Nursery, Gyogle NSW	Planted in 2011, parallel to back fence in a semi-espaliered hedge	Have been fruiting heavily for about 5 years; love them but unfortunately so do the rats and possums.
<i>Psidium cattleianum</i> / Cherry Guava 2 varieties: red and yellow	Ceres Nursery, Brunswick VIC	Planted 2010. Alternating red and yellow as a hedge along western border of front garden	All round my favourite fruit trees. Almost gave up on these as they had to compete for light, food and water with a competing neighbour's tree. They eventually established and fruited poorly but the neighbour's tree has been removed and they have responded quickly to the improved conditions, so I expect to get a bumper crop next year.
<i>Psidium</i> sp. (may be a cultivar of <i>Psidium cattleianum</i> but likely a separate species)	Seed from eBay	Seeds acquired in 2013, planted at end of concrete path on left side arching down right (east) side of garden	Ping pong ball sized red guava which are succulent and flavoursome, not quite as nice as the <i>cattleianum</i> but still very good.
<i>Eugenia selloi</i> / Pitangatuba	Seed from eBay	Seeds acquired 2016, eventually planted on right side of concrete path arching down right (east) side of garden	Gotta love the name Pitangatuba. By all accounts a really delicious fruit from South America. Apparently fruits from very small tree so I'm hoping to get my first flowers and fruit this year. Seems to tolerate anything Melbourne weather can throw at it so am really hopeful!
<i>Eugenia uniflora</i> / Brazilian Cherry	Seed from eBay	Seeds acquired in 2015 and eventually planted on right (east) side of garden about 7 metres in front of shade house boundary	The fruit is cherry-sized with several longitudinal ribs or flutes like pumpkin. They range from pale red to almost black with varying reports of flavor ranging from delicious to turpentine. Apparently, the seed I bought was from a black-fruited, less resinous variety. It suffers a bit over the winter and defoliates but comes back quickly in spring. It's still only about 40cm high but I wouldn't be surprised if I get fruit this year.

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Myrtaceae (Guavas) Con'd			
<i>Eugenia myrcianthes</i>	Forbidden Fruit Nursery, Mullumbimby NSW	Plant acquired 2011; moved several times, eventually planted against water tank nearest shade house on east side	Fruit apparently is size of golf ball, yellow, juicy and sweet/tart with peachy overtones. Flowered last year for the first time so hoping to get fruit this year. Very hardy to Melbourne weather.
<i>Eugenia aggregata</i>	Forbidden Fruit Nursery, Mullumbimby NSW	Acquired 2016. Planted just to the left of my apple arbor, at the front	Still only about 30cm high but hope to get fruit soon. I had one of these years ago and for some reason gave it away. The few fruit I did get off it were truly delicious.
<i>Myrciaria cauliflora</i> / Jaboticaba	Daley's Nursery, Gyogle NSW	On left (west) side of garden just at entrance to clothes line area	Very slow-growing but worth the wait. Fruits about 3-4 times a year but the crops aren't huge. I suspect if my tree had more sun it would be more productive.
<i>Myrciaria glomerata</i> / Yellow Jaboticaba	Daley's Nursery, Gyogle NSW	Planted 2016 in front of water tank on east side of garden	Very slow, which is a good thing as I've allocated such little space. A small yellow berry, which by all accounts is tangy and delicious.
Rutaceae (Citrus & related)			
<i>Clausenium wampi</i> / Wampi / variety Guy Sam	Daley's Nursery, Gyogle NSW	Planted 2017 on west (left) side of garden about halfway down just to right of concrete path	My second go at this. First one fruited really well and fruit was wonderful – think smaller, more citrusy version of a lychee but without the seeds. The first succumbed to some sort of root rot so this has been planted in very free draining soil. Flowered last year so expecting fruit this year.
<i>Casimoroa edulis</i> / White Sapote / varieties Lemon Gold and Ortega	Forbidden Fruits Nursery, Mullumbimby NSW	Planted grafted trees at back left-hand corner of garden	The Latin species name says it all. Edulis means edible and they are very nice to eat; very sweet and creamy. The first time my lemon gold tree fruited I estimated it had over 500 apple sized fruits. Unfortunately, we now have a possum and it will take every last one if I don't make efforts to exclude.
<i>Glycomis pentaphylla</i> / Gin Berry	eBay	Seed planted about a year ago and remains in a small pot	An interesting citrus relative indigenous to northern Australia and south-east Asia. Despite its origins it survived the winter outside without a problem. It produces a small pink, honey sweet berry with resinous or 'gin-like' overtones. Not sure where I'm going to plant it!

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Rutaceae (Citrus & related) Con'd			
<i>Citrus reticulata</i> / Mandarin / Afourer variety	Poynton's Nursery, Essendon VIC	Purchased and planted 2018 to left of apple arbor in center of garden	Hope to get fruit this year.
<i>Citrus latifolia</i> / Tahitian Lime	Poynton's Nursery, Essendon VIC	Purchased and planted 2018 to left of apple arbor in center of garden	This is my fourth go at a lime. Like the drummers from Spinal Tap all previous contenders have met with tragedy. I have high hopes for this one.
<i>Citrus limon</i> / Eureka Lemon	Poynton's Nursery, Essendon VIC	Purchased and planted 2018 along east fence just past water tank, trained as semi-espalier	Had a Eureka lemon for at least 8 years and it produced very few fruit. It paid the ultimate sacrifice and was replaced last year. The new one has already set fruit.
<i>Citrus paradisi</i> x <i>Citrus reticulata</i> / Tangelo / Dwarf Minnelo variety	Poynton's Nursery, Essendon VIC	Purchased and planted 2012 along east fence, trained as semi espalier	Love tangelos!
Navel Orange / dwarf Cara Cara / Pink Navel	Daley's Nursery, Gyogle NSW	Acquired in 2016 and planted along east side of garden and trained as a semi-espalier.	The fruit don't colour-up to be a 'blood' orange as advertised but they are delicious nonetheless. I assume we'd need more sustained heat to produce the pigment.
Kaffir Lime	Can't remember!	Acquired in 2004. In terracotta pot to the right of concrete path on right (east) side of garden	It has always looked scraggly and never fruited but it provides us with enough leaves for our culinary purposes.
Moraceae (Figs / Mulberries)			
<i>Ficus carica</i> / Common Fig / multi-grafted	Poynton's Nursery, Essendon VIC	Purchased and planted in c.2010. Just to the left as you walk out.	We've trained the tree to form a shade providing canopy. It's a White Adriatic but I've grafted on 2 other varieties.
<i>Ficus palmata</i> / Purple Heart	Digger's Club	Purchased 2017. In pot against east (right) side of garden just past water tank	Fruited in its first summer. Very dark purple and very sweet.
<i>Ficus opposita</i> / Sandpaper Fig / variety Bird's Eye	Daley's Nursery, Kyogle NSW	Purchased 2016, kept in pot for 2 years then planted in front of shed at back left-hand corner of garden	A selected cultivar of this native bush food which is apparently the equal or superior to the European fig. From tropical/subtropical areas but seems to cope with winters well. No fruit yet but hopeful.
<i>Morus nigra</i> / Black Mulberry	Cutting from neighborhood tree	Planted at very back end of the garden in 2016	The fruit are beautiful and hope to get a good crop this spring.

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Rosaceae (Brambles, Stone Fruit, Apples, etc)			
<i>Amelanchier alnifolia</i> and <i>A. lamarckii</i> / Saskatoon Berry	Facebook group: Heritage and Rarefruit Network (Australia)	Purchased seedlings 2018. <i>A. lamarckii</i> planted beside <i>Jaboticaba</i> on left (east) side of garden against water tank	I'm very excited about these as they are indigenous to the area of Canada I grew up in and I have fond memories of being in the bush and gorging on these delicious berries.
<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> / Loquat / Nagisakewase variety	Daley's Nursery, Kyogle NSW	Purchased 2012 and planted near back on right (east) side of garden and trained in a semi-espaliered fashion	Highly underrated fruit, among the best flavoured of anything I grow. Unfortunately, the possum concurs and eats them green unless I exclude!
<i>Prunus domestica</i> / Plum / ? Louisa variety	Scion from friend obtained 2016	Grafted onto a dwarf root stock <i>Prunus tomentosa</i> and planted in raised garden bed, first one on the left as you walk towards the back	The fruit is very large, elongated, yellow-blushed with orange, and is very tasty. I suspect it is a hybrid as it is quite unique in appearance and flavour. I was tempted to grow the root stock as it also produces a lovely fruit. There are lots of flowers this spring so hoping for my first fruit!
<i>Prunus persicaria</i> x <i>P. domestica</i> / Nectarine x Plum / Spiczee variety	Scion from friend obtained 2016	Grafted onto a dwarf root stock; <i>Prunus tomentosa</i> and planted it to the right of apple arbor	Had about 15 fruit last year and they were truly delicious! The tree is very ornamental with pink blossom in late winter and deep burgundy foliage in spring.
<i>Prunus armenica</i> x <i>P. domestica</i> / Apricot x Plum / Spring Satin variety	Scion from friend obtained 2016	Grafted onto the street ornamental plum at the front of the property	An apricot/plum hybrid with intensely-flavoured fruit. I had one last year so hoping for a few more this year.
<i>Malus domestica</i> / Apple / multiple varieties	Various	A few dwarf / step-over trees planted throughout the garden with a Granny Smith planted in 2016 on right (east) side of arbor created down the centre of the garden	I have grafted 6 other varieties onto the Granny Smith and eventually hope to have apples ripening over several months of the year.
<i>Rubus</i> sp. / Berries	Various	Planted in raised garden bed at back, right (east) side of garden	I've recently replaced Silvan berry with thornless, or nearly thornless cultivars (i.e. thornless blackberries, youngberry and raspberries). The Silvan berries were delicious and very productive but pruning and harvesting fruit was treacherous!

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Solanaceae (Nightshade)			
<i>Cyphomandra betacea</i> / Tamarillo / Denmark Gold variety	Seeds obtained online from Green Harvest	Grafted onto other solanum rootstock and placed in large pot beside clothesline on left (west) side of garden	One of my favorite fruits. I grafted it hoping to avoid the 'sudden death syndrome' of tamarillos after a few years. I think it needs to be in the ground to get the best out of it but I do manage to get quite a few fruit per year.
<i>Solanum muricatum</i> / Pepino	Cutting from friend, but you can often find these at Bunnings	Planted against 'reo' frame on east (right) side between lemon and Cara Cara orange	A bit of a shy bearer but with hand pollination I've had reasonable yields of apple sized fruits. They are pale yellow-orange with purple stripes and have a refreshing flavour reminiscent of rock melon.
Vitaceae (Grapes)			
<i>Vitis labrusca</i> and hybrids 10 varieties: Concord, Canadice, Autumn Royal, Canada Muscat, Red Labrusca, Kyoho, Summer Muscat, Delaware, Glenora	Neighbour's cuttings, Gardenarium nursery SA, and other misc	Planted all over garden	This is a North American species of grape and I don't know why these are not more commonly planted privately and commercially. I suspect the wine industry has a lot to answer for as they consider this species and its hybrids inferior. The fact is they have much, much more flavour and are more robust and disease resistant. My Canada Muscat, which fruited for the first time last year, is strongly reminiscent of passionfruit!
<i>Vitis rotundifolia</i> / Scuppernong / Adonis Variety	Daley's Nursery, Kyogle NSW	Planted 2017 on left side of arbor in the middle of the garden	Another North American species with superior flavour and greater disease resistance. I had the variety Apollo which produced huge amount of delicious, strongly fruit berries but alas it was ringbarked by an animal, most likely a rat. I planted Adonis in 2017 and should get fruit this year.
Caricaceae (Papaya)			
<i>Carica</i> / Babaco	Diggers Club	Planted 2018 opposite pomegranate, near back of garden on right (east) side	A striking plant, quite cold hardy and very productive. The fruit are a bit on the sour side but still pretty good.
<i>Carica goudotiana</i> / Papayuelo	Daley's Nursery, Kyogle, NSW	Seedlings planted 2017 opposite pomegranate, near back of garden on right (east) side	These seem to resent the cold a bit and defoliate but come back in spring. Set fruit last autumn but fell off over winter. Hoping they hold on this year.
<i>Carica pubescens</i> / Mountain Papaya	Seed from eBay	Seedlings planted 2018 opposite pomegranate, near back of garden on right (east) side	Apparently the most cold-hardy of the papayas. Still waiting for fruit. I think this will be more of a stewing fruit rather than for eating fresh.

Species / common name / variety	Where acquired	When / where planted	Notes
Miscellaneous			
<i>Fuchsia paniculata</i> / Mexican Blueberry	Bunnings	Planted, in 2018, in garden bed in front of shed at back right of garden	Fuchsia berries, all of which seem to be edible, are a bit on the bland side, but the beauty of the plant/flowers make up for this.
<i>Punica granatum</i> / Pomegranate / Wonderful variety	I can't remember the provenance but they can generally be found at Bunnings / Poyntons / Ceres	Planted in 2011 and trained in semi-espaliere fashion near back of garden on right (east) side of garden	My favourite fruit from the garden.
<i>Annona cherimola</i> / Cherimoya or Custard Apple	eBay	Seed purchased 2014 and seedling eventually planted at back left of garden, in front of white sapotes. Trained in semi-espaliere fashion	Flowered last year so hoping to get fruit this year. Apparently a very tasty custard apple with a bit more tang and complexity than the overly sweet custard apples we find at markets occasionally here.
<i>Cornus mas</i> / Cornelian Cherry / 2 cultivars	Yamina Rare Plants VIC	Purchased in 2014 and planted side by side against left (west) side of garden along water tanks.	Fruit is very sour until fully ripe and then they are quite nice.
<i>Canna edulis</i> / Arrowroot	Obtained rhizome online from Green Harvest	Purchased 2015 and have planted various places	This produces a large, round, starchy rhizome that can be used in stews and stir fries. I don't eat it much but I do love the lush green growth and it makes good green filler for compost.
<i>Zingiber mioga</i> / Myoga Ginger / Japanese Ginger	Obtained rhizome online from Green Harvest	Purchased in 2016 and placed in a few places around garden	A vigorously spreading, cold hardy ginger that dies down, briefly, over winter. The shoots and flower bud are eaten and have a mildly spicy flavor.