

Life in the Dry Tropics

In Townsville, we live in the Seasonally Dry Tropics, which means that the climate is warm year-round and that most of the rain falls in the Wet Season (November to April) and is associated with the arrival of the northern monsoon or tropical cyclones. However, our climate is much drier than towns both to our north and south.

The wet rainforests found elsewhere do not naturally grow in the Seasonally Dry Tropics, which has its own unique floral landscapes of predominately tropical savannas and dry rainforests. On the hills, we mostly see Eucalypt and Acacia (wattle) trees, while in the wetter fire protected gullies grow broadleaf trees in semi-deciduous woodlands and vine thickets. Trees like kapoks, bats wing coral trees, damsons, and Burdekin plums.

Different vegetation types also grow along creeks and rivers, in mangroves and along our beaches.

By planting local natives, we are planting species adapted to our local climate and soils. These need less maintenance and may grow healthier and stronger than plants from other places. The native plants listed below are great for planting in your school or home to keep it shady, green and beautiful all year!



Tropical savanna hills with Mount Elliot in the background