

## Cayman Mini-Woodlands - Trees, Shrubs, some Vines & Ground Covers

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Grand Cayman's birds suffered very badly as a result of **HURRICANE IVAN** (11-12 Sept. 2004) & its aftermath, when there was little food or shelter. The preservation & re-planting of Cayman's indigenous (& a few that have become naturalized & grow in the wild) trees & shrubs, **in clusters**, rather than singly, will create a **network of mini-woodlands** to aid the re-establishment of bird populations. Listed are different species that provide suitable roosts & nesting sites & a year-round supply of fruits for **BIRDS**.

### Legend:

**endemic\*** grows only in the Cayman Islands & nowhere else in the world

Salt-tolerance, drought tolerance and **WIND-tolerance** taken into account. Plants that are deep-rooted & slender-trunked offer less resistance to high winds & survive storms better than shallow-rooted, top heavy trees. Slow-growing trees are usually more wind-tolerant than fast growing trees.

Some may be culturally significant or invasive, or both, eg Logwood

**Monoecious** plants have separate male and female flowers on the same plant, eg Narrow-Leaf Ironwood.

**Dioecious** plants have separate male and female flowers on different plants, eg Bitter Plum, Cabbage Tree, Fustic, Rosemary.

**No** - Some plants are on the list that are NOT recommended for planting because they are very common and don't need human help, or invasive or harmful to people, exacerbate beach erosion or are hazardous in storms.

**Beware! (poisonous or spiny) DO NOT TOUCH - bold type** | lfp - Butterfly larval food plants (lfp)

fr - fruit - could be a berry (many seeds), drupe (one central stony seed), capsule (eg Mahogany), pod, etc.

(It does not necessarily mean an edible fruit for humans, but may be for **BIRDS**)

√ - first choice | c - culturally significant plant | st - medium or highly salt-tolerant (may be some omissions)

If plants did not have a use by people in Cayman, they often did not have a **Cayman common name**. In some cases, the US or Jamaican or other common names have been used - these are subject to revision. Alternate common names are separated by - ; Some plants may have many common names, because they occur in different countries. The US common names are almost always different from the Cayman common names.

Go [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) type in *scientific name*, click **Images** tab.

Common Name	Scientific Name		st	FAMILY	Notes
Almond; Indian Almond	<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	no	x	COMBRETACEAE	very common - invasive
Antirhea	<i>Antirhea lucida</i>			RUBIACEAE	fresh water
Astrocasia	<i>Astrocasia tremula</i>			EUPHORBIACEAE	shrub
Aunt Eliza Bush	<i>Tournefortia volubilis</i>			BORAGINACEAE	vine
Balsam	<i>Clusia flava</i>	no	x	CLUSIACEAE	tends to predominate
Balsam	<i>Clusia rosea</i>		?	CLUSIACEAE	pink flowers
Birch; Red Birch	<i>Bursera simaruba</i>		x	BURSERACEAE	grows v.quickly, seeds itself readily. Branches snap off in high winds. Beetle larvae make holes in trunk.
Bitter Plum	<i>Picrodendron baccatum</i>	√c		EUPHORBIACEAE	Dioecious, orange fruits eaten by rabbits/agouti
Bloody Head-Raw-Bones	<i>Capparis flexuosa</i>		x	CAPPARACEAE	white flowers, v. common. B'fly lfp
Broadleaf	<i>Cordia sebestena</i> var. <i>caymanensis</i> *	√c	X	BORAGINACEAE	bright red-orange flowers, very resilient shrub/sm tree
Bromeliad; Air-plant	<i>Tillandsia spp</i>			BROMELIACEAE	several spp of epiphytes - grow on trees
Broombush False Willow	<i>Baccharis dioica</i>		X	ASTERACEAE	attractive dioecious shrub
Brown's Cordia	<i>Cordia brownii</i>			BORAGINACEAE	shrub
Bull Hoof	<i>Bauhinia divaricata</i>	√		FABACEAE - C	pink & white flowers. B'fly nectar
Bulrush, Bull Rush, Zamia	<i>Zamia integrifolia</i> syn. <i>Z.pumila</i>	c	x	ZAMIACEAE	dioecious. Low, fern-like plant. A porridge was made from the starchy roots. Lfp of Atala b'fly (C Brac)
Bunchosia	<i>Bunchosia media</i>			MAPIGHIACEAE	shrub, yellow fls, bright red fruits
Burn Nose	<i>Daphnopsis americana</i>	rare		THYMELAECEAE	dioecious, attractive tree
Burn Nose	<i>Daphnopsis occidentalis</i>	rare		THYMELAECEAE	monoecious, attractive tree
Buttonwood, (Green)	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	√c	X	COMBRETACEAE	v. versatile green Buttonwood
Buttonwood, Silver	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i> var. <i>sericeus</i>		X	COMBRETACEAE	naturally occurring variant
Cabbage Tree	<i>Guapira discolor</i>	√c	x	NYCTAGINACEAE	dioecious, used for wattles, fr eaten by Caribbean Elaenias

Common Name	Scientific Name		st	FAMILY	Notes
Cajon	<i>Colubrina cubensis</i>	√		RHAMNACEAE	shrub, nectar for butterflies
Calabash; Gourd Tree	<i>Crescentia cujete</i>	√c		BIGNONIACEAE	Fruit a gourd, many uses
Calabash, Wild	<i>Elaeodendron xylocarpum</i> var. <i>attenuatum</i>	√		CELASTRACEAE	sm tree, v. variable leaves, bats eat the greenish-yellow fruits
Calliandra	<i>Calliandra cubensis</i>			FABACEAE - M	sm tree
Candlewood	<i>Amyris elemifera</i>	c	x	RUTACEAE	aromatic lvs. B'fly lfp
Candlewood, Black	<i>Erithrallis fruticosa</i>	√	X	RUBIACEAE	versatile, can grow on ironshore
Caribbean Myrtlecroton	<i>Bernardia dichotoma</i>			EUPHORBIACEAE	dioecious or monoecious shrub
Casuarina, Weeping Willow	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	no		CASUARINACEAE	non-native, naturalized, invasive, fallen needles inhibit growth of indigenous plants
Cat's Claw	<i>Clerodendron aculeatum</i>		x	VERBENACEAE	spiny shrub, white flowers
Cat-tail, Rush, Bulrush,	<i>Typha domingensis</i>	c		TYPHACEAE	wetland plant
Cedar	<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	√c		MELIACEAE	large compound lvs
Cestrum, Jessamine	<i>Cestrum diurnum</i>			SOLANACEAE	white flowers, purple fruits
Cherry	<i>Myrcanthes fragrans</i>	√c	x	MYRTACEAE	attractive; pale pinkish bark. Wattles
Cherry, Bastard	<i>Ehretia tinifolia</i>	√		BORAGINACEAE	tree, little creamy-white flowers
Chinese Lantern	<i>Chascotheca spp</i>			EUPHORBIACEAE	shrubs <i>C.neopeltandra, C.domingensis</i>
Christmas Berry*	<i>Allophylus cominia</i> var. <i>caymanensis</i> *	√		SAPINDACEAE	little red fruits at Christmas time
Christmas Blossom	<i>Vernonia divaricata</i>	√		ASTERACEAE	shrub, lilac flowers
Clamcherry	<i>Cordia laevigata</i>			BORAGINACEAE	sm tree, branches in distinct layers
Cocoon	<i>Dalbergia browni</i>		x	FABACEAE - F	sprawling shrub, white flowers
Cocoplum	<i>Chrysobalanus icaco</i>	√c	X	CHRYSOBALANACEAE	coastal native shrub, edible fruit
Cocoplum, Wild	<i>Savia erythroxyloides</i>	√		EUPHORBIACEAE	glossy leaves
Corato	<i>Agave caymanense</i> * (not <i>A. sobioifera</i> Ref.Proctor 13Feb05)			AGAVACEAE	massive lvs form basal rosette, yellow fls, grows in dry, rocky areas.
Corky Stem Vine	<i>Passiflora suberosa</i>	√		PASSIFLORACEAE	vine. Lfp
Curly Bean	<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i>	no		FABACEAE - M	invasive, red seeds in curly pod
Custard Apple	<i>Annona reticulata</i>			ANNONACEAE	bats eat the fruits
Devil Head	<i>Capparis feruginea</i>			CAPPARACEAE	shrub, red fruits
Draw Water Grass	<i>Lasiacis divaricata</i>	c		POACEAE	woodland grass
Duppy Bush	<i>Phyllanthus angustifolius</i>	√	x	EUPHORBIACEAE	shrub, good hedge plant
Duranta, Golden Dewdrop	<i>Duranta erecta</i>		x	VERBENACEAE	spiny, nectar for butterflies
Fiddlewood	<i>Petitia domingensis</i>	√c		VERBENACEAE	birds eat the fruits
Fiddlewood, White	<i>Citharexylum fruticosum</i>	√	x	VERBENACEAE	white flowers, fragrant
Fustic	<i>Maclura tintoria</i>	c		MORACEAE	dioecious, spiny when young
Fustic, Bastard	<i>Celtis trinervia</i>			ULMACEAE	attractive small tree
Ginep	<i>Melicococus bijugatus</i>		x	SAPINDACEAE	large, very common, edible fruits
Green Thorn	<i>Sideroxylon horridum</i>			SAPOTACEAE	spiny
Guana Berry	<i>Ernodea littoralis</i>		X	RUBIACEAE	sm shrub, grows on the beach
Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>			MYRTACEAE	white flowers, edible fruits
Guava, Wild	<i>Colubrina elliptica</i>			RHAMNACEAE	bark used to make Mauby drink, WI
Gyminda	<i>Gyminda latifolia</i>		x	CELASTRACEAE	attractive shrub/sm. tree, opp. lvs
Havana Solanum	<i>Solanum havanense</i>	√		SOLANACEAE	shrub, lilac or white fls, purple fr
Headache Bush	<i>Capparis cynophallophora</i>	√c	x	CAPPARACEAE	flowers white, turning purplish
Hook Wiss	<i>Celtis iguanaea</i>			ULMACEAE	recurved thorns
Ironwood*	<i>Chionanthus caymanensis</i> *	√c		OLACAEAE	exactly opposite leaves, each pair at right angles to the pair beneath
Ironwood, Bastard Ironwood, Yellow Caribbean Princewood	<i>Exostema caribaeum</i>	√		RUBIACEAE	leaf arrangement similar to Ironwood, attractive flowers
Narrow-Leaf Ironwood, Crab Bush	<i>Gymnanthes lucida</i>	√		EUPHORBIACEAE	monoecious attractive shrub/small tree

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Jasmine	<i>Plumeria obtusa</i>	√	x	APOCYNACEAE	white flowers. Lfp - Sphinx moths
Jasmine, Wild	<i>Tabernaemontna laurifolia</i>	√		APOCYNACEAE	little pin-wheel yellow flowers, attractive glossy leaves
<b>Lady Hair</b>	<b><i>Malpighia cubensis</i></b>	no		MALPIGHIACEAE	stinging hairs, pinkish fls, red fruits
Lancewood	<i>Randia aculeata</i>	√c	x	RUBIACEAE	white flowers, seeds itself readily
Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>		x	VERBENACEAE	poisonous fruits to humans. B'flies
Latherleaf, Asian Nakedwood	<i>Colubrina asiatica</i>	NO	X	RHAMNACEAE	non-native viny shrub, invasive
Lipstick Plant, Mahoe	<i>Malvaviscus arboreus cubensis</i>			MALVACEAE	stinging hairs
Logwood	<i>Haematoxylum campechianum</i>	NO c		FABACEAE - C	non-native, naturalized, invasive. Dye was exported
Mahogany	<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i>	√c	x	MELIACEAE	exported
Mahogany, Bastard	<i>Trichilia glabra</i>	√c		MELIACEAE	small tree
<b>Maiden Plum</b>	<b><i>Comocladia dentata</i></b>	NO		ANACARDIACEAE	v. common, invasive, <b>poisonous sap</b>
<b>Manchineel</b>	<b><i>Hippomane mancinella</i></b>	NO	X	EUPHORBIACEAE	<b>highly irritant sap</b> , do not stand under this tree when it's raining. Lvs similar to Wild Fig - <i>Ficus citrifolia</i>
Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>			ANACARDIACEAE	naturalized; fresh water, edible fruits
Mangrove, Black	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>		X	AVICENNIACEAE	pneumatophores - short breathing roots. Lvs opposite, dark glossy green above, salt crystals often visible, greyish underneath, white fls
Mangrove, Red	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>		X	RHIZOPHORACEAE	Prop roots. Lvs opposite, pale yellow flowers.
Mangrove, White	<i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>		x	COMBRETACEAE	tree or shrub, lvs opposite, pair of glands on leaf stalk, tiny white fls
Marine Vine, Sorrel Vine	<i>Cissus trifoliata</i>	√	X	VITACEAE	vine, 3-leaflets grows on rock & trees
Mastic, Black	<i>Terminalia eriostachya</i>	rare		COMBRETACEAE	fruit eaten by parrots
MASTIC, Yellow	<i>Sideroxylon foetidissimum</i>	c	x	SAPOTACEAE	Mastic Trail tree. Lfp
Mulberry, Noni	<i>Morinda citrifolia</i>		x	RUBIACEAE	B'flies - nectar. Medicinal properties
Neem	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	no		MELIACEAE	insecticidal properties, potential to be invasive
Neesberry	<i>Manilkara zapota</i>	c		SAPOTACEAE	naturalized; edible fruits
Parrot Berry; Snake Berry	<i>Bourreria venosa</i>	√		BORAGINACEAE	bright orange fruits
Pepper Cinnamon	<i>Canella winterana</i>	√c	x	CANELLACEAE	red flowers & fr.
Picklewood	<i>Guettarda elliptica</i>			RUBIACEAE	mottled bark sheds, velvety fruits
Pingwing	<i>Bromelia pinguin</i>	c		BROMELIACEAE	used as a natural fence
Pompero; Plumperra	<i>Hypelate trifoliata</i>	√c		SAPINDACEAE	3 leaflets, attractive
Popnut; Plopnut	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	c	X	MALVACEAE	v. fast growing, sprawling
Privet; Catclaw-Blackbead	<i>Pithocellobium unguis-cati</i>		x	FABACEAE - M	naturalized, spiny hedge plant, b'flies
Privet, Florida	<i>Foresteria segregata</i>		x	OLACAEAE	dioecious, attractive shrub/small tree
Privet Senna	<i>Senna ligustrina</i>			FABACEAE - C	attractive shrub, lfp
Pudding Withe	<i>Cissus microcarpa</i>	√		VITACEAE	vine, red flowers, nectar - birds
Quacori	<i>Cissampelos pareira</i>	√c		MENISPERMACEAE	vine, leaves used for polishing glass
Royal Palm	<i>Roystonea regia</i>	√		ARECACEAE	important to birds & rabbits/agouti
Sage, Roundleaf; Bitter Sage	<i>Lantana involucrata</i>		x	VERBENACEAE	herbaceous shrub, purple fruits
Sage, Sweet; Lanky Lantana	<i>Lantana urticifolia</i>			VERBENACEAE	woodland shrub. B'flies - nectar
Scaevola, Inkberry	<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>		X	GOODENIACEAE	black fruits, good native beach plant
Scaevola	<i>Scaevola sericea</i>	NO	X	GOODENIACEAE	highly invasive, crowds out other vegetation, white fruits
Schaefferia	<i>Schaefferia frutescens</i>			CELASTRACEAE	shrub/sm tree
Sea Grape	<i>Coccoloba uvifera</i>	√c	X	POLYGONACEAE	seashore tree, large round leaves
Seaside Mahoe	<i>Hibiscus pernambucensis</i>		X	MALVACEAE	fl of native shrub has <b>yellow centre</b>
Sea Olive; White-Alling	<i>Bontia daphnoides</i>	√	x	MYOPORACEAE	shrub/small tree
Schoepfia	<i>Schoepfia chrysophylloides</i>			OLACAEAE	roots parasitic on other plants
Shake Hand Tree - 1	<i>Xylosma bahamense</i>	√		SALICACEAE	spines on trunk

Common Name	Scientific Name		st	FAMILY	Notes
Shake Hand Tree - 2	<i>Zanthoxylum coriaceum</i>			RUTACEAE	spines on leaves & trunk. B'fly lfp
Shamrock; Yellow Alder	<i>Tecoma stans</i>		x	BIGNONIACEAE	yellow flowers, v. common. Nectar
Smoke Wood	<i>Erythroxylum areolatum</i>	√c		ERYTHROXYLACEAE	used in smoke-pots to ward off mosquitoes, white flowers
Smoke Wood	<i>Erythroxylum confusum</i>	c		ERYTHROXYLACEAE	sinkhole species, dark thick bark
Snake Wood	<i>Colubrina arborescens</i>			RHAMNACEAE	small tree, grows readily from seeds
Snowberry	<i>Chiococca alba</i>	√		RUBIACEAE	shrub - viny
Spanish Elm	<i>Cordia gerascanthus</i>	√c		BORAGINACEAE	white fls turn brown
Strawberry	<i>Eugenia axillaris</i>	√c	x	MYRTACEAE	aromatic lvs, little edible fruits
Strawberry, Bastard	<i>Calyptanthus pallens</i>	√	x	MYRTACEAE	looks v. similar to strawberry
Strong Back, Wild Coffee	<i>Psychotria nervosa</i>			RUBIACEAE	shrub, leaf veins depressed
Sweetwood	<i>Ocotea coriacea</i>	√	x	LAURACEAE	tiny white flowers
Tamarind	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	c		FABACEAE - C	naturalized, edible fruits
Tamarind, Wild	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	NO	x	FABACEAE - M	very invasive
Thatch, Bull	<i>Thrinax radiata</i>		X	ARECACEAE	seeds readily, tends to predominate
Thatch, Silver	<i>Coccothrinax proctorii</i>	√c	X	ARECACEAE	National tree grows <b>very</b> slowly
Thom Prickle	<i>Casearia aculeata</i>			SALICACEAE	shrub, can be trimmed; spiny spurs
Tobacco Berry	<i>Crossopetalum rhacoma</i>	√	X	CELASTRACEAE	small shrub, scarlet fruits
Trema	<i>Trema lamarckianum</i>		x	ULMACEAE	shrub/small tree. B'fly lfp
Trichilia	<i>Trichilia havanensis</i>	rare		MELIACEAE	new plants from root runners
Turkey Berry	<i>Crossopetalum caymanense*</i>	√		CELASTRACEAE	small shrub
Wash Wood	<i>Jacquinia keyensis</i>	c	X	THEOPHRASTRAC-EAE	creamy white flowers, grows v. slowly on beach, marl or ironshore or bluff.
Wash Wood, Proctor's Jacquinia	<i>Jacquinia proctorii</i>	√c	X	THEOPHRASTRAC-EAE	little yellow flowers
Whitewood, Pink Pou	<i>Tabebuia heterophylla</i>	√	x	BIGNONIACEAE	very common, grows quickly, seeds itself readily, tends to be invasive.
Wild Banana Orchid	<i>Myrmecophila thomsoniana</i> var. <i>thomsoniana*</i>	√	x	ORCHIDACEAE	orchid - National flower. Grand Cayman
Wild Banana Orchid	<i>Myrmecophila thomsoniana</i> var. <i>minor*</i>	√		ORCHIDACEAE	orchid - National flower. CB & LC
Wild Cinnamon	<i>Croton nitens</i>	√		EUPHORBIACEAE	occasional orange leaf. Lfp?
Wild Coffee	<i>Casearia guianensis</i>			SALICACEAE	shrub
Wild Coffee	<i>Casearia hirsuta</i>			SALICACEAE	shrub, velvety leaves
Wild Fig	<i>Ficus aurea</i>	√	x	MORACEAE	large tree
Wild Fig	<i>Ficus citrifolia</i>			MORACEAE	rarer than <i>F.aurea</i> lvs like Manchineeel
Wild Sapodilla, White Bullet	<i>Sideroxylum salicifolium</i>	√		SAPOTACEAE	grows quickly
Wild Spanish Armada	<i>Alvaradoa amorphoides</i>			SIMAROUBACEAE (PICRAMNACEAE)	monoecious. Attractive shrub/small tree
Yellow Nightshade, Wild Allamanda	<i>Pentalinon luteum</i> syn. <i>Urechites lutea</i>		x	APOCYNACEAE	yellow flowers
Yellow Root	<i>Morinda royoc</i>	c	x	RUBIACEAE	straggling shrub, white flowers
Yellow Sanders, Satinwood	<i>Zanthoxylum flavum</i>	c		RUTACEAE	Bfly lfp.
Yellow Trumpet Bush	<i>Hamaelia cuprea</i>	√		RUBIACEAE	attractive yellow flowers

## NOTES

Plants previously in FLACOURTIACEAE family are now in SALICACEAE Family. Ref. Dr. George R. Proctor

<b>FABACEAE (LEGUMINOSAE)</b>	All have a pod (a Legume) which splits longitudinally, and can be divided into 3 subfamilies	
FABACEAE - F - the largest of the 3 subfamilies, about 2/3 of genera & species	<b>FABOIDEAE</b> - pea/bean type flowers, 5 petals, standard & 4 others, uppermost petal attached inside the others and covering them in bud. Flowers irregular - zygomorphic. The majority are herbaceous, although there are some trees and shrubs. PAPILIONOIDAE is not correct, ref. Dr Proctor 15 Jan 2005	
FABACEAE - C	<b>CAESALPINIOIDEAE</b> - open flowers with 5 spreading petals.	Flowers irregular- Zygomorphic
	Flowers not pea-like, uppermost petal attached inside the others & covered by them in bud	
FABACEAE - M	<b>MIMOSOIDEAE</b> - tiny tubular flowers in pom-pom-like clusters.	Flowers regular - Actinomorphic
	Petals all equal; stamens 10 or more, usually much more conspicuous than the petals.	