

bird-friendly

It's win-win when you grow any of these five beautiful new bird-friendly plants. The birds get a free feed and a safe haven, and you get great flower colour plus the beauty and liveliness of native birds visiting your own backyard.

Native birds can't resist kangaroo paw nectar.

best climate

- not suitable
- ideal zone

hardy aloes ALOE-ALOE HORTICULTURE, WWW.ALOE-ALOE.COM.AU

Aloe flowers are very attractive to nectar-feeding birds and these colourful succulents can offer a lot of colour and drama to any garden design. *Aloe* 'Super Red' (above right) flowers when young, with masses of red flowers, and has a long flowering season from late summer to winter. It's a tall selection, reaching 1.5m high and 1m wide, with grey-green spiny leaves sending up flower stems at an early age. A 'Eager Beaver' (below right) is a large, early and strong-flowering plant with large, orange-coloured flowers throughout autumn and winter. The clumps of sword-shaped green leaves reach 140cm tall and 90cm wide. These two sun-loving ornamental aloes will be available initially in Qld and NSW and then at selected stockists in Vic and SA.



ELIZABETH SWANE'S TIPS: aloes provide a strong architectural form in the garden, plus spectacular winter flowers. A terrific choice for potted plants, they can tolerate dry, harsh conditions, light frosts and coastal winds, but good soil drainage is a must to keep them happy.