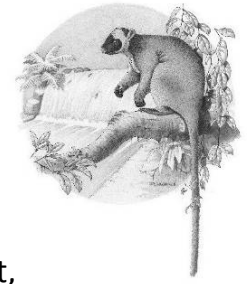
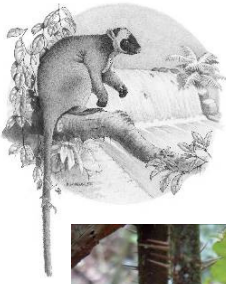


MALANDA FALLS VISITOR CENTRE

Prickly Plants you might meet

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In the Solanaceae or Tomato/Eggplant family, this plant, *Solanum macoorai* is a native to the Wet Tropics, unlike the Devils Apple weed from Central America that is found on rainforest margins. It can grow to a shrub of 4 metres, and has prickly stems and leaves. Macoorai is a native name for the southern peak of Bellenden Ker.



Cockspur vine is common in Tableland rainforest, and found in SE Asia and the Pacific. It starts as a little shrub with tiny leaves and spines and grows into a large climber with large spines and sharp hooks on the climbing branches. Large stems and the roots are an orange colour. *Maclura cochinchinensis*



Giant Mother-in-law vine is another Wet Tropics native. It can be found as a small shrub, but grows into a large very prickly vine, which drops beautiful large purple seeds (which have been used for making necklaces). *Caesalpinia robusta*.

Calamus caryotoides

Calamus australis

Calamus moti

Calamus radicalis



Lawyer Vines (wait-a-while) are the most common prickly plants you will encounter. There are 4 species on the Tablelands, with the larger Vicious Hairy Mary (3 rows of spinules on upper leaf) not found in this park. The smallest is the Fish-tailed wait-a-while (blunt leaf ends), followed by Hairy Mary (no spinules on leaves) and the large Yellow Thorny Mary (2 rows of spinules, and spirals of thorns). All have whip like structures covered with hooks, that help them climb (actually modified flower stalks).