

Kakaji (goannas) hibernate during Makurra, cold weather time, if they are fat or carrying eggs.

Murlurr (*Santalum lanceolatum*) can be used to create an antiseptic solution. Young branches are boiled up, and the purple-coloured liquid is most commonly used to treat the sore ears of children.

Mangu (spangled perch), Jarrampa (cherabin) and Marrpawurl (archerfish) are good bait for fishing once the river has slowed during Yitlial.

Walmajarri words from the river side FITZROY VALLEY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Makurra – cold weather time

The **Karntipal** tree (*Erythrina vespertilio*) has soft wood which is good for making coolamons.

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Parranga – hot weather time

Walmajarri words from the river side FITZROY VALLEY, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The wood of **Marnuwiji** (*Carissa lanceolata*) is a strong medicine. It is used to smoke babies and adults, cleanse for spirits after someone has died, to help bring a mother's milk on, and to repel mosquitoes.

Kakaru (freshwater mussels) were once baked in a ground oven before being eaten. Today they are often used as bait for Kurlumajarti (catfish), and are boiled up, and the milky water drunk, to treat cold and flu.

Heavy rain washes **Jamaraj** figs (*Ficus racemosa*) into the creeks and rivers, feeding the fish and making them fat.

A Walmajarri dream time story tells of the nature of **Minaji** (the echidna). It is said that if Minaji tries to climb a rock or hill and fails, he won't try again, and will take off to the flat country where he will sulk.