Tree identification manual
For the north-east Darling Downs region
First published 1993

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Tree identification manual
For the north-east Darling Downs region

Reprinted with funding through the Australian Government
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Typical brigalow uplands scrub, with brigalow, poplar box, wilga, narrow leaf ironbark, and a number of shrub species often present (Land system 1)
Introduction

Within the north-east Darling Downs there is a range of land systems and associated tree species. This manual has been compiled to provide information on the major species occurring in the district to allow their identification in the field.

Plants can be identified either by a simple key, tree descriptions or illustrations.

The descriptions outline a number of features which include the locality and distribution of the trees with regards to land systems and their associated soil type. Each tree is described in simple language in terms of botanical characteristics as well as information on distinctive features and the location of example trees in the district.

This manual is not designed as a complete tree list, only the more common native species that occur in the district are described. Additional lists are provided on associated or less common species in the district and a list of introduced species commonly planted around farms in the district.

A complete index of both common species names and scientific names can be found on pages 89 and 90.

The trees have been arranged in groups based loosely on similar structures, form, and locality.

Each of the trees found in this manual are commonly found in one or more of the seven land systems which are described in the following table.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LAND SYSTEM</th>
<th>PHYSIOGRAPHY</th>
<th>BRIEF SOIL DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>ASSOCIATED VEGETATION</th>
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<td>1 Brigalow</td>
<td>Undulating to hilly country derived from Jurassic shales and sandstones</td>
<td>Moderately deep, brown and grey loams and clay loams overlying dark clays. Deep cracking clays associated with the drainage lines. Grey, cracking clays occur on the slopes.</td>
<td>Layered open forest of belah, brigalow, wilga and gum-topped box with some poplar box. Layered closed forest (softwood scrub) occurs.</td>
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<td>Alluvial plains derived mainly from Tertiary Basalts and Jurassic shales and sandstones</td>
<td>Deep dark, self mulching, cracking clay soil (black earths) with small areas of texture contrast soils (red-brown earths, solodized solonetz/solodicls).</td>
<td>Grassy open woodland of blue grass, poplar box and Queensland blue gum.</td>
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<td>Undulating plains to low hills up to moderately high hills of Jurassic sandstones</td>
<td>Moderately deep to deep, hard setting loam to clay loam and overlying yellow, clayey subsoils (solodized solonetz/solodicls). Deep sands (siliceous sands), texture contrast soils (red brown earths and yellow earths).</td>
<td>Layered open forest to shrubby woodland of narrow-leaved ironbark, gum-topped box, bull oak, Qld. blue gum, spotted gum and wattles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Toowoomba basalt</td>
<td>Undulating to hilly, plateau and plateau remnants of laterised tertiary basalts</td>
<td>Moderately deep to deep, gradational red soils (krsasnozems) and self mulching, dark, cracking clays (black earths). Fine to medium structure, some areas of yellow earths.</td>
<td>Layered open forest of white stringybark, Sydney blue gum, tallowwood, red bloodwood, mountain coolibah and ironbark with an understorey of wattles and other scrub species.</td>
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<td>5 Basalt-west</td>
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<td>Open forest to woodland of narrow-leaved ironbark, grey gum, silver-leaved ironbark, bloodwood and stringybarks.</td>
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<td>Open forest to woodland of narrow-leaved ironbark and grey gum.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reference map
Tree identification key

The following key aids in the identification of unknown tree species within the north-east Downs District. Use of the key involves decision making between alternatives at the end of each branch. The key starts with general features progressing into more detail such as bark types, leaf types, fruit and nuts.

NOTE: This key only applies to trees found in this manual.

KEY A: Start here

Trees that look like eucalypts

Trees that don’t look like eucalypts

GO TO KEY J

Mature leaves attached to stem opposite each other, fruits papery and ridged

Angophoras

GO TO KEY B

Mature leaves not attached to stem opposite each other, fruits smooth and woody

Eucalypts

GO TO KEY C

KEY B: Angophoras (Native Apples)

Bark smooth

Smooth barked apple

Angophora leiocarpa

Areas 3,4,7

Bark rough, found near watercourses

Rough barked apple

Angophora floribunda

Areas 3,4,5,7
KEY C: Eucalypts

Bark mostly smooth but may be rough at base
GO TO KEY G

Bark rough on trunk

Very hard bark, dark and fissured
Ironbarks
GO TO KEY D

Bark not hard but scaly or flaky. Often thick on trunks
Bloodwoods and stringybarks
GO TO KEY E

Bark not hard or flaky, often thin on trunks
Box barks
GO TO KEY F

KEY D: Ironbarks

Leaves broad, rounded and silver coloured. Generally poor form and gnarled branches
Silver leaf ironbark
E. melanophloia
Areas 3,5,7

Leaves small and narrow (1 to 2 cm wide), light green, not glossy
Narrow leaf ironbark
E. crebra
Areas 3,5,6,7

Leaves broad and glossy (2 to 5 cm wide)
Broad leaf red ironbark
E. fibrosa
Areas 3,4,5,7
KEY E: Bloodwoods and stringybarks

Bark soft and spongy or corky, light grey to tan coloured. Leaves leathery and dark green, large fruit pods

**Pink bloodwood**
*E. intermedia*
Areas 3, 4

Bark light tan/yellow coloured and stringy. Bark rough on small branches, foliage dense and light green

**Tallowwood**
*E. microcorys*
Area 4

Coarse stringy bark which peels off in strips. Woody flat rimmed capsules. Immature foliage quite large

**White mahogany**
*E. umbra carnea*
Areas 4, 6

---

KEY F: Box barks

Leaves grey green or blue-green and not shiny

Lower trunk yellowish coloured under bark. Upper branches smooth, flowers and buds large

**Yellow box**
*E. melliodora*
Areas 3, 4, 5

Leaves shiny green, smooth bark on upper branches

Leaves small and narrow (1 to 2 cm)
Narrow leaf box or

**Grey box**
*E. microcarpa*

Leaves distinctly rounded and large (4 to 6 cm)

**Poplar box**
*E. populnea*
Areas 1, 2, 5

Leaves broad and long

**Gum topped box**
*E. moluccana*
Areas 3, 4, 5, 7
**KEY G: Bark mostly smooth but may be rough at base**

- Basal bark rough for less than 1m up main trunk of large trees
  - **Gum barks**
  - **GO TO KEY H**

- Basal bark rough for more than 1m up main trunk of large trees
  - **Half barks**
  - **GO TO KEY I**

**KEY H: Gum barks**

- Trees associated with moist areas or watercourses
  - Flower buds with a distinct constriction in cap
    - **River redgum**
    - *E. camaldulensis*
    - **Area 2**

- Trees associated with ridge tops and other areas
  - Flower buds without distinct constriction in cap
    - **Qld. bluegum**
    - *E. tereticornis*
    - **Area 2,3,4,5,7**

- Trees without dimples in bark
  - Bark peels in uneven patches with yellow or salmon coloured underbark
    - **Grey gum**
    - *E. propinqua*
    - **Areas 3,4,7**

- Trunk with even coloured bark and slight dimples on surface
  - **Spotted gum**
  - *E. maculata*
  - **Areas 3,6,7**

- Smooth even bark slightly greenish coloured with strips of old bark peeling off
  - **Sydney bluegum**
  - *E. saligna*
  - **Area 4**
KEY I: Half-barks

Trees with very dark basal bark which cracks into regular sized fragments resembling tiles. Upper bark smooth and white

**Moreton Bay ash**
*E. tessellaris*
Areas 2,3,5,6,7

Trees without tile like bark

---

**KEY J: Non-eucalypts**

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Plants with true leaves
True leaves have only one length size vein and several lateral veins

**GO TO KEY K**

Plants with flattened stems
Flattened stems are leaves that have several length size veins

**Wattles**

---

Plants with needle like foliage
**Sheoaks**

**GO TO KEY O**
KEY K: Plants with true leaves

Plants with compound leaves
Compound leaves are made up of several leaflets attached to a mid rib. Lateral buds are not found in the fork between mid rib and leaflet stalk.

- Soft light green foliage with pointed leaflet tips. Brown bark, yellow berries
  **White cedar**
  *Melia azedarach*
  Areas 3, 4, 5, 7

- Leaves dark green and leathery, leaflets thin and narrow and leaflet mid rib with wings
  **Scrub whitewood**
  *Atalaya salicifolia*
  Areas 3, 5, 7

- Dense light green canopy, leaflets large (3 cm wide) spiky five valued fruit
  **Crows ash**
  *Flindersia australis*
  Areas 3, 4, 5, 7

Plants with simple leaves
Simple leaves have no leaflets and lateral buds are found in the fork between leaf stalk and branch.

GO TO KEY L
**KEY L: Plants with simple leaves**

- **Leaves same colour top and bottom**

- **Leaf lobed, 3 lobes on mature leaves, foliage light green, trunk tan coloured and rough**
  - **Kurrajong**
  - *Brachychiton populneus*
  - Areas 3,5,6,7

- **Leaves not lobed, dark green on top, whitish below. Fruit a small black berry**
  - **Red ash**
  - *Alphitonia excelsa*
  - Areas 3,4,5,6,7

- **Leaves broad, 2 - 4 cm wide**
  - **Scrub wilga**
  - *Geijera salicifolia*
  - Areas 3,4,5,7

- **Leaves narrow and long, 1 - 2 cm wide**
  - **Wilga**
  - *Geijera parviflora*
  - Areas 1, 3, 5

**KEY M: Plants with flattened stems (wattles)**

- **Found on heavier soils and lowland areas**

- **Foliage slightly glossy and dark green. Thick canopy and frequent root suckers.**
  - **Sally wattle**
  - *Acacia salicina*
  - Areas 3,4,5,6

- **Foliage thin and strap-like. Flowers creamy white. Often on watercourses or flood plains**
  - **River myall**
  - *Acacia stenophylla*
  - Areas 1,2

- **Foliage dense, erect and silver coloured. Large trees and dense thickets**
  - **Brigalow**
  - *Acacia harpophylla*
  - Areas 1,5

- **Found on lighter soils, uplands**
  - **GO TO KEY N**

- **Foliage pendulous and silver grey. No taller than 6m found on open plains**
  - **Myall**
  - *Acacia pendula*
  - Areas 1,2,5
**KEY N: Plants with flattened stems found on lighter soils, uplands**

- **Wide leaf (3 to 5 cm wide)**
  - Foliage green coloured and shiny, medium sized trees
    - **Black wattle**
      - *Acacia concurrens*
      - Areas 3, 4, 6
  - Found on creek beds and adjacent areas
    - **River she oak**
      - *Casuarina cunninghamiana*
      - Areas 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

- **Narrow leaf (1 to 3 cm wide)**
  - Foliage light green. Often attached by fungal gulls on stems
    - **Blackwood**
      - *Acacia melanoxylon*
      - Areas 3, 4, 7
  - Found in open country
    - **Belah**
      - *Casuarina cristata melanoxylon*
      - Areas 1, 2

- **Foliage dark green. Young stems have bluish tinge**
  - **Willow leaf wattle**
    - *Acacia neriifolia*
    - Areas 3, 4, 5, 6
  - Found in degraded flat to lowland areas
    - **Bull oak**
      - *Allocasuarina luehmannii*
      - Areas 3, 5, 7

**KEY O: Plants with needle-like foliage**

- **Found on heavy soils**
  - Found on high ridges
    - **Forest she oak**
      - *Allocasuarina torulosa*
      - Areas 4, 6, 7

- **Found on lighter soils**
  - Found in open country
    - **Belah**
      - *Casuarina cristata melanoxylon*
      - Areas 1, 2
  - Found on heavy soils
    - **River she oak**
      - *Casuarina cunninghamiana*
      - Areas 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
  - Found in degraded flat to lowland areas
    - **Bull oak**
      - *Allocasuarina luehmannii*
      - Areas 3, 5, 7
**Rough bark apple**

**Botanical name**

*Angophora floribunda*

**Usual flowering time**

December - January

**Distribution**

Found chiefly along creek banks and on lighter alluvial flats in the Darling Downs and Burnett district.

**Description**

- **Height:** Up to 15m high, with a short trunk and often spreading crown.
- **Bark:** Grey, flaky, fairly soft and brittle.
- **Leaves:** Narrow, pointed, paler underneath and are paired along the twigs and closely attached to stems when immature.
- **Inflorescence:** The white flowers are arranged in large bristly bunches at the ends of the twigs.
- **Fruit:** Dark coloured gum nuts which are soft and papery, more or less triangular in cross section and easily crushed by fingers.

**Distinctive features**

Tree with grey, crumbly bark, narrow, pointed, paired leaves, and bunches of white, short-stalked flowers.

**Vegetation community**

Ironbark, grey box and yellow box layered open forest mainly.

**Associated soils**

Many of the less steep areas have been cleared to improve native pasture growth. Soils associated with this community vary from shallow, uniform, coarse sands to texture-contrast soils of moderate depth. Stone fruit are grown on the deeper sands and texture-contrast soils along the Herries Range.

**Local example**

Rough barked apple can be found associated with a number of small watercourses in the north eastern parts of the district. Examples can be found on the watercourse 3km west of Goombungee on Goombungee/Kulpi Road.

NOTES: Often a spreading shady tree, branches are brittle.
Smooth bark apple, rusty gum, cabbage gum, sugar gum

Botanical name
Angophora leiocarpa

Areas
3, 4 & 7

Usual flowering time
December - January

Distribution
Widely distributed in forest country on sandy soils or stony ridges in southern Queensland, extending inland as far as the Warrego district. It is often found with and mistaken for spotted gum.

Description
Height: Up to 19 metres
Bark: Smooth and shed each year. The new bark is pink but turns light grey before the next shedding and becomes gum-stained in patches.
Leaves: Bright green foliage which is paler in colouring underneath. Leaves are narrow and are paired along the twigs.
Inflorescence: Flowers are pure white and are produced in large bunches at the ends of the twigs.
Fruit: Grey coloured gum nuts, roughly triangular in cross section which are soft and papery, easily crushed by fingers.

Distinctive features
It's stark smooth bark in combination with light green foliage. Fresh bark is bright orange. Often confused with spotted gum (E. maculata) which has darker leaves, oppositely attached to the stem and hard gum nuts.

Vegetation community
Dry open forests, commonly with wattle understorey and ironbark or spotted gum.

Associated soils
Found on lighter soils of low fertility which may be sandy or stony and often silty.

Local example
Smooth barked apple can be found in a forest patch about 4 km from Goombungee on the Goombungee/Kingsthorpe Road.

NOTES: The timber of this species is virtually useless. It is a good shade tree, but branches can be brittle.
Narrow leaf ironbark

Botanical name
*Eucalyptus crebra*

Areas
3, 5, 6 & 7

Usual flowering time
August - December

Distribution
Throughout SE Queensland, often forms stands in stony or sandy soil, especially in the districts of the Burnett and Darling Downs. The species is widely spread in eastern Queensland. Found on hills, undulating plains and low plateaux. Grows on dry acid sandy to rocky soils.

Grows in typical dry inland areas commonly in woodland or open woodland formation.

Description
**Height:** Up to 30m.

**Bark:** The bark is thick, hard, very deeply furrowed, dark grey to very dark grey in colour.

**Inflorescence:** Fairly compact, dull, often greyish, crown of slender twigs and drooping leaves.

**Fruit:** Very small capsules produced in bunches at and near the ends of the twigs.

Distinctive features
Ironbark with small fruits, very narrow mature leaves, very dark grey/black bark and reddish timber. Most commonly found in hilly areas.

Vegetation community
Ironbark, spotted gum and red gum community found on the undulating and hilly areas of the region.

Associated soils
Many of the less steep areas have been cleared to improve native pasture. Soils associated with this community vary from shallow, uniform, coarse sands and lithosols to texture-contrast soils of moderate depth. Cultivation is carried out to a limited extent on the deeper soils throughout the area. Excessive clearing associated with over-grazing is leading to serious erosion in many places.

Local examples
Narrow leaf ironbark is found on many of the hill tops around the Haden area.

NOTES: This is one of the better fencing and structural timbers in the area.
Silver leaf ironbark

Botanical name

_Eucalyptus melanophloia_

Areas

3, 5 & 7

Usual flowering time

December - February

Distribution

Widely spread throughout Queensland specially the open forest country of SE Queensland, often in pure stands. Found mainly growing on the less steep slopes.

Description

**Height:** Up to 12.5 metres.

**Bark:** Black, hard, deeply furrowed bark.

**Leaves:** Paired, silvery or pale-grey, heart-shaped at the base, with very little stalk.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers in small bunches at the ends of the twigs.

**Fruit:** Medium sized silvery coloured fruit with concealed valves.

Distinctive features

An ironbark with oblong or broadly rounded paired silvery or pale grey leaves with minimal stalks. Often this tree has poor form and appears straggly.

Vegetation community

Mountain coolibah woodland to shrubby woodland. Often mixed with narrow leafed ironbark or carbeen.

Associated soils

Soils occupied by this community vary greatly in type and depth, the most common being shallow to moderately deep (30-60cm), often stony, self-mulching alkaline grey brown earths. Much of this community has been cleared and the land is under cultivation.

Local example

This species can be found on the hills around Meringandan.

NOTES: Not useful for timber, but a good shade tree. Often carries high levels of insect pests which are useful for bird food.
**Broad-leaved red ironbark**

**Botanical name**

*Eucalyptus fibrosa*

**Areas**

3, 5 & 6.

**Usual flowering time**

December - January

**Distribution**

Found in forest country on stony ridges, more commonly in the western and southern parts of the Darling Downs district, sometimes as pure stands, or associated with other trees.

**Description**

**Height**: Up to 30 metres.

**Bark**: Hard, black, furrowed, but flaky, and brownish in the furrows on the younger parts.

**Leaves**: Scattered along the twigs, they are dull, dirty green to silver green, thick in texture, stiff, straight or curved. Those on the sucker shoots are larger, nearly as wide and often greener.

**Inflorescence**: The flowers are stalked and borne in bunches at and near the ends of the twigs.

**Distinctive features**

An ironbark with fairly broad, green leaves, nearly round green sucker leaves, buds with a long lid and seed-capsules with protruding valves.

**Vegetation community**

Commonly found on lighter ridge country in association with remnant scrub areas, spotted gum or as pure stands.

**Associated soils**

Soils vary from weathered shaley soils to sandy open soils, commonly found on hilly sites where fertility is low.

**Local example**

Specimens can be found in forest country about 8 km west of Goombungee on the Kulpi Road.

**NOTES**: Broad leaf red ironbark has some use as a mill timber but is not highly sought after. It has limited use as a farm timber. It is a moderate source of nectar.
Pink bloodwood, red bloodwood

Botanical name
Eucalyptus intermedia (also Corymbia intermedia)

Areas
3 & 4

Usual flowering time
January - March

Distribution
Widespread in poorer forest country in the Moreton, Wide Bay and Burnett districts, never in pure stands and often as scattered trees.

Description
Height: Up to 24 metres.
Bark: Grey, flaky brittle bark arranged like scales, brownish when broken.
Leaves: Pointed, dark and glossy green on upper surface, paler and duller on lower surface.
Inflorescence: Flowers produced in large bunches at the end of the twigs. Flowers larger than those of most other eucalypts.
Fruit: Large woody urn shaped gum nuts.

Distinctive features
Tree with grey, flaky, brittle bark, leaves pale on the underside. Bunches of flowers at the end of the twigs. Generally found in more eastern parts of district.

Vegetation community
Layered open forest of Sydney blue gum, tallowwood and stringybark and other mixed forests in drier areas.

Associated soils
Soils vary from rocky, shallow, sandy loams to deep, friable, highly permeable, lateritic red earths. Portions of this community have been cleared and the land cultivated. Improved pastures for dairy and beef production are grown throughout the area.

Local example
Bloodwood is found in forest country about 4 km south of Goombungee on Goombungee-Kingsthorpe Road.

NOTES: Durable red timber is good for posts and poles. After fire, outer bark may be charred. Gum veins usually spoil sawn product. Desirable honey tree.
**Tallowwood**

**Botanical name**  
*Eucalyptus microcorys*

**Areas**  
4

**Usual flowering time**  
September - November.

**Distribution**  
Moreton and Wide Bay districts, usually not far from the coast in the higher rainfall country. Pure stands are not found but the trees may occur on the fringes of scrub or in mixed forest, where they are often scattered.

**Description**  
**Height:** Up to 50 metres, but commonly less than 30 metres.  
**Bark:** Brown to orange stringy bark that can be pulled away in long strips. Trunk may appear grey but the bright colour is readily seen after bark removal.  
**Leaves:** Tapered to a sharp point and spread out from twigs, paler on lower surface. Canopy is generally thick and heavy.  
**Inflorescence:** Flowers borne in bunches at the end of the twigs and in fewer ones among the leaves.  
**Fruit:** Medium sized with exposed valves.

**Distinctive features**  
Stringybark with yellow-brown to orange coloured bark, leaves distinctly paler on underside. A large tree with soft, fibrous, persistent bark and a dense crown of rather small leaves.

**Vegetation community**  
Layered open forest of Sydney blue gum, stringybark and bloodwood.

**Associated soils**  
Soils vary from shallow to deep, friable, highly permeable lateritic red earths. Portions of this community have been cleared and the land cultivated. Improved pastures for dairy and beef production are grown throughout the area.

**Local example**  
Tallowwood can be found in the Cabarlah to Pechey area. Good specimens can be seen in the park across the road from the Hampton store. This stand contains a mixture of tallowwood, blackbutt and Sydney blue gum.

**NOTES:** Timber highly prized for building uses. Trees form dense windbreaks and make good shade trees.
**White stringybark, white mahogany, yellow stringybark**

**Botanical name**

*Eucalyptus umbra var. carnea*

**Areas**

4 & 6

**Usual flowering time**

February - April

**Distribution**

Moreton and Wide Bay districts, in forest country with other eucalyptus, mainly on stony or sandy soils. Topographical sites vary from gently undulating country and hills near the coast to mountain slopes at the junction of the tablelands with the coastal areas.

**Description**

**Height:** 30 metres or more.

**Bark:** Grey, thick, closely packed bark that can be pulled away in long strips.

**Leaves:** Bluish green curved, gradually narrow to a pointed tip with one side thinner than the other.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers produced in stalked clusters among the leaves towards the ends of the twigs.

**Distinctive features**

Coarse stringy bark, broad juvenile leaves in pairs, even coloured adult leaves and woody flat rimmed capsules.

**Vegetation community**

Layered open forest of Sydney blue gum, tallowwood, stringybark and bloodwood.

**Associated soils**

Soils vary from shallow to deep, friable, highly permeable lateritic red earths. Portions of this community have been cleared and the land cultivated. Improved pastures for dairy and beef production are grown throughout the area.

**Local example**

This species can be found in the Pechey, Cabarlah, Haden areas. Some specimens can be found in forest adjacent to New England Hwy 10 km south of Hampton.

**NOTES:** White mahogany is highly desirable as a fencing timber.
**Yellow box**

**Botanical name**

_Eucalyptus melliodora_

**Areas**

3, 4 & 5

**Usual flowering time**

October - December

**Distribution**

On light soils, mainly in the southern part of the Darling Downs district, occasionally on the ranges in the Moreton and Burnett districts.

**Description**

- **Height:** Up to 24 metres.
- **Bark:** On the lower trunk is grey, fibrous and wrinkled to flaky (box-like) and bright yellow internally towards the sapwood. Bark is deciduous, smooth, light grey or greenish on the upper portion.
- **Leaves:** Narrow, drooping, greyish green and dull.
- **Inflorescence:** Flowers are usually white, on slender stalks in clusters on main stalks amongst the leaves.
- **Fruit:** Large gum nuts with concealed valves.

**Distinctive features**

Half-barked appearance with a bright yellow inner bark compared to pink underbark found in forest red gum with which it can be confused. Has a spreading crown and a short trunk.

**Vegetation community**

Layered open forest to open forest of ironbark forest red gum and grey box.

**Associated soils**

Soils vary from loamy lithosols grading into moderately deep grey brown texture contrast soils of low fertility. Large areas of this community have been cleared to improve native pasture growth. Improved pastures, partially lucerne, have also been planted. Excessive clearing associated with over-grazing is leading to serious erosion of many of the soils associated with this community.

**Local example**

There is a yellow box outside the tourist information centre in Oakey.

**NOTES:** Yellow box is of some use for fencing timber. It is a good shade tree and is very good for honey production.
Narrow leaf box, grey box

Botanical name
Eucalyptus microcarpa

Areas
1 & 5

Usual flowering time
January - February

Distribution
Occurs on gentle slopes and plains and occasionally, in the driest part of the range, on dry stream beds and banks.

Description
Height: Commonly 15-25 metres.
Bark: Box-type on the trunk and larger limbs, fine, grey, upper branches smooth, at first often pink or whitish weathering to grey.
Leaves: Smallish, glossy narrow and drooping.
Inflorescence: Smooth flowers in bunches, bud caps are short and bluntly pointed.
Fruit: Small and rounded with valves concealed.

Distinctive features
Typical fine box-type bark on trunk and large limbs. Small buds and fruits. Found on heavier soil types. Leaves are narrower than grey box or fuzzy box.

Vegetation community
Layered open forest to shrubby woodland and open forests containing ironbark, grey box, spotted gum and yellow box.

Associated soils
Found on rather heavy alluvial soils, clay, loams and better quality sandy loams, sometimes with limestone in the deeper horizons. The communities associated have been cleared or partially cleared to improve pasture growth and there is a threat to erosion from overgrazing.

Local example
There is a specimen just off the Goombungee-Kingsthorpe Rd on Boodua-Meringandan Rd opposite the telephone exchange.

NOTES: Useful for fencing timber and sleepers. Not bad as a shade tree of limited use for honey production.
Gum topped box, grey box

**Botanical name**

_Eucalyptus moluccana_

**Areas**

3, 4, 5 & 7

**Usual flowering time**

February - April

**Distribution**

Widely distributed in forest country in the Moreton, Wide Bay, and eastern part of the Burnett districts, often forming pure stands on hard flats. Occurs mainly on undulating country or in open valleys along the coastal belts.

**Description**

**Height:** Up to 15 metres.

**Bark:** Rough scaly grey to dark grey bark on the trunk, or greater part of the trunk, and with smooth white to grey bark on the upper part of the tree. Bark shed each year in long strips gives the trunk an untidy appearance.

**Leaves:** Dark glossy green on both sides, narrow at the end, hang down from the twigs. Juvenile leaves are larger, very broad and more rounded.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers are white, produced in bunches at or near the end of the branches.

**Distinctive features**

Tree with scaly box bark on the trunk and smooth white to greyish bark on the upper part which is shed in long hanging strips. Crown is usually gradually narrowed to the trunk with hanging green relatively broad leaves.

**Vegetation community**

Open forests including forest red gum, grey gum, yellow box.

**Associated soils**

Found on heavy clays or poor lighter soil with clay subsoil. Tolerates considerable salinity.

**Local example**

Grey box is found in many parts of the district. Planted specimens can be found along the Warrego Hwy 5km west of Oakey.

**NOTES:** Fairly good honey tree, timber is tough and durable.
Poplar box, bimble box

Botanical name
Eucalyptus populnea

Areas
1, 2 & 5

Usual flowering time
December - January

Distribution
Widely spread in the Darling Downs except in the south east, and in the western part of the Burnett district, often forming extensive stands.

Description
**Height:** 10 - 22 metres.
**Bark:** Rough, grey, wrinkled or scaly bark.
**Leaves:** Shiny green, drooping on long slender stalks, distinctly rounded or narrow to one or both ends.
**Inflorescence:** Very small white flowers are clustered in numbers of five or nine on stalks at the ends of the twigs and among the upper leaves.
**Fruit:** Very small and difficult to see. Gum nuts with valves concealed.

Distinctive features
Typical box bark and particularly shaped broad, glossy green leaves. Often found on open Downs country.

Vegetation community
Open woodland to woodland sometimes with sandalwood, wilga or belah.

Associated soils
Soils vary from self mulching grey clays around Dalby and Brookstead to texture contrast soils east of Millmerran. Many of the clays, formerly supporting a poplar box community, have been cleared and cultivated in recent years.

Local example
Poplar box is widespread on the plains between Oakey and Dalby.

NOTES: Useful as a shade tree and wildlife habitat. Known local koala fodder tree.
River redgum, river gum

Botanical name

*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*

Areas

2

Usual flowering time

November - January

Distribution

Found going the banks of the Condamine and Macintyre Rivers and some of their tributaries. Chiefly an inland species, occurs extensively on flood plains typically a riverine species.

Description

A spreading tree with a stout trunk.

**Height:** Up to 20 metres.

**Bark:** Smooth white or nearly white bark often with grey patches, usually with some grey flaky bark at the base.

**Leaves:** Long, narrow and mostly curved, and droop from the fine drooping twigs.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers are produced in stalked bunches amongst the leaves, each on its own slender stalk. Flower caps are distinctly pointed and constricted. The caps are generally less than 1.6 times as long as the width at the base.

**Fruit:** Small capsules with strongly exposed valves.

Distinctive features

A tree with smooth white bark (except at the base). Not common in this area, and found only in associations on river banks. Very similar to Queensland blue gum except for a shorter bud cap.

Vegetation community

River sheoak, forest red gum, river myall, coolibah.

Associated soils

This community occurs on a wide range of different soil types. Many areas have been cleared causing stream bank instability to occur. Further clearing should be restricted and many cleared riverbanks revegetated.

Local examples

River gum can be found on Oakey Creek west of Jondaryan.

NOTES: An important tree in watercourse habitats, especially for nesting birds and koalas.
**Spotted gum**

**Botanical name**

*Eucalyptus maculata*

**Areas**

3, 6 & 7

**Usual flowering time**

June - September

**Distribution**

Common in SE Queensland on stony ridges in forest country, often growing with one of the ironbarks.

**Description**

**Height:** Up to 30 metres or more with a fairly compact, dark green crown.

**Bark:** Pinkish, whitish or greyish, smooth with numerous hollows containing pieces of last seasons bark resulting in the spotted appearance.

**Leaves:** Scattered along the twigs, and dark or dull green. Seedling and young leaves often rough or hairy.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers are arranged in bunches near the ends of the twigs.

**Fruit:** Large woody gum nuts which are almost round.

**Distinctive features**

Tree with pinkish/greyish bark, smooth except for remnant pieces of old bark dotting the trunk. Often confused with rusty gum (*Angophora leiocarpa*) which has lighter coloured foliage, softer capsules and leaves attached oppositely on the stem.

**Vegetation community**

Layered open forest to shrubby woodland of ironbarks, grey box, angophoras and wattles.

**Associated soils**

Grows on a wide range of soils, especially well on those which are slightly moist but well drained and of moderately heavy texture.

**Local example**

Spotted Gum can be found in forest country adjacent to the Goombungee-Kulpi Rd about 10 km west of Goombungee.

**NOTES:** One of the most useful trees for rocky hills. Timber is tough, springy and durable out of the ground. It is a good nectar producer and useful for pollen.
Grey gum

Botanical name
*Eucalyptus propinqua*

Areas
3, 4 & 7

Distribution
This species is usually found on lowlands and low hills and ridges of undulating to hilly country, preferring slopes to valley floors.

Description
**Height:** Up to 30 metres. With a straight trunk and a moderately small open crown.

**Bark:** Smooth matt textured bark shed from the trunk and larger branches in large irregular patches exposing fresh orange bark which weathers to dull grey finally with a granular or matt finish.

**Leaves:** Long leathery leaves which taper to a pointed end. Mid rib is distinct and leaf is dark olive green.

**Inflorescence:** Smallish flowers in large dense bunches. Bud cap is short and pointed.

**Fruit:** Medium sized gum nuts with exposed valves. Stalks are flattened significantly.

Distinctive features
Highly characteristic as bark is shed in irregular patches exposing distinctive orange or salmon- pink coloured bark.

Vegetation community
Commonly found on upland sites in association with spotted gum, grey box, tallowwood or Sydney blue gum.

Associated soils
It is found mainly on clays and clay loams derived from shale, but is also common on sandy or gravelly loams derived from acid igneous rocks.

Local example
Grey gum is found around Crows Nest along the roadside along the New England Hwy 3km south of town.

NOTES: This tree is quite ornamental while new bark is fresh. It is of limited value as a farm timber and is of some value as a source of pollen.
Sydney bluegum

Botanical name
Eucalyptus saligna

Areas
4

Usual flowering time
Spring - Summer

Distribution
South East corner of Queensland to Southern NSW. Best development is on heavy but good quality soils, especially those derived from shales in higher rainfall areas.

Description
Height: Up to 40 metres.
Bark: Smooth throughout, shed in long strips, leaving a white to blue-grey, powdered surface, or with rough bark persisting at the base.
Leaves: Paler lower surface, long, narrow, smooth, alternating along the branch.
Inflorescence: Flowers, 4-9 usually 7 flowers on short stalks or stalkless.
Fruit: Medium sized gum nuts with exposed teeth which point outwards.

Distinctive features
Large tee, with smooth, almost shining bark and rough basal bark stocking to 3m up the trunk of mature trees. The tree canopy is usually quite open and lower branches do not persist.

Vegetation community
Layered open forest including tallowwood, stringybarks and bloodwood.

Associated soils
Soils vary from shallow to deep, friable, highly permeable lateritic red earths.

Local example
This species is found around Pechey to Toowoomba. Good specimens can be found in the park opposite the Hampton store mixed with tallowwood and blackbutt.

NOTES: Fast growing tree not suited as shade tree but of some use for wildlife habitat.
Queensland bluegum, forest redgum

Botanical name

*Eucalyptus tereticornis*

Areas

2, 3, 4, 5 & 7

Usual flowering time

July - November

Distribution

Forest country and alluvial flats. Often grows with broadleaved apple on alluvial flats.

Description

**Height:** Up to 30 metres.

**Bark:** Smooth light grey with darker grey patches often grey and flaky at the base.

**Leaves:** Droop from the twigs, are long, narrow and mostly curved.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers produced in stalked bunches amongst the leaves. Bud cap is horn like and more than 1.6 times longer than it is wide at the base.

**Fruit:** Medium sized gum nuts with exposed valves.

Distinctive features

Tree with smooth light grey bark, with darker grey patches and narrow drooping leaves. Heavily branched crown. Most commonly seen of 'Gum Tree' types in this area. Easily confused with River Red Gum except by shape and length of bud cap. This species is also more widely distributed than river red gum, which is found only on river banks in inland parts of the area. Underbark is a pink colour.

Vegetation community

May include grey box, poplar box, river red gum or spotted gum.

Associated soils

This community occurs on a wide range of different soil types. Many of the larger areas have been cleared and cultivated. Numerous examples of stream bank instability occur. Further clearing should be restricted and many cleared areas revegetated.

Local example

Specimens can be found around Oakey Creek near Oakey town.

NOTES: Forest red gum is useful as a timber for building or sleepers. It is a good koala food tree and is of value as a honey tree.
Mountain coolibah

Botanical name
_Eucalyptus orgadophila_

Areas
5

Usual flowering time
April - September

Distribution
Commonly on ridges in shallow clay soils derived from basalt or calcareous sandstone in the Darling Downs and Maranoa districts.

Description
**Height:** Up to 10 - 12.5 metres.

**Bark:** Lower part of the trunk is covered with a dark grey box bark, the upper trunk and branches are mottled light grey and smooth.

**Leaves:** Mature leaves are alternate, and narrow at each end with sharp points.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers are on stalks arranged in clusters of four to seven, each cluster is borne on a single, slender stalk which grows in the angle formed at the junction of the leaf-stalk and branchlet.

**Fruit:** Gum nuts are medium sized and urn shaped.

Distinctive features
Moderately sized tree with dark grey 'box' bark on the upper trunk and branches, grey foliage with tapering of the narrow leaves at both ends. Dominant tree on the uplands of eastern Downs.

Vegetation community
Commonly found in upland communities including yellow box, narrow leaf ironbark and scrub species such as wilga.

Associated soils
Soils occupied by this community vary greatly in type and depth, the most common being shallow deep (30-60cm), often stony, self-mulching black earths. Much of this community has been cleared and the land is under cultivation.

Local example
Mountain coolibah is common on the hills around Oakey. Good specimens can be found on the eastern outskirts of town near the caravan park.

NOTES: Mountain coolibah is a good shade tree but of little other use. It is an important tree for wildlife and retaining it on basalt hills is expected to help avoid salinity problems in catchments.
Blackbutt

**Botanical name**

_Eucalyptus pilularis_

**Areas**

4

**Usual flowering time**

February - April

**Distribution**

Chiefly in the higher rainfall areas of the Moreton and Wide Bay Districts, sometimes forming nearly pure stands.

**Description**

**Height:** Tall to very tall tree occasionally, attaining nearly 70m in height with a dense crown.  

**Bark:** Rough and fibrous on the major/lower part of the trunk, grey-brown and becoming ragged in old trees towards the base, shedding in strips from the upper trunk leaving a smooth white or yellowish grey surface, often marked with scribbly lines.  

**Leaves:** Glossy green on both sides, long and tapering upwards to a point. Inflorescence: Flowers borne in small bunches among the leaves. Bud caps sharply pointed.

**Fruit:** Gum nuts are large rounded and woody with concealed valves.

**Distinctive features**

A tall tree with grey or dark grey bark on the lower or greater part of the trunk, smooth and whitish elsewhere with nearly rounded, woody-looking seed-capsules. Primarily found in high rainfall areas.

**Vegetation community**

Layered open forest of Sydney blue gum, tallowwood, yellow stringybark and bloodwood.

**Associated soils**

Soils vary from shallow to deep, friable, highly permeable, lateritic red earths. Portions of this community have been cleared and the land cultivated. Improved pastures for dairy and beef production are grown throughout the area.

**Local example**

Good examples of blackbutt can be found in the park opposite the Hampton store. It is in a mixed stand with tallowwood and Sydney blue gum.

**NOTES:** This tree is very useful as a saw log.
Moreton Bay ash, carbeen

Botanical name

*Eucalyptus tessellaris*

Areas

2, 3, 5, 6 & 7

Usual flowering time

November - February

Distribution

Widely spread in SE Queensland, mainly on sandy soils with trees usually scattered. Occurs on extensive plains and undulating topography. Prefers lighter, well drained country.

Description

**Height:** Up to 20 metres.

**Bark:** On the lower or greater part of the trunk is dark grey and neatly cracked into small square or oblong pieces. Bark on the upper part of the tree is smooth, pale grey or whitish, shed each year sometimes with darker grey patches before it is shed.

**Leaves:** Light green willow-like leaves in a compact cover. Hang from the drooping branchlets on rather short stalks.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers borne in little bunches along the twigs mixed with the leaves.

**Fruit:** Medium to large gum nuts which are papery and do not persist on the tree.

Distinctive features

Tree with dark grey or blackish bark on the lower trunk cracked into neat shapes with the remaining trunk, smooth, pale grey or whitish. Narrow drooping leaves, which are light green in colour.

Vegetation community

Range of forest types including angophoras, forest red gum, spotted gum and some boxes.

Associated soils

Usually on deep dark clays but sometimes sandier areas. Much has been cleared and cultivated. Numerous examples of stream bank instability occur. Further clearing should be restricted and many cleared areas revegetated.

Local example

A good specimen of carbeen can be found adjacent to the Warrego highway about 5km west of Bowenville on the southern side of the road (Near the old service station).

NOTES: Carbeen is a good shade tree but it is a problem in disturbed areas because it tends to root sucker and throw lots of seedlings.
Scrub whitewood

Botanical name
Atalaya salicifolia

Areas
3 & 5

Usual flowering time
Spring - Summer

Distribution
Found in dry scrub areas in eastern parts of the district generally on upland sites.

Description
Height: A small tree up to 8m tall.
Bark: Tightly fissured bark which is light coloured, often with lichen growing on it.
Leaves: Dark green compound leaves with distinct wings of leaf tissue attached to the midrib. Generally six to eight leaflets per leaf attached in pairs.
Inflorescence: Flowers are small and white in colour. In certain years they can be quite abundant on the trees.
Fruits: Fruits are winged and attached branchlets in pairs.

Distinctive features
A dense foliaged plant with shiny dark green leaves which form a dense shade cover. The wings on the leaf mid rib are also distinctive.

Vegetation community
Found in dry scrub areas, as a common tree on lighter soils in sloping country.

Associated soils
Scrub whitewood occurs on light to friable scrub soils which are well drained and moderately fertile. Much of this type of country has been cleared for grazing or cropping, but remnants of forest remain for stock shade or wildlife corridors.

Local example
Scrub whitewood can be found in scrub areas in the eastern parts of the district. Specimens were found on the side of the road from Oakey to Cooyar about 12km from Oakey on the hill above the old Greenwood Hall site.
Crows ash, teak

Botanical name

*Flindersia australis*

Areas

3, 4 & 5

Usual flowering time

Spring

Distribution

Rainforest areas throughout the district, preferring higher fertility sites.

Description

**Height:** Tree up to 30m. Straight trunked in forest situations, but a much branched tree in open areas.

**Bark:** Grey to brown coloured bark which is shed in distinctive oval shaped flakes leaving depressions.

**Leaves:** Compound leaves with 5 to 9 leaflets which are glossy and light green. Leaves may be crowded at ends of the branchlets.

**Inflorescence:** Tiny white flowers in dense bunches at ends of branches.

**Fruit:** A woody, spiky spherical capsule which opens into five boat shaped valves remaining united at the base. Each valve contains two winged seeds about 3 cm long.

Distinctive features

Crows Ash is characterised by its uniquely shaped fruit, light green dense canopy and scaly nature of the bark.

Vegetation community

Found primarily in scrub areas where rainfall is above 500mm per annum. Individuals may also be found in open forest near scrub areas.

Associated soils

Well drained scrub soils with moderate to high fertility.

Local example

Good specimens of crows ash can be found around Haden and scrub soil areas in northern parts of the district.

**NOTES:** It is an excellent shade tree and is sought after for sawn timber which is used for flooring.
White cedar

Botanical name
Melia azedarach

Areas
3, 4, 5 & 7.

Usual flowering time
Spring (September-November)

Distribution
Remnant scrub areas and fringe forests on sloping land to east and north of this district.

Description
Height: Spreading tree up to 10 metres.
Bark: Smooth and brown when young, grey and furrowed on trunk.
Leaves: Soft, compound, deciduous in winter.
Inflorescence: Masses of fragrant small lilac flowers in clusters.
Fruit: Yellow grape sized berries, which are poisonous to pigs, poultry and horses.

Distinctive features
A deciduous tree capable of growing in moderately dry conditions in western areas. Characteristic bunches of yellow fruit which is seen when the tree is leafless. Plant is often attacked by hairy caterpillars which are very itchy.

Vegetation community
Often associated with remnant scrub areas throughout the region. The tree is fire sensitive and so is found in places which have not been burnt for some time.

Associated soils
Alluvial or fertile well drained soils.

Local example
White cedar stands out clearly around the district during winter when it has lost its leaves and is laden with yellow berries. Examples can be found in scrubby ridges 10 km north of Oakey on Cooyar Rd.

NOTES: This tree is useful as a source of nectar and also for wood for craft and turnery uses.
Red ash, white myrtle, soap bush

Botanical name
Alphitonia excelsa

Areas
3, 4, 5, 6 & 7

Usual flowering time
Mainly Autumn.

Distribution
Occurs throughout SE Queensland mainly in poor rainforests or open forest.

Description
Height: Tree up to 10m tall, often smaller or shrubby.
Bark: Pale grey, smooth when young, but rough with age.
Leaves: Distinctively glossy, dark green on the upper- surface and downy white on the under-side, leaves generally rounded at both ends.
Inflorescence: Small cream flowers.
Fruit: Black fleshy skinned fruits with capsules inside containing a number of seeds.

Distinctive features
Distinctive leaves, dark green on top, white below with white or grey bark.

Vegetation community
Commonly associated with open eucalypt forests or poor soil types although also found in scrub soil areas. Generally found on edges of rainforest areas or as a pioneer on disturbed sites.

Associated soils
Grows on a wide variety of soil types excepting heavy clays. Prefers well drained loams to light sandy soils.

Local example
Red ash can be picked out fairly readily from hilly or scrubby sites in eastern and northern parts of the district.

NOTES: This plant is valuable as a food plant for a range of fruit eating and insect hunting birds. The leaves contain high levels of saponin and will froth up when wet and rubbed with the hands. Known as a useful drought fodder.
Kurrajong

Botanical name
Brachychiton populneus

Areas
3, 5, 6 & 7

Usual flowering time
September - December

Distribution
Grows east and west of the Great Dividing range and occur commonly as single trees on the redbrown and red earths of western areas. They also grow on skeletal soils on rocky hilltops.

Description
Height: Attractive well-shaped tree 1020m.
Bark: Strong, fibrous grey bark with shallow vertical fissures.
Leaves: Light green glossy with distinctive three lobed shape each lobe pointed.
Inflorescence: Creamy, bell-shaped flowers.
Fruit: Large brown pods which split laterally to expose up to 10 seeds covered in prickly yellow hairs.

Distinctive features
Medium sized dense canopied tree with light green leaves and thick light grey trunk.

Vegetation community
Associated with remnant scrubs in this area and often on uplands of eastern Downs. It can be also found as individual trees in many open forest types.

Associated soils
Soils vary from light to deep well drained soils with reasonable fertility.

Local example
There is a specimen of kurrajong in a cultivation paddock just south of Haden on the western side of the road to Goombungee. There are also specimens around Brymaroo.

NOTES: Kurrajong is known as a good fodder tree and as a drought reserve. It is also a good shade tree and habitat for small insects and birds.
Wilga

Botanical name
Geijera parviflora

Areas
1, 3 & 5

Usual flowering time
September - November

Distribution
Commonly found in upland situations in the area associated with mountain coolibah or in lighter soils mixed with poplar box and other woodland species.

Description
**Height:** Small to medium tree up to 6 metres.
**Bark:** Hard silvery-grey to black, scaly bark over a light yellowish brown inner bark.
**Leaves:** Green, shiny and have a distinctive fragrant odour when crushed. Leaves are narrow and pendulous, 1cm, wide and up to 10cm long.
**Inflorescence:** Small flowers are bellshaped, small, white to cream in colour.
**Fruit:** Small black capsules containing two seeds.

Distinctive features
Small shapely tree with a broad, dense crown and a short trunk. Often with browse line in sheep country.

Vegetation community
Brigalow-Belah open forest to layered open forest.

Associated soils
Soils are grey and brown loams and clay loams to heavy grey clays in lower areas. Extensive clearing of these communities for cropping has occurred and little of the natural community remains. Considerable over-clearing has resulted in serious erosion.

Local example
Commonly seen as companion tree in mountain coolibah forests. Good specimens can be found on the Oakey-Aubigny Rd.

NOTES: Wilga is highly regarded as a fodder tree and shade tree.
Scrub wilga, green heart, axe gapper

Botanical name
Geijera salicifolia

Areas
3 & 5

Usual flowering time
Mainly Spring

Distribution
Found in dry, scrub areas throughout the region.

Description
Height: A small tree to 8m high with dense crown.
Bark: Smooth greyish to white bark commonly with lichens.
Leaves: Very glossy dark green leaves which are oblong shaped and leathery. Leaf size about 5 to 9 cm long. Crushed leaves have distinctive scent.
Inflorescence: Flowers small and creamy coloured, not often seen.
Fruits: Fruits are small and black coloured, not fleshy and contain two small black seeds.

Distinctive features
This plant is easily recognised by its dark green rounded crown and by the distinctive smell of the leaves.

Vegetation community
Scrub wilga is normally found as a part of dry scrubs including bottle trees, crows apple and acacias. They are commonly found left as a shade tree in scrub soil areas.

Associated soils
Found on a range of scrub soils.

Local example
Specimens of scrub wilga can be found in upland scrubs just north of Oakey. Two trees can be seen on the eastern side of the Oakey-Cooyar Rd near the old Greenwood Hall site.

NOTES: This is an excellent shade tree but is slow growing. The wood is reputed to be quite hard and durable. It is good for hoe and tool handles. The tree is also an important food source for native insects and birds.
Brigalow

Botanical name

*Acacia harpophylla*

Areas

1 & 5

Distribution

Common on heavy clay soils of the downs area often as pure stands or associated with belah, box or wilga.

Description

**Height:** Up to 20 metres.

**Bark:** Black and fissured.

**Leaves:** Curved, clustered, frosted steel blue hue.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers are pale yellow and appear in small bunches.

**Fruit:** Short pods which appear infrequently and are not readily distinguished from leaves.

Distinctive features

Often seen in dense thickets in disturbed areas. Characteristic dark rough bark and shiny silver grey foliage. Propagates readily from root suckers.

Vegetation community

Brigalow-belah open forest to layered open forest.

Associated soils

Associated with the undulating to moderately hilly areas of shallow to moderately deep soils. Soils are grey and brown loams and clay loams to heavy grey clays in lower areas. Extensive clearing of these communities for cropping has occurred and little of the natural community remains. Considerable overclearing has resulted in serious erosion.

Local example

Brigalow remnants are common through the heavier soil type areas. Specimens can be found on the Oakey-Cooyar Rd, 8km from Oakey.

NOTES: Brigalow is well known for its ability to sucker from the roots if disturbed. The timber is of good quality for ornamental uses if well seasoned.
**Myall, weeping myall**

**Botanical name**

*Acacia pendula*

**Common name**

Myall, weeping myall

**Areas**

1, 2 & 5

**Distribution**

Found scattered throughout the heavy grey to black clays of the inland Downs country eg. Roma, Morven and Dalby.

**Description**

**Height:** Small bushy tree to 10m with slender branches and a dense crown.

**Bark:** Brown rough bark to small

**Leaves:** Silvery blue-green, often weeping almost to the ground.

**Inflorescence:** Small light yellow florets in dangling bunches.

**Fruit:** Silvery coloured pods about 7.5cm long.

**Distinctive features**

A medium sized acacia with distinctive pendulous silver-coloured foliage. Found on open Downs country.

**Vegetation community**

Often found in open Downs, or associated with poplar box or other vegetation on heavy clay soils.

**Associated soils**

Soils vary from grey clays around Dalby and Brookstead to texture contrast soils east of Millmerran. Many of the grey clays, formerly supporting a myall community, have been cleared and cultivated in recent years.

**Local example**

Myall is common on the clay soil flood plain. Good specimens can be found along the Kingsthorpe-Goombungee Rd about 12 km north Kingsthorpe.

**NOTES:** This species is useful as a windbreak and shade tree. It is also useful for drought fodder.
River myall, fragrant myall, belalie, dunthy

**Botanical name**

*Acacia stenophylla*

**Areas**

1 & 2

**Usual flowering time**

Spring - summer

**Distribution**

Found mostly on river channels in the area with 250 to 650 mm rainfall. On the Condamine River banks and local tributaries.

**Description**

**Height:** Up to 6 metres.

**Bark:** Dark grey-brown, finely furrowed.

**Leaves:** Long and narrow, usually dull green in colour not curved.

**Inflorescence:** Flowers, very pale yellow clustered in balls.

**Fruit:** Long pods up to 7.5cm with distinct constrictions between seeds. Grey or bluish grey in colour.

**Distinctive features**

Primarily found on watercourses, or waterlogged areas in heavy clay soil. Strongly willow like appearance with long thin leaves and rough bark.

**Vegetation community**

Riverine communities including red gum, river sheoak, coolibah.

**Associated soils**

This community occurs on a wide range of different soil types. Many of the larger areas have been cleared and cultivated. Numerous examples of stream bank instability occur. Further clearing should be restricted and many cleared areas revegetated.

**Local example**

Found on most watercourses in clay soil areas. Plants can be seen in the watercourse on Doctors Creek where the Warrego Hwy crosses it near Jondaryan.
Sally wattle, doolan, native willow

Botanical name

*Acacia salicina*

Areas

3, 4, 5 & 6

Usual flowering time

February to May

Distribution

Found commonly throughout much of southern, central and western Queensland. Predominantly on heavier soil types in alluvial plains.

Description

**Height:** 10 to 15m tall with well defined main stem and drooping branches.

**Bark:** Hard and rough, grey brown and fissured at base; smooth and grey on upper branches.

**Leaves:** Variable in shape and size 4 to 17 cm, long, pale green or dark green. Straight or curved with a prominent mid rib.

**Inflorescence:** Cream or pale yellow flowers in globular heads.

**Fruits:** Light brown coloured pods which are woody and have thick edges. Seeds are shiny black and attached to the pod by fleshy red tissue.

Distinctive features

A thick foliaged wattle which looks a bit like a weeping willow. Often found around watercourses. Distinguished from fragrant myall by thicker leaves. It is very vigorous and frequently suckers from the roots when disturbed.

Vegetation community

This species occurs in a range of plant communities including riverine and flood plain forests and brigalow scrubs.

Associated soils

Heavy cracking clays to red earths. Soils may be of moderate to low fertility and may be alkaline or saline.

Local example

Sally wattle can be found on hilly country along the Goombungee-Kulpi Road just east of the Oakey turnoff.

NOTES: This tree is an excellent shade tree on heavy clay soils. Its suckering habit makes it a good windbreak but may cause problems in gardens or ungrazed areas. The tree is useful as fodder once stock become accustomed to it.
Black wattle, curracabah

**Botanical name**

*Acacia concurrens*

**Areas**

3, 4 & 6

**Usual flowering time**

July - September

**Distribution**

The Moreton and Wide Bay districts, and from the Eastern Darling Downs and Burnett districts.

**Description**

**Height:** 6-10 metres.  
**Bark:** Dark, furrowed.  
**Leaves:** Distinctly curved leaves which are stiff and leathery. Up to 2 cm wide and 7 cm long. Branchlets angular, somewhat scaly.  
**Inflorescence:** Flowers are 3-5 cm long.  
**Fruit:** Pods are long, narrow and twisted.

**Distinctive features**

Wattle with slightly glossy curved leaves and long narrow twisted pods. Foliage is usually dense, trees are commonly found on disturbed areas.

**Vegetation community**

Extremely common component of lower tree layers of open eucalypt forests, sometimes forming dense strands in country that has been cleared.

**Associated soils**

Generally found on lighter soil types in upland areas, commonly on granite and sandstone soils.

**Local example**

Black wattle can be found along the roadside between Kingsthorpe and Goombungee in upland areas.

**NOTES:** This wattle can be confused with a number of similar plants including *Acacia implexa, A. maidenii* and *A. leiocalyx*. Exact identity should be unsure.
Blackwood, black wattle

Botanical name

*Acacia melanoxylon*

**Areas**

4

**Distribution**

The overall occurrence is from 200km north of Brisbane to the southeast of South Australia and to Tasmania. The main distribution is on the tablelands and coastal escarpments in Eastern Australia.

**Description**

**Height:** Often 10-20m tall, but varies from a small mountain shrub to one of the largest acacias in Australia, attaining heights of up to 35m.

**Bark:** Persistent to the small branches, hard, furrowed longitudinally and transversely, dark grey or brown.

**Leaves:** Glossy green and strap-like leaves, young leaves may be bronze coloured.

**Inflorescence:** Small yellow florets in open bunches.

**Fruits:** Thin stringy pods which ripen to a brown colour on the tree, they are often quite curly.

**Distinctive features**

Medium sized wattle often with a large rounded crown and a very short trunk.

**Vegetation community**

Often found in higher rainfall areas with Sydney blue gum, tallowwood and stringybark.

**Associated soils**

This species prefers valleys and small flats in hilly or mountainous country but is found on nearly all topographical sites. It grows on a wide range of soils from sandy podzols to alluvials and clay loams.

**Local example**

Common around Cabarlah and Pechey. Good specimens can be found at Ravensbourne National Park.

**NOTES:** A tree with poor form in Queensland, but considered valuable for timber further south.
Willow leaf wattle, Oleander wattle, Pechey wattle

Botanical name

*Acacia neriifolia*

Areas

3, 4, 5, 6 & 5

Usual flowering time

Late winter-early spring.

Distribution

Occurs in uneven belts from Central Queensland to Central NSW on the Great Dividing Range. It grows on hilly to mountainous sites in soils of varying fertility. It prefers well drained acid soils.

Description

**Height:** Up to 8 metres tall.

**Bark:** Older bark is rough and brown, younger bark deep green and smooth.

**Leaves:** Thin and strap like, slightly pendulous.

**Inflorescence:** Light yellow flowers borne in open bunches.

**Fruit:** Pods flat but raised over seeds. Seeds longitudinal and rectangular.

Distinctive features

Found in high rainfall areas around Great Dividing Range, fast growing plant in disturbed areas. Pendulous glossy leaves which are strap like and quite dense. Green smooth bark which has a bluish tinge.

Vegetation community

Associated with most eucalypt forests including Sydney blue gum, tallowwood, stringybark.

Associated soils

Deep friable Red Earths and better drained soil types along Great Dividing Range.

Local example

Oleander wattle is common between Pechey and Cabarlah. Young plants can be found along the roadside in the pine plantations at Pechey.

NOTES: An attractive wattle which colonises disturbed areas and grows into a good windbreak species.
Bull oak

Botanical name
Allocasuarina luehmannii

Areas
3, 5 & 7

Usual flowering time
Summer and autumn

Distribution
Southern inland districts of Queensland. Occurs in very dense stands in some areas mainly on rather poor soils.

Description
Narrow habit with single central trunk and numerous slender side branches, the branchlets often remaining erect.

Height: Up to 15m.
Bark: Dark grey or grey-brown, dry, hard deeply furrowed.
Leaves: Coarse grey green cylindrical needles with minute teeth at joints.
Inflorescence: Female flowers red and fluffy, male flowers in small catkins at the ends of needles.
Fruit: Short woody cones with valves which open at sides.

Distinctive features
Fairly open habit and coarse foliage typify this species which is an invader of disturbed areas and poorer soil types. Not associated with water courses or heavy soil areas.

Vegetation community
Layered open forest to shrubby woodland of ironbarks, grey box, spotted gum, angophoras and wattles and in almost pure stands.

Associated soils
Dominant soils associated with this community are hardsetting, texture-contrast soils and lithosols. Occur on many of the steeper stony areas. These soils are highly susceptible to erosion and degradation.

Local example
Bull oak is found on the lighter soils around Goombungee and Haden. It can be seen in forest country about 5km, from Goombungee on the Goombungee-Kingsthorpe Rd.

NOTES: This species is a problem weed in disturbed areas in lighter country.
Forest sheoak

Botanical name
*Allocasuarina torulosa*

Areas
4, 6 & 7

Usual flowering time
April - October

Distribution
Widely in SE Qld, especially in forest country on sandy or stony soils. Especially abundant on sandy coastal country. Occurs over most of Eastern Queensland.

Description
**Height:** Up to 10m with sparse open canopy.

**Bark:** Rough, dark coloured.

**Leaves:** Minute teeth on joints of thin green needles which act as leaves.

**Inflorescence:** Small rusty coloured catkins on the ends of needles.

**Fruit:** Short woody cone with valves opening at sides.

Distinctive features
Sometimes conical in shape, with a corky, fissured grey bark. Branches usually curve upwards towards the ends and the green twigs are erect or spreading. Most commonly found in moister eucalypt forests as understorey.

Vegetation community
Layered open forest of sydney blue gum, tallowwood, stringybark and bloodwood.

Associated soils
This community occurs principally on lateritic red earths which vary in depth. Portions of this community have been cleared and the land cultivated. Improved pastures for dairy and beef production are grown throughout the area.

Local example
Found around Pechey State Forest. There is a specimen opposite Grapetree Rd intersection with New England Highway north of Hampton.

NOTES: Timber is useful for turning, firewood and shingles.
Belah

Botanical name
Casuarina cristata

Areas
1 & 2

Usual flowering time
Summer and autumn

Distribution
Commonly occurs on self-mulching heavy black or grey-brown soils that are more or less alkaline. Common habitats are flats and depressions where it forms dense stands mainly woodland or open-forest communities.

Description
Height: Narrow tree with straight erect trunk up to about 20m.
Bark: Grey, scaly, branchlets drooping towards the tips.
Leaves: Minute 'teeth' on the joints of dark grey green 'needles' which act as leaves.
Inflorescence: Male and female flowers on separate trees, female flowers very small and red coloured, male flowers in small terminal catkins.
Fruit: Short barrel like cones of capsules with exposed valves at sides.

Distinctive features
The most common casuarina on heavy clay soils in open areas away from watercourses.

Vegetation community
Commonly associated with brigalow or poplar box or as pure stands.

Associated soils
Belah is more prevalent on texture-contrast soils. Extensive clearing of these communities for cropping has occurred and little of the natural community remains. Considerable over-clearing has resulted in serious erosion.

Local example
Belah is found in a mixed stand on the south side of the Warrego Hwy 2km east of Jondaryan.

NOTES: Belah can be useful as emergency stock fodder if mixed with other forms of feed.
River sheoak

Botanical name
Casuarina cunninghamiana

Areas
2, 3, 4, 5 & 7

Usual flowering time
February - March

Distribution
Typically occurs in narrow belts along freshwater watercourses throughout eastern Aust. from NSW to the Northern Territory. Often grows as a pure stand on river and stream banks especially in the belt between normal water level and maximum flood level, and occasionally on adjacent river flats.

Description
Height: A medium to tall tree attaining 20 - 35m.
Bark: Continuous covering of dark grey, hard bark deeply furrowed longitudinally over the whole of the trunk.
Leaves: Short, soft, needle-like 'leaves' made up of segments with minute teeth at one end.
Inflorescence: Female flowers, small red florets, male flowers in small catkins on end of leaves.
Fruit: Seeds enclosed in conical shaped fruits which open from valves in sides.

Distinctive features
A tall casuarina with soft foliage and small cones. The species occurs commonly along the banks of streams. Has a dense crown.

Vegetation community
Riverine community of all types excluding scrub areas. May be found with species including forest red gum, black tea tree, river myall, but only on watercourses.

Associated soils
The species may extend for a short distance up rocky hillsides, chiefly on limestone. The soils range from fine-textured sands through to gravels in terraces of old river courses.

Local example
River oaks have been planted on the banks of Gowrie Creek at Gowrie Junction. Specimens can also be found on the western parts of Oakey Creek.

NOTES: River oak is a good shade tree. In its natural state it is valuable for creek bank stabilisation. It is a nitrogen fixing tree and the foliage is of limited use as drought fodder.
### Additional species not covered in this book

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Exotic species within the district

Arizona cypress (*Cupressus arizonica*)  
Athel pine (*Tamarix aphylla*)  
Bhutan cypress (*Cupressus torulosa*)  
Broad leaf pepperina (*Schinus terebinthifolius*)  
Carob bean (*Ceratonia siliqua*)  
Chinese celtis (*Celtis sinensis*)  
Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster pannosus*)  
Desert ash (*Fraxinus oxyphylla*)  
Himalayan pine (*Pinus roxburghii*)  
Honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)  
Lawson cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)  
Mexican or weeping pine (*Pinus patula*)  
Packalacca (*Phytolacca dioica*)  
Pecan nut (*Carya illinoiensis*)  
Pepperina (*Schinus molle*)  
Racehorse tree (*Tipuana tipu*)  
Radiatapine (*Pinus radiata*)  
Weeping willow (*Salix babylonica*)

Non-local Australian native plants commonly planted in the district

Bunya pine (*Araucaria bidwilli*)  
Cadaghi (*Eucalyptus torelliana*)  
Chinchilla white gum (*Eucalyptus argophloia*)  
Coolibah (*Eucalyptus microtheca*)  
Crested wattle (*Acacia saligna*)  
Dundas mahogany (*Eucalyptus brockwayi*)  
Dunns white gum (*Eucalyptus dunnii*)  
Goldfields blackbutt (*Eucalyptus lesoufeii*)  
Hoop pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*)  
Moort (*Eucalyptus platypus*)  
Mugga ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*)  
Queensland silver wattle (*Acacia podalyriifolia*)  
Red flowered yellow gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon rosea*)  
Rose or flooded gum (*Eucalyptus grandis*)  
Sugar gum (*Eucalyptus cladocalyx*)  
Swamp mallett (*Eucalyptus spathulata*)  
Whitebox (*Eucalyptus albens*)  
Willow leaf peppermint (*Eucalyptus nicholii*)  
Yapunyah (*Eucalyptus ochrophloia*)
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References