

COMMON NAME

BROAD-LEAVED RED IRONBARK

SCIENTIFIC NAME *Eucalyptus fibrosa*

FAMILY MYRTACEAE

CATEGORY NATIVE TREE

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE:

- Tree growing 15–35 m in height with typical ‘ironbark’ and generally with a straight trunk to about half the tree height
- Bark thick and furrowed on trunk and main branches, grey-brown to black and often flaky
- Leaves alternate, broadly lance-shaped, 2.5–5 cm wide, green to greyish green; juvenile leaves rounded 4–14 cm wide
- Flowers white, in clusters of 7–11, buds 1.2–2.5 cm long with distinctive elongated conical to horn-shaped caps; buds glaucous (with a whitish waxy bloom) in subsp. *nubila* and non-glaucous in subsp. *fibrosa*
- Flowering mainly March to August
- Seed capsules conical or hemispherical, 4–10 mm across, sometimes slightly ribbed; glaucous in subsp. *nubila*

WHERE IT GROWS & WHY:

- Occurs in wet or dry eucalypt forest, often with other ironbark species
- Usually found on shallower, less fertile soils, often rather poor dry clays or silts; also found on moister, more fertile loams
- Tolerates frost and extended dry periods

MANAGEMENT/SIGNIFICANCE:

- Wood is red, hard, heavy and durable; used for poles, heavy construction, sleepers and flooring
- Medium value for honey production
- Valuable habitat for native birds, insects and mammals, including koalas

SIMILAR PLANTS:

- Most other ironbark species have narrower leaves and smaller buds and fruits



Tree and flower buds (subsp. *fibrosa*): A. Clemson



Bark and fruit (subsp. *fibrosa*): L McMahon