

Milky Pine / White Cheesewood



FAMILY: Apocynaceae

HABIT: A medium to very tall tree with branches borne in whorls of 4-8 with a distinctly layered form. It has a stout grey barked trunk when grown in the open.

LEAVES: Simple, elliptic, from 10-15cm long, borne in whorls of 4-7 at the ends of branches and at intervals along the branchlets.

FLOWER/FRUIT: Small, fragrant, creamy flowers are borne in much branched, terminal sprays. Each flower normally forms a fruit up to 30cm long, which splits open on one side at maturity to expose numerous seeds clothed in long hairs. Fruit matures in January.

PROPAGATION: Air borne seeds need to be collected just as fruits are opening. Fresh and stored seed can both be successfully propagated.

LOCAL HABITAT: Rainforest, riparian.

DISTRIBUTION: From Central Queensland Coast to Cape York and overseas.



GENERAL: All parts exude milky sap when cut. The light soft timber is creamy white in colour and has been used for cabinet work. A fast growing tree often used in revegetation.



REFERENCES: Alcock & Champion 1989 *One Hundred and One Trees of Mackay*.