

Brown Kurrajong



FAMILY: Byttneriaceae prev Sterculiaceae

HABIT: A spreading tree with medium horizontally layered branches. Bark is rough grey on the lower trunk becoming smoother above.

LEAVES: Simple, alternate with toothed margins, broadly ovate, mostly 6-14cm long, dark green above, silvery grey beneath and covered with fine hairs.

FLOWER/FRUIT: Numerous tiny, five petalled, cream flowers are borne in sprays along the top of the branches giving the trees a snow laden effect. The grey-brown globular fruits, about 2cm in diameter and densely clothed in soft bristles are five valved capsules with one or two black seeds in each valve.

PROPAGATION: When one or two capsules are observed to be opening, collect capsules and place into a calico bag. The capsules will continue to open; collect seeds and hot water treat before sowing. (Beware soft bristles can be an irritant to the nose).

LOCAL HABITAT: Rainforest margins and riparian areas.

DISTRIBUTION: Eastern Australia from north Queensland to northern New South Wales.

GENERAL: A fast growing tree which would be an attractive ornamental in its early years. It is a common pioneer tree used for revegetation.

REFERENCES: Alcock & Champion 1989 *One Hundred and One Trees of Mackay*.
Melzer & Plumb 2007 *Plants of Capricornia*.