

Pink Bloodwood



FAMILY: Myrtaceae

HABIT: Medium sized tree with a fairly straight trunk, and a moderately dense crown. Tessellated, grey bloodwood bark is persistent on all branches and is easily removed in rectangular pieces.

LEAVES: Alternate, narrowly ovate to ovate, dark green above and much paler beneath up to 16 x 3.5cm, with fine, regular, lateral veins.

FLOWER/FRUIT: Creamy white flowers; egg shaped buds with slightly pointed bud caps are borne beyond the foliage in large bunches from December to February. Capsules are egg shaped, grey and often speckled. During July the fruits mature turning grey and hard releasing red-brown, winged seeds.

PROPAGATION: Collect fruit at the first sign of opening and place in paper bags in a warm position. Sow seeds fresh or store.

LOCAL HABITAT: Eucalypt woodlands and open forests.

DISTRIBUTION: In the high rainfall areas along the east coast from NSW (Bulahdelah) to Cape York.

GENERAL: A useful ornamental tree with strong, durable timber.

Flowers are eaten by flying foxes and lorikeets. Seeds are eaten by cockatoos.

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