

Weeping paperbark/ Long-leaved Paperbark



FAMILY: Myrtaceae

HABIT: A large tree with thin papery layers of bark and bright green weeping foliage.

LEAVES: Simple, short stalked, long and narrow (20cm x 2cm), leathery, tapering to a sharp point at the apex. New shoots may be covered with silky hairs.

FLOWER/FRUIT: The nectar-rich, fragrant, cream flowers are borne in open to fairly dense 'bottlebrush' spikes. Small woody capsules contain fine brown seeds and reach maturity during summer.

PROPAGATION: Remove mature capsules from tree and place in a paper bag in a warm dry position until capsules have released the seeds. The material shed contains chaff and seed.

LOCAL HABITAT: Melaleuca swamps, rainforests, littoral rainforest and riparian areas..

DISTRIBUTION: Northern Australia from the Kimberly region of Western Australia to Gladstone, Queensland.

GENERAL: Honey produced from this tree is very sweet and light coloured.

Timber is reported to be imperishable underground and has been used for posts in damp situations and ship building.

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