

# Angophora melanoxylon

## Classification

Angophora

## Nomenclature

**Angophora melanoxylon** R.T.Baker, *Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales* 25: 84, t. 2 (1900).

*A. intermedia* var. *melanoxylon* (R.T.Baker) Maiden & Betche, *Census New South Wales Pl.* 145 (1916); *Eucalyptus melana* Brooker, *Austral. Sys. Bot.* 13: 137 (2000). T: Coolabah, NSW, Feb. 1900, *W.Bäuerlen s.n.*; lecto: NSW, *vide* G.J.Leach, *Telopea* 2: 771 (1986).

## Description

Small multistemmed **shrub** to medium-sized **tree** to 15 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

**Bark** rough to the small branches, fibrous, grey to grey-brown.

Young **branchlets** with dense white short multicellular simple hairs and much longer sparse brown setae (bristle-glands); glands (or ducts) sometimes present in the pith but only seen just below the nodes on young branchlets.

**Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm):** stem rounded in cross-section, pubescent; juvenile leaves opposite, sessile, lanceolate, 4.5–10 cm long, 1.2–2.5 cm wide, base amplexicaul, sometimes truncate and wider than the lamina, margin entire or finely toothed, apex acute, dull, grey-green to blue-grey to green, pubescent becoming glabrous with age.

**Adult** leaves opposite, sessile or with petioles 0–1 cm long; blade narrowly lanceolate to linear or sometimes narrowly elliptical, 3–9 cm long, 0.6–2.2 cm wide, flat, base amplexicaul (sessile) or tapering to petiole or lobed (sometimes the lobes wider than the lamina) or rounded, margin entire, apex acute, discolourous, dull grey-green to green, penniveined, densely to very densely reticulate, intramarginal vein present, oil glands small island or obscure.

**Inflorescence** terminal compound, peduncles 0.6–2.3 cm long, buds 3 or 7 per umbel, pedicellate (pedicels 0.5–0.8 cm long). **Mature buds** globular (0.4–0.6 cm long, 0.4–0.7 cm wide), hypanthium pubescent, longitudinally ribbed, petals white with a green keel, stamens inflexed, anthers oblong, versatile, dehiscing by longitudinal slits (non-confluent), style long, stigma blunt, mop-like, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 5 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white or creamy white.

**Fruit** pedicellate (pedicels 0.3–0.9 cm long), cup-shaped to cylindrical to barrel-shaped, 0.8–1.3 cm long, 0.7–1.1 cm wide, longitudinally ribbed, disc descending, valves 3 or 4, enclosed.

**Seeds** reddish brown to brown, 4–7 mm long, flattened-ellipsoidal, dorsal surface smooth, hilum ventral.

**Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10):** cotyledons reniform to orbicular; stems rounded in cross-section, scabrid with bristle-glands and hairs; leaves opposite, sessile (rarely subsessile), lanceolate to oblong, 3–9 cm long, 0.8–3 cm wide, amplexicaul, margin entire or irregular, apex pointed, discolourous, green to grey-green, scabrid.

## Flowering Time

Flowering has been recorded in December.

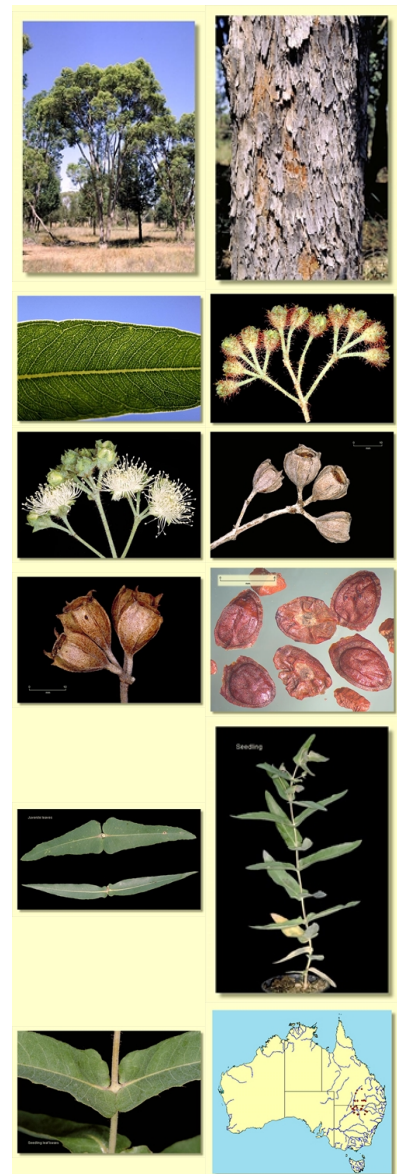
## Notes

*Angophora melanoxylon* is a small to medium-sized rough-barked tree, notable in the genus for the dark heartwood. It is widely distributed in drier areas of northern New South Wales, from Pilliga west towards Bourke, and north into southern Queensland, west to Cunnamulla and north to Augathella and east to about St George.

The mature crown of *A. melanoxylon* is often a mixture petiolate adult leaves and sessile juvenile leaves, often with amplexicaul to auriculate leaf bases.

Throughout its distribution *A. melanoxylon* should be confused with no other species.

## MORE ABOUT ANGOPHORA



## Origin of Name

*Angophora melanoxylon*: Greek *melanos*, black and *xylon*, wood.

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