

# Corymbia eximia

## Yellow bloodwood

### Classification

Corymbia | Ochrea

### Nomenclature

**Corymbia eximia** (Schauer) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson, *Telopea* 6: 383 (1995).

*Eucalyptus eximia* Schauer in Walpers, *Repert. Bot. Syst.* 2: 925 (1843). T: Grose R., NSW, Nov. 1803, *R.Brown & F.Bauer s.n.*; holo: W; iso: BM, CANB, E, K, MEL, NSW.

### Description

**Tree** to 20 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

**Bark** rough to small branches, tessellated, flaky, yellow-brown to yellow and grey.

**Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm):** stem rounded in cross-section; juvenile leaves opposite for 3 to 6 nodes, then alternate, always petiolate, peltate (at least to ca node 15), ovate at first then lanceolate to falcate, 4–21 cm long, 2.5–8 cm wide, base rounded, green to grey-green; scabrid on stems, petioles and lamina for up to ca 10 nodes.

**Adult leaves** alternate, petiole 1.5–3.5 cm long; blade lanceolate to falcate, 10–24 cm long, 1.7–6 cm wide, base tapering to petiole or rounded, concolorous, slightly glossy or dull, green to grey-green, strongly penniveined, densely to very densely reticulate, intramarginal vein parallel to and just within margin, oil glands island.

**Inflorescence** terminal compound, peduncles 1.5–4 cm long, buds 7 per umbel, sessile or pedicels to 0.4 cm long. **Mature buds** pyriform to obovoid, 1–1.3 cm long, 0.7–1 cm wide, green to yellow, scar present (outer operculum shed during bud development), operculum conical to beaked, stamens inflexed, anthers cuboid to oblong, versatile, dorsifixed, dehiscent by longitudinal slits (non-confluent), style long, stigma tapered, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 5 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white.

**Fruit** sessile to shortly pedicellate (pedicels 0–0.2 cm long), barrel-shaped to urceolate, 1–1.9 cm long, 1–1.6 cm wide, disc descending, valves 3 or 4, enclosed.

**Seeds** reddish brown, 5–8 mm long, flattened ovoid to boat-shaped, dorsal surface smooth and usually cracked, not winged, hilum ventral.

**Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10):** cotyledons reniform to orbicular; stems rounded in cross-section, scabrid in lower part, smooth above; leaves always petiolate, opposite for 3 to 6 nodes then alternate, ovate or lanceolate, 8–12 cm long, 3–8 cm wide, base rounded but with petiole peltately inserted into lamina, margin entire, apex pointed to rounded, more or less concolorous, dull, grey-green, scabrid for ca 6 pairs.

### Flowering Time

Flowering has been recorded in September, October and November.

*Corymbia eximia* is highly ornamental, especially when in flower, and is occasionally planted as a street or parkland tree. It deserves to be more widely used as it is highly attractive to flower feeding insects and birds.

### Notes

A small to medium-sized yellow bloodwood tree endemic to New South Wales, occurring from west of Nowra on the south coast, north through the lower parts of the Blue Mountains to the Hunter Valley but not north thereof, on sandstone.

The adult leaves of *Corymbia eximia* are concolorous, prominently falcate, somewhat thick and dull green to bluish green. The flaky, pale yellow-grey rough bark may be confused with that of *C. trachyphloia* which is distinguished by the smaller adult leaves that are darker above, paler below, and the delicate, smaller buds and fruit. Seeds of *C. eximia* are flattened ellipsoidal with a ventral hilum and reddish brown with a cracked seedcoat. The only other bloodwood in the general area of occurrence of *C. eximia* is *C. gummifera* which differs by having firm tessellated rough bark predominantly grey-black, leaves dark green above and paler below, buds without an operculum scar (both opercula held until flowering), and distinctly urceolate fruit.



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### Origin of Name

*Corymbia eximia*: Latin *eximius*, uncommon, outstanding, allusion obscure.

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