

Eucalyptus angulosa

Ridge-fruited mallee

Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Dumaria | Inkrassatae

Nomenclature

Eucalyptus angulosa Schauer in W.C. Walpers, *Repert. Bot. Syst.* 2: 925 (1843).

Eucalyptus cuspidata Turcz., *Bull. Soc. Imp. Naturalistes Moscou* 22(2): 21 (1849).

T: Western Australia: Swan River Colony, *J.Drummond* 4: 75; lectotype BM; isolecto: CGE, FI, K, PERTH, W. Refer to K.D. Hill *et al.*, *Telopea* 9: 264 (2001) for further discussion.

Eucalyptus inkrassata var. *angulosa* (Schauer) Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 3: 231 (1867) T: Australia, collector unknown; herbarium of cited specimen unknown to us.

Eucalyptus grossifolia L.A.S.Johnson & K.D.Hill, *Telopea* 9: 271 (2001). T: Western Australia: 1.3 km from Kambellup on Woogenellup rd (34° 34'S, 117°59'E), 12 Nov. 1986, *K.D.Hill 2444*, L.A.S.Johnson & D.F.Blaxell; hol: NSW; iso: PERTH.

Description

Mallee to 5 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

Bark smooth throughout with some grey, loose imperfectly decorticated strips of rough bark accumulating on lower stems; smooth bark pale grey, grey-brown, white or pinkish to coppery with ribbons of decorticated bark in the upper branches.

Branchlets with or without pith oil glands.

Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm): stems rounded or square in cross-section; juvenile leaves alternate, petiolate, ovate or elliptical, 4.5–9 cm long, 2.5–4 cm wide, margin entire, green.

Adult leaves alternate, petiole 1–3 cm long; blade lanceolate to broadly lanceolate to ovate-elliptic, 5–14 cm long, 1.7–5 cm wide, base tapering evenly to petiole, margin entire or sometimes shallowly and distantly denticulate, thick, concolorous, glossy, green, side-veins greater than 45° to midrib, moderately to very densely reticulate, the veinlets erose, intramarginal vein well removed from margin, oil glands numerous, intersectorial.

Inflorescence axillary unbranched, peduncles flattened, erect to spreading, 1–2.5 cm long, buds 3 or 7 per umbel, pedicellate, pedicels 0.1–0.7 cm long. **Mature buds** oblong to ovoid to pyriform, with coarse longitudinal ribs (1.5–2.7 cm long, 0.6–1.2 cm wide), scar present, operculum conical to shortly beaked (0.7–1.3 cm long), stamens inflexed, anthers cuboid to rounded, versatile, dorsifixed, dehiscing by longitudinal slits (non-confluent), style long, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 6 or 8 vertical ovule rows. Flowers creamy white to pale yellow (rarely pale pink).

Fruit pedicellate or occasionally sessile, (pedicels 0–0.5 cm long), cup-shaped, cylindrical, hemispherical or urceolate, 1.2–2.2 cm long, 1–2.5 cm wide, coarsely ribbed longitudinally, disc descending, valves 3 or 4, enclosed.

Seeds blackish grey, 2–4.5 mm long, flattened-pyramidal to D-shaped or cuboid, with ventral ridges, dorsal surface more or less smooth to slightly pitted, sometimes slightly lacunose, often with a narrow marginal flange, hilum ventral.

Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10): cotyledons reniform; stems square or rounded in cross-section; leaves always petiolate, opposite for 2 to 6 nodes then alternate, deltoid to ovate, 4–8 cm long, 2–6 cm wide, base tapering, rounded or truncate, dull, grey-green becoming green.

Flowering Time

Flowering has been recorded in April, August, September, October, November and December.

Notes

A mallee of the southern Australian coast from West Cape Howe to east of Esperance in Western Australia, and also southern Eyre Peninsula and southern Fleurieu Peninsula in South Australia but not on Kangaroo Island. The bark is smooth but the stems often have



partly shed strips of bark hanging. The adult leaves are thick and broadly lanceolate.

Eucalyptus angulosa belongs in *Eucalyptus* subgenus *Symphyomyrtus* section *Dumaria* because the buds have two opercula, stamens are strongly inflexed, ovules are in 6 or 8 rows on the placentae and cotyledons are reniform. *E. incrassata*, *E. angulosa*, *E. captiosa*, *E. singularis* and *E. ceratocorys* are closely related within this section *Dumaria*, forming series *Incrassatae*.

E. angulosa is a mallee of coastal headlands and dunes with very coarse leaves, buds and fruits. *E. incrassata*, with slightly smaller buds, fruits and leaves, is sub-coastal to inland in distribution as a component of mallee communities. The narrow-leaved and small-budded subcoastal mallee, *E. captiosa*, and coarse-leaved inland mallee with buds that are contracted about the middle, *E. ceratocorys*, both have prominently beaked opercula. The fifth species in the series is the mallet *E. singularis*, which has pendulous buds on slender peduncles and pedicels and has prominently beaked opercula.

The recently described species, *E. grossifolia*, from the Kamballup area of Western Australia, south of the Stirling Range, is not recognised here as being sufficiently distinct from *E. angulosa*. It differs primarily in having a more open, erect habit which may be due to the subcoastal habitat, compared to the bushy habit of more coastal-growing plants of *E. angulosa*.

This Kamballup form of *E. angulosa* is locally important for land restoration work.

Origin of Name

Eucalyptus angulosa: Latin *angulosus*, angled, referring to the branchlets and buds.

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