

Eucalyptus beaniana

Bean's ironbark

Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Adnataria | Apicales | Siderophloiae | Subglaucae

Nomenclature

Eucalyptus beaniana L.A.S.Johnson & K.D.Hill, *Telopea* 4 (2) 330 (1991).



T: Queensland: Isla Gorge Lookout, to W of carpark, 25° 12' S, 149° 58' E, *K.D.Hill* 1231, *L.A.S.Johnson & A.R.Bean*, 24 Aug 1984; holo: NSW; iso: BRI, CANB, K, MEL, PERTH.

Description

Small tree to 10 m tall, occasionally taller to 15 m. Forming a lignotuber.

Ironbark dark grey to black, normally rough-barked to the small branches, occasionally smooth-barked on branches less than 6 cm diameter.

Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm): stem square or rounded in cross-section; juvenile leaves shortly petiolate, alternate, linear, 5.5–9 cm long, 0.4–0.6 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, dull, green.

Adult leaves alternate, petiole 1–2.5 cm long; blade lanceolate to falcate, 7–13 (17) cm long, 0.9–2.3 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, concolorous, dull, green to blue-green, side-veins at an angle less than 45° to midrib, densely reticulate, intramarginal vein parallel to and just within margin, oil glands sparse intersectional.

Inflorescence terminal compound, sometimes a few axillary compound also and possibly some axillary single umbels, peduncles 0.5–1.1 cm long, buds 7 per umbel, pedicels (0.1)0.3–0.5 cm long. **Mature buds** clavate to fusiform to ± cylindrical, 0.4–0.7 cm long, 0.2–0.4 cm wide, scar usually present (first operculum sheds very early in bud development), operculum bluntly conical to rounded, stamens erect or irregularly flexed, anthers cuboid, adnate, slits or pores separate, style long, stigma blunt or pin-head shaped, locules 4, the placentae each with 4 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white.

Fruit on pedicels 0.2–0.7 cm long, cup-shaped, cylindrical or obconical, 0.4–0.6 cm long, 0.3–0.6 cm wide, discs slightly raised, level or obliquely descending, valves 4, exserted.

Seeds brown, (1)1.2–1.8 mm long, flattened-ovoid, dorsal surface shallowly reticulate, hilum ventral.

Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10): cotyledons small, reniform; stems square in cross-section; leaves always petiolate, opposite for 4–7 nodes then alternate, linear to narrowly lanceolate, 7.3–9.7 cm long, 0.4–0.9 cm wide, base tapering, dull, green, discolorous.

Flowering Time

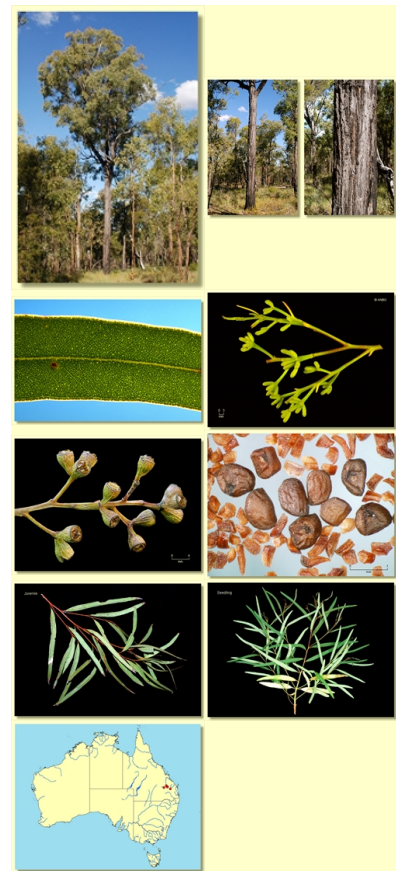
Flowering has been recorded in September.

Notes

A small ironbark tree known from four localities in south-east Queensland from an area west of Taroom, to the Isla Gorge National Park, to the area around Cracow and to an area south of Mundubbera. Characterised by its elongated more or less cylindrical buds with a bluntly acute to rounded operculum and linear juvenile leaves. *Eucalyptus beaniana* prefers sandstone hillsides and gorge country.

In the original description, *E. beaniana* was compared to *E. decorticans*. That species differs from *E. beaniana* by having conspicuously smooth-barked branches, diamond-shaped buds with an acute operculum and broader juvenile leaves. *E. beaniana* may also be close to *E. taurina*, *E. ophitica* and *E. tholiformis*. All four species have ± oblong to fusiform buds with a blunt conical to rounded operculum. They are weakly separated by the shape and size of their juveniles. *E. beaniana* has linear juveniles 0.4–0.6 cm wide, *E. taurina* has lanceolate juveniles 1.4–3 cm wide, *E. ophitica* has broadly lanceolate juveniles 3–7 cm wide, *E. tholiformis* has ovate juveniles 2.2–4 cm wide.

Within its area of occurrence it may be confused with two other closely related ironbarks, *E. crebra* and *E. fibrosa*. It differs from *E. crebra* by having more elongated buds with a round operculum, and fruit with slightly exserted valves. *E. beaniana* is much smaller in the buds, fruit and juveniles than *E. fibrosa* and lacks the long conical to horn-shaped operculum of that species.



All other ironbark species in the area of occurrence belong to the group of ironbarks where the buds have regularly flexed stamens and have an outer whorl of staminodes.

Eucalyptus beaniana is listed as "Vulnerable" under the Australian Government *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*. Further information may be found at this web address:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/sprat.pl>

MORE ABOUT IRONBARKS

Origin of Name

Eucalyptus beaniana: named to honour Anthony Bean (1957-extant 2009). Tony Bean is a keen botanist working in the Queensland Herbarium who has studied Queensland plants for many years and who has a special interest in the eucalypts, particularly the ironbarks.

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