

Eucalyptus wandoo subsp. *wandoo*

Wandoo

Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Bisectae | Glandulosae | Levispermae | Cubiformes

Nomenclature

Eucalyptus wandoo subsp. **wandoo** Blakely, *Key Eucalypts* 112 (1934).

Eucalyptus redunca Schauer in Lehm. *Pl. Preiss.* 1: 127 (1844), *pro parte*: *E. redunca* Schauer var. *elata* Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 3: 253 (1867). T. Kalgan River, Western Australia, *Oldfield s.n.*; syn: K.

Description

Trees to 18 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

Bark smooth throughout, often with scattered tardily deciduous flakes, white to mottled white and pale grey-brown over cream or pale yellow; bark of saplings fibrous on stems, becoming smooth as size increases.

Branchlets not glaucous; pith glandular.

Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm): stems rounded or square in cross-section, often glaucous, not hairy; juvenile leaves always petiolate, opposite for 2–4 nodes then alternate, ovate, broadly lanceolate or deltoid, 4.5–15 cm long, 2.5–7.5 cm wide, base tapering to rounded or truncate, usually blue-green, not hairy.

Adult leaves alternate, petioles 1–2 cm long; blade lanceolate or slightly falcate, 7.5–12.5 cm long, 1–2.8 cm wide, base usually tapering, margin entire, apex pointed, concolorous, dull, grey-green to blue-grey or rarely, glossy and green, side-veins greater than 45° to midrib, reticulation moderate to dense, intramarginal vein remote from margin, oil glands mostly intersectional.

Inflorescence axillary unbranched, peduncles widening apically, 0.8–2 cm long, buds 9 to 17, pedicellate (pedicels 0.3–0.5 cm long). **Mature buds** fusiform but curved (0.8–1.4 cm long, 0.2–0.4 cm wide), scar present, operculum conical, to twice as long as hypanthium and equal to it at the join, a few outer stamens erect, most stamens variably deflexed, anthers oblong, dorsifixed, dehiscing by longitudinal slits, style long and straight, stigma blunt to rounded, locules 3(4), the placentae each with 4 vertical rows of ovules. Flowers white.

Fruit pedicellate (0.1–0.4 cm long), long-obconical to cylindrical, 0.6–1 cm long, 0.5–0.6 cm wide, disc descending usually vertically, valves 3(4), rim level or enclosed.

Seeds pale to mid-brown or straw-coloured, 0.7–1.3 mm long, cuboid to sub-spherical, surface smooth, hilum ventral/terminal.

Cultivated seedlings (measured at node 10): cotyledons Y-shaped (bisected); stems square or rounded in cross-section, glaucous or not so; leaves always petiolate, opposite for 2–4 nodes then alternate, deltoid, cordate or ovate, 5.5–11 cm long, 2.8–8 cm wide, dull, green-grey to slightly glaucous, becoming slightly glossy, green.

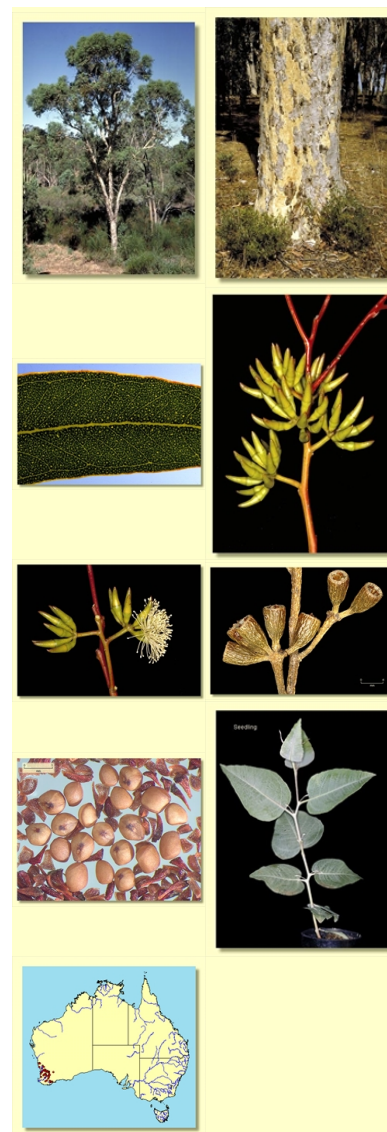
Flowering Time

Flowering has been recorded in January, February, March, April, June, August and October.

The timber of *E. wandoo* is very hard, strong and durable and has been used extensively for sleepers, poles, flooring and many forms of heavy construction.

Notes

Eucalyptus wandoo is a species of small to medium-sized tree endemic to Western Australia, widespread in subcoastal plains and adjacent ranges from Morawa in the north through the Darling Range and south-east to Pallinup River east of the Stirling Range with an outlier in Twine Reserve east of Narambeen in the central wheatbelt. The bark of the mature tree is smooth and the adult leaves usually dull, grey-green to blue-grey, although some specimens may have slightly glossy, green leaves, e.g. Twine Reserve. The bark of saplings is rough on the trunk. Juvenile leaves are deltoid to broadly lanceolate, to 10 cm wide.



Eucalyptus wandoo belongs to *Eucalyptus* subgenus *Symphyomyrtus* section *Bisectae* subsection *Glandulosae* because the cotyledons are bisected, buds have an operculum scar and the branchlets have oil glands in the pith. Within this subsection *E. wandoo* is one of a group of 14 species that form series *Levispermae* subseries *Cubiformes*, characterised by having smooth cuboid seed (not spherical), flattened peduncles that widen apically and buds that are narrowly fusiform with some stamens erect and others variably deflexed.

E. wandoo differs from its closest relatives, *E. capillosa* and *E. nigrifunda*, by having glabrous, not hairy-scabrid seedling and juvenile leaves. Coppice growth of all three species is usually plentiful in a stand of trees. In addition, the bark of *E. wandoo* is not as colourful as that of *E. capillosa*, and *E. nigrifunda* has some basal rough bark. Another species often referred to by the common name Powderbark Wandoo, *E. accedens*, belongs to another taxonomic series and can be distinguished by the more robust obovoid buds, very large deltoid juvenile leaves and seasonally orange smooth powdery bark.

There are two subspecies:

E. wandoo subsp. **wandoo**

This is the common form occurring from Gin Gin and Bindi Bindi southwards to the Hay River north of Denmark and easterly towards the Pallinup River area. Subsp. *wandoo* has smooth, white and non-powdery bark and the branchlets non-glaucous.

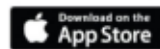
E. wandoo subsp. **pulverea**

The northern form occurring north from Cataby to Morawa. The bark is smooth, white and powdery and the branchlets are glaucous.

Origin of Name

Eucalyptus wandoo: *wandoo*, the Aboriginal name for the tree.

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