CURRANT BUSH

Alternative name: Kunkerberry, Native Scrub Lime

FAMILY: APOCYNACEAE

SCIENTIFIC NAME: Carissa ovata



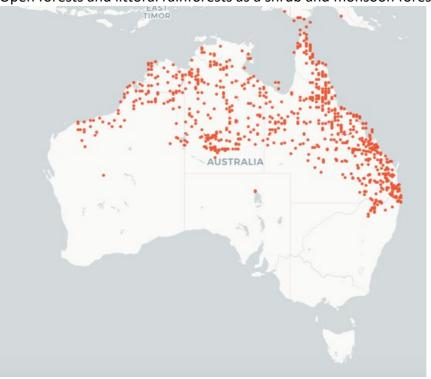


Form and size:	Shrub to 2m or climber Spreading to erect shrub with many branches, sometimes described as a scrambling climber Slow growing, hardy in most conditions	
Leaves:	Simple, opposite broad ovate shape 0.5-4cm Glossy green and usually smooth Can extrude milky latex	
Bark:	Dark grey Milky sap extrudes if bark is wounded	
Flowers:	Small fragrant white compact cyme (convex flower cluster)	
Flowering Period:	Any month	
Fruit:	Purplish black ovid berries Red flesh Usually one seed Any month	s, 1- 1.5cm long
Ecological notes:	Fruit eaten by the Satin, Spotted and Regent Bowerbirds. Larval food plant for the Common Crow Butterfly and moths such as a Hawk Moth.	
Cultivation:	Grow from fresh seed, remove flesh from seeds prior to sowing.	

Can also be cultivated from cuttings.

Distribution:

Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia, New South Wales
Open forests and littoral rainforests as a shrub and monsoon forest as a vine.



OTHER INFORMATION

<u>Disclaimer</u>: Rotary Club of Capricorn Coast can not take any responsibility for any adverse effects from the use of plants. Always seek advice from a professional before ingesting any part of a plant or using a plant medicinally.

QUIZ TIME

- 1. What sort of plant is this?
 - a. Tree
 - b. Climber
- 2. How many seeds do the berries have?
 - a. 1
 - b. 2
 - c. 3
 - d. 4
- 3. List the states Currant Bush can be found.

ANSWERS:

- 1. B
- 2. A
- 3. Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia, New South Wales

REFERENCES

CSIRO. (2020). Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants.

Melzer, R., & Plumb, J. (2011). Plants of Capricornia. Belgamba.

Williams, P., Kirkpatrick, S., Griffith University. Centre for Coastal Management, & Gold Coast (Qld.). Council. (2009). *Coastal Plant Pocket Guide*. Griffith Centre for Coastal Management.

Image 1

Marathon, M. (2011). Carissa ovata flower & foliage

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Carissa ovata flowers and foliage.jpg

Image 2

Aardvark, E. (2008). Carissa ovata thicket.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Carissa ovata thicket.jpg

Image 3

Aardvark, E. (2008). Carissa ovata fruit.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Carissa ovata fruit.jpg

Image 4

The Australasian Virtual Herbarium. (2021). *Cassa ovata*. https://avh.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?taxa=Carissa+ovata#tab_mapView