

MORETON BAY ASH

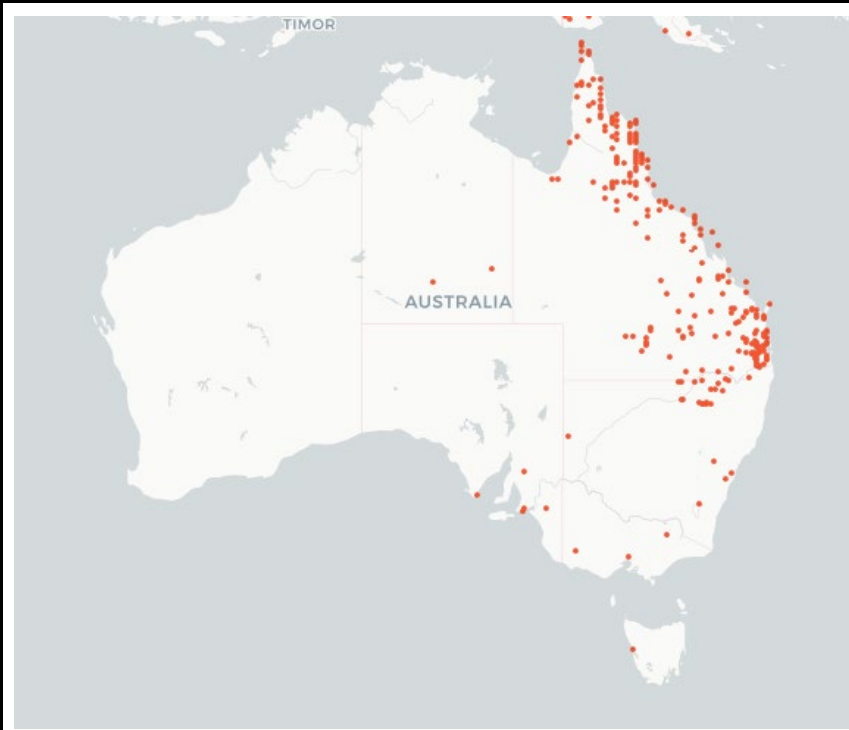
Alternative name: Carbeen

FAMILY: MYRTACEAE

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Corymbia tessellaris*



Form and size:	Medium to tall tree from 12-35 m with a straight trunk
Leaves:	Concolorous (uniform in colour), dull greyish green, pendulous (hanging down loosely)
Bark:	A “half-bark” as it has a persistent “stocking” of tessellated bark or crocodile scale bark on the lower to mid trunk, above which the bark is smooth and creamy white or greyish. Tessellations are very regular, almost square.
Flowers:	Compound, axillary creamy white flowers. The buds are somewhat pear-shaped with bud cap being hemispherical.
Flowering Period:	November to February
Fruit:	Capsules, cylindrical to slightly urn shaped. Thinned walled and easily crushed- therefore known as “paper fruited” bloodwood. Seeds are brown or reddish brown.
Ecological notes	Flowers eaten by the Black, Grey Headed and Little Red Flying Foxes and the Little, Musk and Scaly Breasted Lorikeets. Nectar eaten by lorikeets, Little Friarbird and honeyeaters. Pollen eaten by the Musk Lorikeet. Larval food plant of the Purple Oak-blue Butterfly. Larvae of the moth <i>Heteromicta tripartitella</i> feed on the dead leaves.
Cultivation:	Grow from seed
Distribution:	Endemic to Central and Northern Queensland, including Torres Strait, and New South Wales. Grows in undulating open forest, woodland, beach scrub, beach strand, coastal dune, littoral rainforest, open forest, woodland. Tolerates salt spray and is resistant to strong winds, heat and drought.



OTHER INFORMATION

Disclaimer: *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.*

Timber: used to make tools, spears and bridge construction.

QUIZ TIME

- 1. What animal skin is the Moreton Bay Ash described as being like?**
 - a. koala
 - b. blue tongue lizard
 - c. crocodile
 - d. platypus

- 2. What shape are the flowers' bud caps?**
 - a. hemispherical
 - b. octagonal
 - c. pyramidal
 - d. spherial

- 3. What colour are the seeds?**
 - a. black to purplish black
 - b. brown to reddish brown
 - c. creamy brown
 - d. red to pinkish red

ANSWERS:

1. C
2. A
3. B

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. (2014). *Corymbia tessellaris* flowers.

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corymbia tessellaris flowers 2.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corymbia_tessellaris_flowers_2.jpg)

Image 2

Marathon, M. (2014). *Corymbia tessellaris*.

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corymbia tessellaris.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Corymbia_tessellaris.jpg)

Image 3

The Australasian Virtual Herbarium. (2022). *Corymbia tessellaris*.

https://avh.ala.org.au/occurrences/search?taxa=Corymbia+tessellaris#tab_mapView