

RIBBONWOOD

Alternative name: Pink Poplar, Maiden's Blush, Mango Bark

FAMILY: ANACARDIACEAE

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Euroschinus falcatus*



Form and size:

Tall shapely tree that may be buttressed at the base in large specimens

Leaves:

Alternate, pinnate with no true terminal leaf.

Adult leaf -

Topside: glossy green

Underside: paler

Petiole exudes a clear thick sap with a mango like smell when broken. Crushed leaves also smell like mango.

Bark:

Brown, wrinkled to irregularly tessellated

Flowers:

Large terminal or upper axillary panicles of small pink or white flowers



Flowering Period:

September to November

Fruit:

Drupes, mango shaped 6-9mm long that hang in clusters.

Turning from green to pinkish purple to black.

November to February



Ecological notes:

Fruit eaten by Lewin's Honeyeater, Rose Crowned Fruit Dove, Topknot Pigeon, Crimson Rosella, Green Catbird, Silveryeye and Paradise Rifle Bird.
Leaves eaten by the Lumholtz's Tree Kangaroo.
Deciduous - (sheds its leaves) in drought.

Cultivation:

Grow from seed

Distribution:

It is an endemic Australian species, ranging from Jervis Bay, NSW to Cooktown, North Queensland. Found in coastal rainforests, often on the margins with sclerophyll forests that are adapted to long periods of dryness and heat.



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.

A beautiful, relatively fast growing, resilient shade tree that can be grown from fresh seed.

Timber: Timber is pinkish soft light but non-durable and not easy to work. It was once very popular for brake blocks on bullock wagons and is used for plywood, furniture and joinery.

QUIZ TIME

- 1. What does the crushed leaves of a Ribbonwood tree smell like?**
 - a. apples
 - b. oranges
 - c. mangoes
 - d. bananas

- 2. What happens to the leaves during a drought?**
 - a. new leaves grow
 - b. leaves change colour and fall off
 - c. leaves become greener
 - d. leave become bigger

- 3. What does endemic Australian species mean?**
 - a. only found in Australia
 - b. only found in Australasia
 - c. found elsewhere in world, including Australia
 - d. cannot be found in Australia

ANSWERS:

1. C
2. B
3. A

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:

Bunn, V. (n.d.). *Euroschinus falcatus* - flowers and foliage.

https://www.ttit.id.au/images/timbers/ribbonwood/07_small1.JPG

Image 2

Marathon, M. (2015). *Euroschinus falcatus* tree.

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f4/Euroschinus_falcatus.jpg/220px-Euroschinus_falcatus.jpg

Image 3

Black Diamond Images. (2007.). *Euroschinus falcatus* flowers.

https://live.staticflickr.com/2265/2035593329_3a8b4bd394_c.jpg

Image 4

Marathon, M. (2015). *Euroschinus falcatus*.

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Euroschinus_falcatus_fruit.jpg

Image 5

The Australasian Virtual Herbarium. (2022). *Euroschinus falcatus*.

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