

How to use this guide

Species in this guide have been divided into two main categories for easier identification. These categories have then been divided further, as follows:

Rough-barked trees

Crumbly full barks

Have bark which easily breaks into small fragments or fibres

Other full barks

Include stringy barks

Part Barks

Have some rough bark

Smooth-barked trees

Bark is smooth, usually shed annually.

References

Leonard, G. 1993. *Eucalypts of the Sydney region: a bushwalker's guide*. UNSW Press, Sydney.

Robinson, L. 1994. *Field Guide to the Native Plants of Sydney*. Kangaroo Press, NSW.

Sainty, Abell & Jacobs, 1989. *Burmum Burmum's Wildthings*. Sainty and Associates, Sydney.

Further reading

Fairley, A. and Moore, P. 1989. *Native plants of the Sydney district: an identification guide*. Kangaroo Press, NSW.

Online Resource

Hornsby Online Herbarium is located in the Hornsby Shire Library to assist with plant identification hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library

This guide has been compiled to help you identify common trees in Hornsby Shire. For more information on these or other species which have not been included, please consult native plant guidebooks.

Illustrations of leaves, buds, fruit and tree silhouettes have been taken from Robinson, L. 1994. *Field Guide to the Native Plants of Sydney*.



Trees marked with this stamp occur naturally in vegetation communities listed as 'Endangered or Critically Endangered Ecological Communities' under the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 or the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

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Natural Resources

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hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushland

your guide to native trees in the Hornsby Shire



Rough-barked trees: Crumbly full barks

Leaf scale = 2:1



1. *Angophora bakeri* Narrow-leaved apple

Habitat: Open woodland on dry sandy soils.

Form: Small tree, 2-10m.

Bark: Rough on all limbs.

Leaves: Opposite, usually <10mm wide, short to 10cm.

Flowers: Cream, in terminal clusters in spring to early summer.

Fruit: 7-10.5mm long ribbed capsules with stalks <10mm.



2. *Corymbia eximia* Yellow bloodwood

Previously called *Eucalyptus eximia*.

Habitat: Hills and ridges on shallow sandy soils.

Form: Small, usually gnarled tree to 16m, with a straight, short trunk and an open crown.

Bark: Scaly yellow-brown, present on all limbs.

Leaves: Alternate, blue-green on both sides, with an obvious yellow midrib, very thick 10-18cm x 10-25mm.

Flowers: Large cream flowers during spring, clusters of three to seven.

Fruit: Urn-shaped, stalkless capsules with enclosed valves.



3. *Corymbia gummifera* Red bloodwood

Previously called *Eucalyptus gummifera*.

Habitat: Low hills and ridges on sandy soils.

Form: Medium tree 10-30m, with a dense canopy and gnarled branches. Often multi trunked.

Bark: Red to grey-brown and rough on all limbs.

Leaves: Alternate, with roughly parallel veins and a thick cuticle. Glossy green above, lighter below 10-16cm x 2-5cm.

Flowers: During late summer, clusters of three to seven.

Fruit: Large, urn-shaped with enclosed valves and stalks.



4. *Eucalyptus acmenoides* White mahogany

Habitat: Hills to large ridges on shale soil.

Form: Medium to large tree, 20-40m. straight trunk with a heavy crown.

Bark: Rough, grey-brown, tight, fibrous appearance.

Leaves: Alternate, finely tapering and lighter below, 8-14cm x 1.3cm.

Flowers: During late spring to summer, clusters of nine to 15.

Fruit: Hemispherical capsules valves level with the rim.



5. *Eucalyptus resinifera* Red mahogany

Habitat: Ridge tops or hillslopes on clay soils or clay enriched sandstone soils.

Form: Straight, tall tree to 35m.

Bark: Rough, soft, grey-brown or red brown, stringy.

Leaves: Alternate, tapering to a long fine point, 10-16cm x 2-3cm.

Flowers: In clusters of seven to 11 during summer, very long bud covers.

Fruit: Cup-shaped capsules, with strongly projecting valves.



6. *Eucalyptus squamosa* Scaly bark

Habitat: Exposed ridges on shallow sandstone soils, often with a lateritic influence.

Form: Short, leaning and twisted tree to 10m.

Bark: Rough, scaly and grey on all limbs often tessellated.

Leaves: Alternate, sickle-shaped and green-grey on both sides, very thick, short to 12cm long.

Flowers: During winter and spring, clusters of five to 12. Buds waxy in appearance.

Fruit: Cup-shaped capsules of 7mm diameter, with a prominent disc and three projecting valves. Rare in Hornsby Shire.



**7. *Angophora floribunda*
Rough-barked apple**



Habitat: Wet, sheltered forests with deep alluvial soils or deep clay on ridge tops.
Form: Medium to large, gnarled tree to 20m.
Bark: Pale brown and fibrous on all limbs.

Leaves: Opposite and paler on one side, 5-12cm and 10-35mm thin textured.
Flowers: White, during spring and summer.
Fruit: 8-10mm long ribbed capsules with thin walls.



**8. *Eucalyptus robusta*
Swamp mahogany**



Habitat: Alluvial soils along the edge of the Hawkesbury River.
Form: Medium straight tree, with a dense canopy to 25m.
Bark: Dark brown, thick, spongy in texture. Furrowed on all branches.

Leaves: Large, thick glossy. Dark green in colour 10-17cm x 2-4.5cm.
Flowers: White to creamy from autumn through winter. Very large in profuse clusters.
Fruit: Elongated, cylindrical very large capsules. Barrel-like valves enclosed. Rare in Hornsby Shire.



**9. *Eucalyptus paniculata*
Grey ironbark**



Habitat: Ridge tops, slopes and foothills on deep loams and clay soils.
Form: Tall tree 20-30m, with a straight trunk and dense canopy.
Bark: Light grey to black, hard with deep furrows.

Leaves: Alternate, dark green above, paler below, 7-13cm x 15-30mm.
Flowers: Winter to spring, clusters of seven.
Fruit: Small, pear-shaped capsules, with slightly depressed valves.



**10. *Syncarpia glomulifera*
Tupentine**



Habitat: Well drained soils, transitional zones between shale and sandstone soils.
Form: Tall to over 25m, straight trunk, or multi trunked. Dense crown.
Bark: Coarse, thick and stringy, spongy.

Leaves: Opposite, elliptic, glossy green-grey above, grey below, <12cm.
Flowers: Spring.
Fruit: Fused, woody cluster, 15mm diameter.



**11. *Eucalyptus pilularis*
Blackbutt**



Habitat: Deep clay soils on ridges and sheltered moist slopes on sandstone soils.
Form: Straight, tall tree, 30-40m.
Bark: Lower trunk is grey, and rough. Upper trunk and branches are smooth and white or cream. Often black after fire at base.

Leaves: Alternate and glossy green on both sides, 10-12cm x 2cm thick.
Flowers: During summer, clusters of seven to 15.
Fruit: Hemispherical capsule, with enclosed valves.



**12. *Eucalyptus piperita*
Sydney peppermint**

Habitat: Varied, but prefers moist valley slopes on sandstone soils down to creek edges.
Form: Variable spreading tree. 15-25m, depending on habitat.
Bark: Rough, grey trunk, smooth off-white to pale grey branches. Shed in long ribbons.
Leaves: Alternate and glossy green on both sides, 10-12cm x 2cm thick.
Flowers: During summer, clusters of six to 15.
Fruit: Small egg shaped capsule with enclosed valves.



Smooth-barked trees

**14. *Angophora costata*
Sydney red gum or
Smooth-barked apple**

Habitat: Variety of habitats, often found gentle slopes on sandstone soils and occasionally on clay soils.
Form: Medium tree, often gnarled, straighter on fertile soils in forest.
Bark: Smooth and mottled orange, purple-pink in winter.
Leaves: Opposite, paler on one side, close lateral veins, up to 16cm long.
Flowers: Cream, in terminal clusters, in spring and early summer.
Fruit: Strongly ribbed capsule.



**15. *Eucalyptus punctata*
Grey gum**



Habitat: Widespread on hills and ridges with shale and sandstone soils.
Form: A tall, upright tree to 35m.
Bark: Smooth, cream-orange, ageing to grey, with a sandpaper texture and shedding in plates, leaving a multi-coloured trunk.
Leaves: Alternate, tapering to a point. Dark green above, paler below, 6-10 x 2-3cm.
Flowers: From summer to autumn in clusters of seven to nine.
Fruit: Hemispherical, with short valves.



**16. *Eucalyptus saligna*
Sydney blue gum**



Habitat: Ridgetops and valleys with deep, clay soils.
Form: Tall to 40m with high branching.
Bark: Smooth upper trunk, cream to blue-grey. Rough collar on the base of the trunk with smooth bark shedding in long strips, pale gold immediately after bark shed.
Leaves: Alternate, tapering to a point. Green above, paler underneath 10-20cm x 15-30mm. Thin textured.
Flowers: seven to 11, summer to autumn.
Fruit: Bell-shaped, with stalks. Projecting valves.



**17. *Eucalyptus haemastoma*
Scribbly gum**

Habitat: Ridgetops and upper slopes on Hawkesbury sandstone.
Form: Sloping trunk, often gnarled to 15m often multi-trunked.
Bark: Smooth, white or yellowish, usually marked with 'scribbles'.
Leaves: Alternate, broad and leathery. Dull green-grey on both sides, 8-12cm x 2-3cm.
Flowers: seven to 20, white, in spring.
Fruit: Pear-shaped, with a broad disc.



Part barks (continued)

**13. *Eucalyptus sieberi*
Silvertop ash**

Habitat: Well drained Hawkesbury sandstones with high rainfall on ridgetops.
Form: Medium tree to 20m.
Bark: The trunk is rough, dark, hard and furrowed. Upper branches are smooth white-orange.
Leaves: Alternate, tapers from a round leaf to an apex, with almost parallel veins. Glossy green on both sides, 9-18cm x 15-28mm thick texture.
Flowers: During spring to early summer, with white flowers. Clusters of five to 15.
Fruit: Pear-shaped capsules, with a wide disc and three valves, usually depressed. Rare in Hornsby Shire.



**18. *Eucalyptus racemosa*
Scribbly or Snappy gum**

Habitat: Ridgetops and upper slopes on Hawkesbury sandstone.
Form: Medium tree to 15m.
Bark: White with grey patches and conspicuous scribbles.
Leaves: Alternate, narrow 7-14cm x 10-15mm.
Flowers: Early spring.
Fruit: Tiny with a reddish disc.

