# Angophora costata Sydney Red Gum







Family Myrtaceae

#### Distribution

Southern, central and north coast of New South Wales found mainly in open forest situations through to woodlands. In HSC; Community BG1 (37.2 ha), N (7.9 ha), TI (295 ha), DF (15.5 ha), L1 (837.7 ha), L2 (14.1 ha), Q1 (271.1 ha), Q2 (6.6 ha), SS (4.7 ha), A (5579.4 ha), C (638.4 ha), E (46.5 ha), F (1289.6 ha), S (62.3 ha) and D (4408.7 ha). Usually on upper and lower slopes or occasional on broad plateaux with heavy clay soils.

Common Name Sydney Red Gum

#### **Derivation of Name**

Angophora; from Greek angos, a jar or vessel and phorus, to bear, referring to the cupshaped fruits. costata; ribbed, of the fruit.

#### **Conservation Status**

Not considered to be at risk in the wild. Well conserved in HSC, across all National Parks reserves and council managed reserves.

#### Description

Tree to 25 m high; bark smooth, pale pink/ orange or grey, shed heavily in late spring leaving bright orange new bark exposed. Branches are often contorted giving a gnarled and crooked appearance to the tree. Adult leaves oppositely arranged, broad, lanceolate to 17cm in length, 2cm to 3.5cm wide. The white flowers occur in late spring through early summer in conspicuous terminal clusters at the ends of the branches. These are followed by woody ribbed cup-shaped fruits. Grows as a taller straight tree on fertile sites and a lower spreading tree on more infertile soils.

### Longevity

Over 150 years.

#### Horticultural Merit and uses

A handsome ornamental tree suitable for larger gardens and use as a street tree. Variable in its shape but generally grows into a rounded, arched shaped tree. Older trees may drop limbs. Tolerates a variety of soil types and is very hardy once established. Tolerant of light frost. Few pest and disease problems associated with this species.

#### Fauna Value

Important tree for fauna with respect to hollow log formation in older specimens which are used by many species of vertebrate fauna for both breeding and roosting. Nectar a major source of food for many species including numerous invertebrates, flying foxes (Grey Headed and Little Red locally) and seed eaten by parrots.

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