

Eucalyptus racemosa — Narrow-leaved Scribbly Gum / Snappy Gum

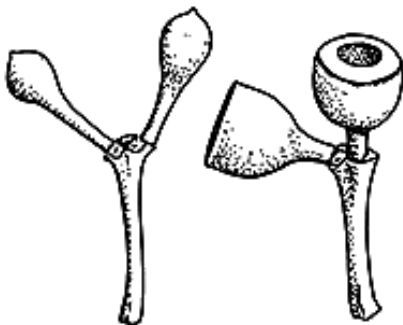
Family:
Myrtaceae

Common Name:
Narrow-leaved Scribbly Gum / Snappy Gum

Distribution:
Woodlands on the central NSW east coast between Sydney harbour and north to Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley. In HSC common on sandy well drained soils derived from Hawkesbury sandstone. In HSC; Community B (93.4 ha), F (1289.6 ha) & G (657.7 ha). *E. racemosa* forms the dominant tree in the latter two vegetation communities.

Derivation of Name:
Eucalyptus, Greek, derived from eu "well" and kalyptos "covered", a reference to the caps covering the flowering buds. ***racemosa***, Latin, meaning having racemes, which is a misnomer, since the species does not have flowers in racemes.

Conservation Status:
Adequately conserved in HSC.



Description:
A small to medium sized tree with a relatively bushy crown of grey/silver coloured foliage in appearance from a distance. This tree may often grow with multiple trunks- a legacy of past bushfire disturbance, however in more sheltered sites it is more likely to have a single trunk than *E. haemastoma*. Grows to around 15m in HSC and as wide. The trunk is smooth barked and white in colour often with varying degrees of insect attack leaving distinctive scribble marks. Narrow leaves are disjunct, concolorous, greyish green, glossy and drooping usually on a red coloured stem; they range from 7–15 cm long and 1–1.5cm in width. Flowers generally from late winter into spring (highly variable), flowers are white. Fruit are very small (compared to *E. haemastoma*) rounded capsules to 5mm long with valves enclosed below a thick, broad flat rim.

Longevity:
Well in excess of 100 years.

Horticultural Merit and uses:
Uncommon in horticulture. Useful street tree since it has a low height. Very hardy once established. Tolerates a wide range of conditions except heavy shade and excess moisture, also adapted to low nutrient soils.

Fauna Value:
Attracts fauna when in flower for its nectar production. Foliage is browsed by Koalas, however not as readily as *E. haemastoma*. Very old trees can develop hollow logs which are utilised by a wide range of Australian fauna. Isolated plantings may fail to attract the characteristic Scribbly Gum Moth.



