

When is a gum not a eucalypt?

Gum trees belong to the Family Myrtaceae within which there are three closely related genera - *Angophora* (13 species), *Corymbia* (113 species) and *Eucalyptus* (600 species).

Distinguishing features:

Angophora:

- * adult leaves are opposite
- * flowers do not have caps
- * flowers occur in 'corymbs'

See *Angophora leiocarpa* along this walk.



Corymbia:

- * adult leaves are alternate
- * flowers have caps (operculum) and occur in 'corymbs'

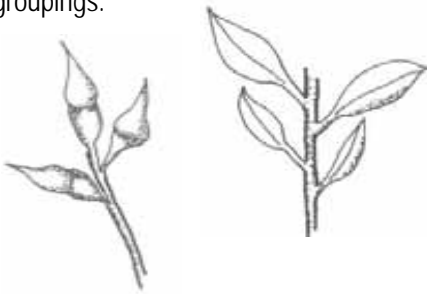
See *Corymbia maculata* along this walk. Please note label bears its original name, *Eucalyptus maculata*.

corymb
arrangement



Eucalyptus:

- * adult leaves are alternate; and
- * flowers have a cap and can occur in numerous groupings.



Eucalyptus means covered bud

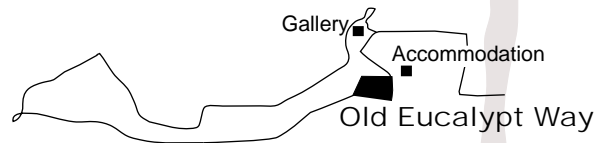


Interesting facts about eucalypts:

- * Affectionately known as gum trees, eucalypt species dominate the Australian landscape from the tropics to the alpine regions
- * The term 'gum' refers to the resin which makes many eucalypt species useful as a building material
- * Major source of honey, making Australia the world's biggest honey producer

Things for you to enjoy:

- * Listen and look for evidence of fauna - nests, nectar and insect eating birds, koala droppings.
- * Crush a leaf from two plants - *Owenia acidula* and a eucalypt. Compare. How do they differ? Why?
- * Note the different types of barks - smooth, flaky, shedding, rough.
- * Observe the different trunk formations - tall and straight, mallee (many trunks arising from a lignotuber at ground level)



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Old Eucalypt Way

It all began right here in 1941 when Dave Gordon planted the first of the many now mature eucalypt trees surrounding you



2009

Myall Park Botanic Garden

400 metre easy walk

Enjoy, wander and discover the treasures of the Old Eucalypt Way

1. *Angophora leiocarpa* (Rusty gum, Sugar gum)

- * Look east past the tank stand to the multistemmed tree. This has suckered after damage
- * A retained species throughout this Garden

2. *Cadellia pentastylis* (Ooline) **Vulnerable**

- * At the back of the car park is an elegant mature tree with twisted branches
- * Small narrow oval leaves. Crush one and smell
- * Pale yellow flowers and orange calyx
- * Vulnerable = at risk of disappearing from the wild within the next 20 to 50 years

3. *Melaleuca phoenicea* (Scarlet bottlebrush)

- * Was *Callistemon phoeniceus* until 2007
- * Many specimens at this location
- * Crimson brush flowers in spring and summer
- * Thick, grey, narrow leaves
- * A most successful species throughout this Garden
- * Native to Western Australia

4. *Eucalyptus erythronema* (Red-flowered mallee)

- * What type of trunk formation does this species have? (Mallee with lignotuber) Note smooth powdery bark varying from white, purple to red
- * Red flowers in bunches at end of stems
- * Native to southern Western Australia

5. *Eucalyptus stowardii* (Fluted horn mallee)

- * Smooth trunk fringed with peeled bark
- * White flowers during winter and summer
- * Rough, fluted cup-shaped fruit. Can you see any on the ground? (Do not remove)
- * Native to Western Australia, drought resistant but frost tender

6. *Brachychiton diversifolium* (Northern kurrajong)

- * 'diversifolium' means diverse leaf shapes – look for these
- * Does not develop a 'bottle' trunk like number 10 *Brachychiton rupestris*
- * Native of northern Queensland

7. *Lysiphillum carronii* (Red bauhinia)

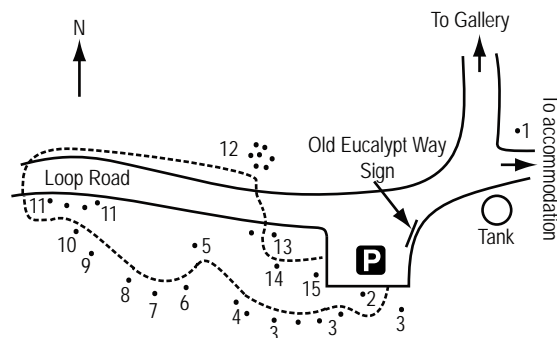
- * Soft, green heart-shaped pendant leaves
- * Spectacular red fruits that gleam in the sun
- * In open spaces has an 'oriental' appearance due to the growth of the young branches
- * Native to Queensland, preferring open sunny positions. Occurs in this region on the richer soils
- * One of the few deciduous species in this Garden.

8. *Eucalyptus salubris* (Gimlet gum)

- * Spectacular coppery fluted trunk. For Dorothy Gordon, the feel of the trunk reminded her of stroking a horse's neck. Try it for yourself!
- * Glossy green leaves
- * Native to southern Western Australia
- * Native orchids (*Cymbidium canaliculatum*) on trunk

9. *Eucalyptus salmonophloia* (Salmon gum)

- * Spectacular coloured smooth bark, white, salmon pink to coppery. Are the branches and the trunk smooth?
 - * Bright green glossy leaves.
 - * Native to southern Western Australia
- Give this tree a hug!



Botany is a changing and evolving science and DNA studies supply new information giving rise to frequent name changes.

10. *Brachychiton rupestris* (Queensland bottle tree)

- * Cream bell shaped flowers in small loose heads in summer
- * Large pods up to 25 mm long
- * Young leaf shoots can be used as a salad vegetable

11. *Eucalyptus eremophila* (Tall sand mallee)

- * Look for a row of them
- * Mallee form. Can you find the lignotuber? What could be the purpose of this formation?
- * Smooth silvery-white trunks
- * Fine leaves
- * Native to southern Western Australia

Cross the Loop Road and head back towards the car park passing more interesting eucalypts.

12. *Owenia acidula* (Emu apple)

- * Compound bright green leaves
- * Bright red, apple-like fruit
- * Propagation by root suckers or by fresh fruit
- * One large tree and numerous small ones
- * Native to New South Wales, Queensland

13. *Eucalyptus orbifolia* (Round-leaved mallee)

- * Discover this small tree's fascinating bark, how would you describe it?
- * White waxy or dull grey-green oval leaves, hence the name of this species
- * Yellow flowers in July to November
- * Native to western and central Australia

14. *Corymbia maculata* (Spotted gum)

- * Was *Eucalyptus maculata* until 1995
- * Distinctive spotted bark on a straight trunk
- * White to cream flowers May to September
- * Native along the east coast from south east Queensland to far eastern Victoria

15. *Eucalyptus stricklandii* (Strickland's gum)

- * Note the box bark – rough lower, smooth upper
- * Tolerates a wide range of soil types
- * Useful for windbreaks and soil erosion control
- * Profuse bright yellow flowers October to April
- * Kalgoorlie district in Western Australia and east of the Fraser Range