

Featured Tree

Waterhousea floribunda (Weeping Lilly Pilly)

Synonyms: Syzygium floribundum F.Muell



Notes

Lustrous, dark green foliage, with pendulous branchlets against the dark bark make for an attractive tree. The crown is typically quite dense.

Although tolerant of extended dry periods, it prefers moist soils to develop best specimens.

Good tree for urban landscapes. Useful species for screens and informal hedges.

Flower and fruit are bird and insect attracting.

Left: Maturing tree in park.

Below left: Finely fissured grey bark.

Below right: Lustrous, dark green foliage

Origin	Widespread in riverine rainforest, often lining stream banks; north from the Hunter Valley extending into Queensland.
Habit:	Medium evergreen tree with a narrow domed form while young developing to a broad domed crown. A mature height of about 10-20 m x 7-15 m wide. Weeping Lilly Pilly can grow to 30 metres in height in its natural habitat although it is usually much smaller in cultivation.
Description:	Leaves lance-shaped to elliptical which taper to a point. Lustrous, dark green, lighter green below, undulate margins. Develops a relatively dense canopy at maturity. White flowers on many-flowered panicles, appear from late spring to mid summer and are followed by round fruits 15 -20 mm in diameter and green in colour, maturing with a pink to red tinge. Finely fissured, dark grey bark.

SPECIES DESCRIPTION SHEET

Tolerances:	Tolerates a wide range of soil conditions, prefers acid soils. Once established it will tolerate extended dry conditions but is at its best when assured water is available. Will tolerate waterlogged conditions. Position away from windy sites. It will grow well in light shade. Moderate to low tolerance for root disturbance/construction impacts. Transplants easily. Prone to scale infestations.
Root space:	Based on 75% of mature size (in urban landscapes) tree would require approximately 113m ² area or 67m ³ root volume (crown projection method).
Availability:	Common
Uses & management:	A widely cultivated tree, well suited to urban landscapes. Good street and open space tree. Prune to central trunk otherwise little pruning is required. Good screen plant but will require pruning/hedging at least twice a year. Fruit litter is not as problematic as other Lilly Pillies. Variety known as 'Sweeper' has more pronounced weeping habit with lush green new growth with more pronounced undulation to margin.

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Ref:

Australian Society for Growing Australian Plants (2008) as seen <http://asgap.org.au/w-flo.html>

National Herbarium of New South Wales (2008) as seen

<http://plantnet.rbg Syd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Waterhousea~floribunda>

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