

Waterhousea floribunda

Synonyms: *Syzygium floribundum* F.Muell (Weeping Lilly Pilly)



Above: Maturing tree in park.



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.

Above: Finely fissured grey bark.

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 10-20m x 7-15m wide. Weeping Lilly Pilly can grow to 30m 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 -20mm in diameter and green in colour; maturing with a pink to red tinge. Finely fissured, dark grey bark.
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.



Above: Lustrous, dark green foliage

Reference

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.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Waterhousea-floribunda>

Featured Tree© Tree Logic Pty Ltd 2008