SPECIES DESCRIPTION

Angophora costata

(Smooth-barked Apple)

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Notes

The Smooth-barked Apple is a large, broad domed tree with pink, grey or cream smooth bark with profuse white flowers in December-January. It is an excellent tree for large gardens, broad streetscapes and public landscapes.

Origin	The Smooth-barked Apple occurs naturally on the sandy soils and stony ridges of southern Queensland forests, extending inland. In NSW it is predominately coastal, extending from Sydney northwards to the central coast. It is common on Hawkesbury sandstone where it can form almost pure stands. Rainfall in these areas varies between 635-1520mm (ANBG, 1978).
Habit	Large, spreading to broad-domed tree that can reach 15 metres to 25 metres in height with similar spread, held on a generally solitary trunk that can become gnarled with age.
Description	Dark green, discolorous, lanceolate leaves, with acute apex, 9-17cm long. New foliage growth with red tips. Large bunches of white flowers held in terminal corymbs during December and January. Followed by ovoid or globose, ribbed fruit capsules. Pink, grey or cream smooth bark shedding in small scales or large flakes with the new salmon-pink bark beneath.
Tolerances	The Smooth-barked Apple can adapt to many soil types, however it does not tolerate waterlogged conditions. It is also frost sensitive when young. High drought tolerance. Few pest and disease problems associated with this species.
Root space	Based on a mature size specimen of Smooth-barked Apple with a trunk diameter between 40cm to 50cm a tree would require approximately $28m^3$ to $34m^3$ root volume (Urban, 2008).
Availability	Stock is readily available in a range of sizes available.
Uses & management	A popular Australian native tree that has excellent ornamental characteristic. The smooth, red-orange to salmon pink bark provides a feature for any streetscape or as a feature tree. Can be a quick growing tree. The timber is brittle and large, older specimens can shed limbs indiscriminately (ANBG, 1978). Undertake formative pruning program to develop good branch architecture. The genus *Angophora* is closely related to *Corymbia* and *Eucalyptus* (family Myrtaceae) but differs in that the leaves are usually opposite, rather than alternate, and the flower buds are covered by overlapping, pointed calyx lobes instead of the operculum or lid on the flower buds of eucalypts (ANBG, 1978).

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Reference

Australian Government (1978). Australian National Botanic Gardens. Growing Native plants., seen at:http://www.anbg.gov.au/gnp/gnp8/ango-cos.html

Urban, J. (2008) *Up by roots. Healthy soils and trees in the built environment*. International Society of Arboriculture.