

Eucalyptus victrix

(Western coolibah, Smooth-barked coolibah)



Notes

A small to medium tree that is relatively untried in urban landscapes. Its striking smooth white trunk and high tolerance of drought and heat suggest a tree of enormous potential for urban landscapes.

Left: Specimen of Western coolibah growing in garden bed at Kings Park and Botanic Garden, Perth.

Photograph: Jeremy Thomas, Arborist, Botanic Gardens & Parks Authority.

Origin	Western Australia and Central Australia, from Murchison River to Port Hedland and east into central Northern Territory. Usually found on flood plains and low lying areas of red clay or clay loam.
Habitat	Small to medium evergreen tree with a spreading form on a single trunk. A mature height of about 5-15m x 5-10m wide.
Description	Dull light green to grey-green lanceolate foliage. Terminally held peduncles in groups of 7 with conical to rounded operculum. Flowers creamy white, Nov–Mar. Bark smooth throughout, white and powdery.
Tolerances	Tolerates heavier soils and temporary inundation. High tolerance of drought. Generally free of any serious pests or diseases.
Root space	Based on 75% of mature size tree would require approximately 98.5m ² area or 59m ³ root volume (crown projection method).
Availability	Uncommon in cultivation. Seed available.
Uses & management	Potential for use as a small specimen tree suited to dry conditions. The startling smooth white trunk would highlight any garden. Resistant to major pests. Potential as street and open space tree. ANPSA (2009) state that a dwarf form of Western coolibah can be found on the floodplains around the Murchison River and has potential for a small feature tree. The tree grows readily from seed.

Reference

Australian Native Plants Society (Australia) – ANPSA (2009) *Eucalyptus victrix*. Available at <http://asgap.org.au/e-vic.html> [Accessed 11/2/09]

EUCLID – Eucalypts of Australia. Third Edition 2006, CD-ROM, Centre for Plant Biodiversity Research in assoc. with CSIRO Publishing

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