

## NZ Myrtaceae Key - Online edition

# *Eucalyptus macarthurii* H.Deane & Maiden

### Common Names

Camden woolybutt, Paddy's River box

### Origin

Australia: Central and Southern Tablelands of New South Wales.

### Cultivation

In New Zealand widely cultivated as a landscape tree of parks and gardens, and for shelter; occasionally naturalised from nearby planted specimens.

### Distribution

Scattered records from throughout the North Island and South Island of New Zealand.

### Distinguishing Features

- Tree to 40 m tall with rough, coarsely fibrous, often hard, grey, bark on trunk and larger branches, fissured longitudinally at the base of large trees; small branches either rough or smooth greyish or white, with ribbons of imperfectly shed bark often hanging in the crown.
- Adult leaves green, glossy, same colour above and below, alternate, stalked, narrowly lanceolate to sickle-shaped, to 180 mm long and 25 mm wide, base tapering to stalk.
- Conspicuous juvenile leaves that are opposite, stalkless, broadly lanceolate to ovate to heart-shaped or triangular, to 70 mm long and 45 mm wide, stem-clasping, dull, grey-green or green, upper side and lower side not the same colour. Juvenile leaves often occur on the edges of the crown after foliage damage, conspicuously opposite and broad.
- Flowers in clusters of 7, in leaf axils; mature buds are stalkless or short-stalked, green to yellow, ovate, small (to 5 mm long and 3.5 mm wide), bud cap conical to narrowly pointed, flowers white.
- Fruit are small woody capsules that are shed readily, stalkless or short-stalked, bell-shaped to funnel-shaped (to 5 mm long and 6 mm wide), disc raised above the capsule rim, valves 3 or 4, projecting above the rim or near rim level.
- Crushed leaves are considered by some to smell of curry.

### Habit

Tree to 40 m tall.

### Bark and Stem/Trunk

Bark rough, fissured longitudinally at the base of large trees, coarsely fibrous, often hard, grey, on trunk and larger branches; either continuing rough to the smaller branches, or smooth, white, grey or greyish-brown on smaller branches (<8 cm diameter); shedding imperfectly from the smooth white branches in long ribbons, which often remain hanging in the crown. Hairs and adventitious roots absent. Young stem rounded in cross-section, often warty.

### Leaves

Adult leaves alternate, stalked, blade narrowly lanceolate to sickle-shaped, 90–180 mm long, 10–25 mm wide, base tapering to stalk; glossy, green, same colour above and below, hairless; side-veins at an angle greater than 45° to midrib, vein reticulation moderate to dense, intramarginal vein parallel to and close to margin, oil glands present; leaf stalk 10–20 mm long.

Juvenile leaves opposite, stalkless, broadly lanceolate to ovate to heart-shaped or triangular, 35–70 mm long, 25–45 mm wide, stem-clasping, dull, grey-green or green, upper side and lower side not the same colour.

### Flowers

Flowers in clusters of 7, in leaf axils, stalk of cluster angular, 4–10 mm long. Mature buds are free, stalkless or short-stalked (stalk 0–2 mm long), ovate (2.5–5 mm long, 2–3.5 mm wide), green to yellow, bud cap conical to narrowly pointed (2–3 mm long); flowers (stamens) white; in mature open flowers, petals and sepals absent. Main flowering period: summer to autumn.

### Fruit

Capsules woody, stalkless or short-stalked (stalks 0–2 mm long), bell-shaped to funnel-shaped, small, 2–5 mm long, 3–6 mm wide, disc raised above the capsule rim, valves 3 or 4, projecting above the rim or near rim level.

### Similar Species

*Eucalyptus viminalis* and *E. macarthurii* have similar foliage, both are likely to have some ribbons in the crown. However, the bark of the main trunk of *E. macarthurii* is always rough, whereas *E. viminalis* in most cases has a conspicuously white trunk and branches, with a short stocking of rough bark. *Eucalyptus viminalis* usually has buds and capsules in 3s, whereas *E. macarthurii* has smaller buds and capsules in 7s. Two less common subspecies of *E. viminalis* have buds and capsules in 7s.

### Notes

*Eucalyptus* is a genus of nearly 800 species, most of which are endemic to Australia, with a few species extending to parts of Malesia and as far north as the Philippines.

## External Links

- [EUCLID](#)
- [Flora of Australia](#)
- [Flora of New Zealand Online](#)
- [GBIF](#)
- [iNaturalist NZ](#)
- [NZPCN](#)
- [PlantNET: New South Wales Flora Online](#)
- [Plants of South Eastern New South Wales](#)
- [VicFlora: Flora of Victoria](#)

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