

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flowers. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Leaves and 'seeds'. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Trunk. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Tree. Photographer Malcolm Storey, England

## Common name

European Ash

## Family

Oleaceae

## Where found

Garden **escape**. North from the Wollongong district. Canberra. Occasionally elsewhere.

## Notes

**Introduced deciduous** tree to 40 m high. Bark smooth and pale grey on young trees, becoming thick and fissured on older trees. Winter buds at the tips of the branches dull black. Leaves opposite each other, 25–42 cm long; **compound**, with 7–15 leaflets each 3–11 cm long, 15–45 mm wide, tips pointed, or rounded with a narrow abrupt point, surfaces hairless except for the lower part of the **midrib** on lower surface, margins coarsely toothed. Leaves have no marked autumn colour, often falling when dull green. Male and female flowers on the same tree, or on different trees. Flowers small, with 0 **petals**, 0 **sepals**, female flowers dark purple, in many-flowered branched clusters. Flowers appear before the leaves, in spring. 'Seeds' with one **wing**, brown when mature, 2-5 cm long overall.

VICFLORA description: <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/fc2622ed-46f4-4a2b-9907-9917b14585ca> (accessed 16 April 2021)

Wikipedia description: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraxinus\\_excelsior](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fraxinus_excelsior) (accessed 16 April 2021)

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