

# *Eucalyptus beyeriana*

## Beyer's ironbark

### Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Adnataria | Terminales | Rhodoxylon | Concolores

### Nomenclature

**Eucalyptus beyeriana** L.A.S.Johnson & K.D. Hill, *Telopea* 4(1) 83 (1990).

T: NSW, Central Coast, Nortons Basin, about 2.5 km NW of Wallacia, *T.James 889*, *W.Bishop & C.Dunn*, 2 Sep. 1987; holo: NSW; iso: CANB.

(The name *E. beyeriana* L.A.S.Johnson & K.D.Hill was given for a new type specimen because the type specimen of *E. beyeri* was considered to have "anthers intermediate in morphology between those of *E. beyeriana* and *E. crebra* F. Muell. [and].. Since the type is thus apparently from a plant of hybrid origin, the name *E. beyeri* R.T. Baker can no longer be applied in its widely-used sense, and a new name is required." (Johnson & K.D.Hill (1990)). One of the authors of EUCLID (the late M.I.H. Brooker) viewed Baker's type specimen and disputed this interpretation of stamen and anther morphology. However the name *E. beyeriana* is accepted by Australian Plant Census (2006) and that is now followed in EUCLID.)

*Eucalyptus panda* subsp. *illaquens* L.A.S.Johnson, *Contr. New South Wales Natl. Herb.* 3: 120 (1962). T: 2 miles [c. 3.2 km] E of Munghorn, NSW, 22 Nov. 1952, *C.K.Ingram NSW 54103*; holo: NSW; iso: CANB, K.

*Eucalyptus paniculata* var. *angustifolia* Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 3: 212 (1867). T: Parramatta, NSW, *W.Woolfs s.n.*; holo: K; iso: NSW.

### Description

**Tree** to 20 m tall.

**Ironbark** throughout, dark grey to black. Forming a lignotuber.

**Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm):** stem rounded or square in cross-section; juvenile leaves opposite for a few pairs, petiolate, becoming alternate, lanceolate, 5.5–9 cm long, 1–1.5 cm wide, green.

**Adult leaves** alternate, petiole 0.8–2 cm long; blade narrowly lanceolate to lanceolate, 7–14 cm long, 0.7–2 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, concolorous, dull, green to grey-green, side-veins greater than 45° to midrib, densely to very densely reticulate, intramarginal vein parallel to and just within margin or well-removed from it, oil glands island or intersectional.

**Inflorescence** terminal compound, (rarely axillary compound in axils below this), peduncles 0.5–1 cm long, buds 7 per umbel, pedicels 0.2–0.7 cm long. **Mature buds** ovoid to obovoid to diamond-shaped, 0.4–0.5 cm long, 0.2–0.3 cm wide, usually green, scar present, operculum conical to rounded and narrower than hypanthium, stamens inflexed, with outer staminodes, anthers adnate, positioned obliquely at filament tip, cuboid, dehiscent by terminal pores, style long, stigma pin-head, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 4 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white.

**Fruit** on pedicels 0.3–0.7 cm long, cup-shaped, obconical or truncate-globose, 0.3–0.6 cm long, 0.3–0.6 cm wide, disc descending, valves 3 or 4, near rim level or enclosed.

**Seeds** brown, 0.8–1.5 mm long, flattened-ovoid, often pointed at one end, dorsal surface pitted, hilum ventral.

**Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10):** cotyledons reniform to oblong; stems square in cross-section; leaves always petiolate, opposite for ca 5 nodes then alternate, narrowly lanceolate to linear, 3–8.5 cm long, 0.5–2.5 cm wide, base tapering, green.

### Flowering Time

Flowering has been recorded in January, April, May, August, September, October and November.

### Notes



A small ironbark tree usually of low stature occurring from about Nowra on the south coast of New South Wales north and north-west to the Pilliga Scrub. It is characterised by its small, dull, grey-green leaves, ovoid or diamond-shaped buds, obconical to cup-shaped fruit and linear to narrow lanceolate juvenile leaves.

*Eucalyptus beyeriana* is closest to *E. panda*, *E. virens* and *E. sicilifolia*. All four species have relatively small buds and fruit and linear to narrow lanceolate juvenile leaves. *E. virens* and *E. sicilifolia* are easily separated by having glossy green adult leaves (dull green to grey-green in *E. beyeri*). *E. panda* differs only slightly by having slightly larger fruit (0.5–0.7 cm in *E. panda* and 0.4–0.6 cm in *E. beyeriana*).

Other closely related ironbarks are *E. ancophila*, *E. caleyi*, *E. fusiformis*, *E. dura*, *E. tetrapleura*, *E. suffulgens*, *E. melanoleuca* and *E. corynodes*. They all differ by having larger juvenile leaves and barrel-shaped to funnel-shaped fruit (*E. beyeriana* with linear to narrow lanceolate juveniles and obconical to cup-shaped fruit). *E. ancophila*, *E. dura*, *E. suffulgens* and *E. melanoleuca* can be further separated by having glossy green adult leaves. *E. tetrapleura* differs further by having four-sided fruit.

Within its area of occurrence there are other ironbarks which may be confused with *E. beyeriana*. They are *E. crebra*, *E. fibrosa* subsp. *fibrosa*, *E. fibrosa* subsp. *nubila*, *E. melanophloia* and *E. siderophloia*, all of which differ in having buds with stamens all fertile and irregularly flexed.

*Eucalyptus sideroxylon* differs by having buds that hold the outer operculum into maturity and both the inner and outer operculum shed together at anthesis (no operculum scar).

### **MORE ABOUT IRONBARKS**

#### Origin of Name

*Eucalyptus beyeriana*: after George Beyer (1865?–flor. 1920). George Beyer was an herbarium assistant at the Sydney Technological Museum from 1890 until 1909 when he was promoted to the position of clerk, a position he held until 1921. He is acknowledged in *A Research on Eucalypts* by Baker and Smith (1920), for "much clerical assistance".

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