

# *Eucalyptus chapmaniana*

## Bogong gum

### Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Maidenaria | Euryotae | Orbiculares

### Nomenclature

***Eucalyptus chapmaniana*** Cameron, *Victorian Naturalist* 64: 52 (1947).

T: State Electricity Commission private road to Pretty Valley, 2–3 miles [c. 3–5 km] above Bogong, Vic., 2 Mar. 1947, *A.K.Cameron s.n.*; holotype: MEL; isotype: BRI, K.

### Description

**Tree** to 35 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

**Bark** on trunk partly or completely rough, fibrous and finely fissured longitudinally grey or brown-grey, branches smooth, light brown to creamy-white or pale grey, with long ribbons of decorticated bark in the branches, branchlets sometimes glaucous.

**Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm):** stem rounded in cross-section, glaucous or non-glaucous; juvenile leaves opposite and sessile for many pairs, orbicular to ovate, 2–9.5 cm long, 1.8–7 cm wide, margin entire or occasionally crenulate, green, blue-green or slightly glaucous.

**Adult leaves** alternate, petiole 1.3–3.7 cm long; blade lanceolate to falcate, 14–30 cm long, 1.7–4.8 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, concolorous, dull, green to blue-green, side-veins greater than 45° to midrib, moderately to densely reticulate, intramarginal vein parallel to and just within margin, oil glands mostly island.

**Inflorescence** axillary unbranched, peduncles 0.5–0.9 cm long, buds 3 (rarely 7) per umbel, pedicels 0.2–0.3 cm long. **Mature buds** clavate or diamond-shaped, 0.7–0.9 cm long, 0.5–0.6 cm wide, green to yellow or glaucous, scar present, operculum conical to beaked, stamens inflexed, anthers cuboid or cuneate, versatile, dorsifixed, dehiscent by longitudinal slits (non-confluent), style long, stigma blunt or tapered, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 4 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white.

**Fruit** sessile or on pedicels to 0.3 cm long, obconical or campanulate, 0.5–0.9 cm long, 0.7–1 cm wide, usually glaucous, disc conspicuously raised and convex, vertical or oblique, valves 3 or 4, exserted.

**Seeds** black, brown or grey, 1–3 mm long, flattened-ovoid, often pointed at one end, usually lacunose, dorsal surface smooth, hilum ventral.

**Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10):** cotyledons bilobed; stems rounded in cross-section, slightly warty, usually glaucous; leaves sessile, opposite for many pairs, orbicular to cordate, 1–6 cm long, 0.5–5.3 cm wide, base rounded to tapering, margin entire or subcrenulate, apex rounded to pointed, glaucous or grey-green.

### Flowering Time

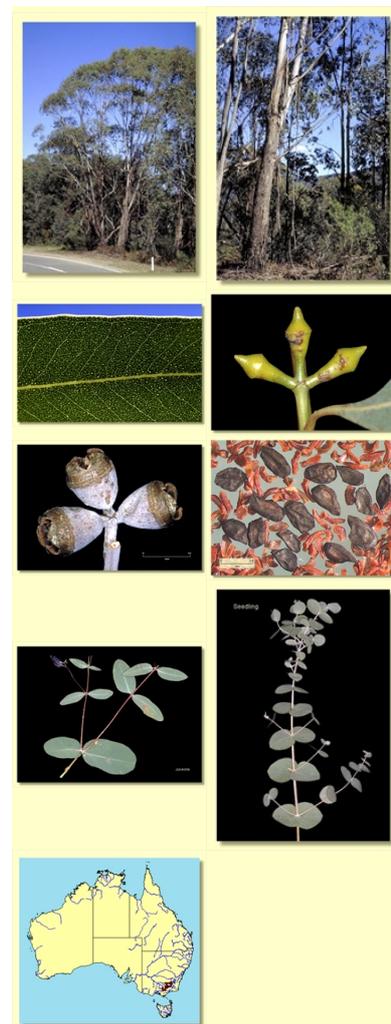
Flowering has been recorded in January, February and March.

### Notes

*Eucalyptus chapmaniana* is an uncommon small to medium-sized tree sporadically distributed in montane and subalpine eastern Victoria and far south-eastern New South Wales.

*E. chapmaniana* is distinguished from other common 3-budded species in the mountain forests, viz. *E. globulus* subsp. *bicostata*, *E. dalrympleana*, *E. rubida* and *E. viminalis*, by the rough bark over most of the trunk, smooth branches shedding bark in very long ribbons, and bluish green crown. It has the opposite, orbicular to ovate seedling leaves of *E. rubida* and *E. dalrympleana* which further distinguish it from *E. viminalis*, which is more likely to occur in valleys than on well-drained slopes preferred by *E. chapmaniana*. It differs from *E. glaucescens* in having a more obconical fruit with a conspicuous raised disc and exserted valves.

*Eucalyptus chapmaniana* belongs in *Eucalyptus* subgenus *Symphyomyrtus* section *Maidenaria*, a large group of species more or less restricted to south-eastern Australia, characterised by bilobed cotyledons, simple axillary inflorescences, buds with two opercula, stamens with versatile anthers and flattened seeds with a ventral hilum. Within this section, *E. chapmaniana*, with nine other species, forms series



*Orbiculares* having orbicular to ovate juvenile leaves opposite for many nodes, a blue-green crown, buds in threes. Series *Orbiculares* is confined to far south-eastern New South Wales, eastern Victoria and Tasmania.

### Origin of Name

*Eucalyptus chapmaniana*: after Wilfrid Dinsey Chapman (1891–1955). Wilfred Chapman had a long and distinguished career as an electrical engineer. He also had a keen interest in botany and was an associate of the Royal Society of Victoria. He was first to discover the tree which now bears his name.

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