# Eucalyptus fulgens

## Classification

Eucalyptus | Symphyomyrtus | Maidenaria | Triangulares | Acaciiformes

#### Nomenclature

Eucalyptus fulgens K.Rule, Muelleria 9: 136 (1996).

T: 0.9 km along Red Hill Road from the intersection of Albers and Mainstar roads, Upper Beaconsfield, Victoria, 20 Jun. 1994, *K.Rule 9464*; holo: MEL.

## Description

Tree to 20 m tall. Forming a lignotuber.

**Bark** rough usually to small branches, thick, fibrous, furrowed longitudinally, dark-grey; branches < 8cm diameter sometimes smooth.

**Juvenile growth (coppice or field seedlings to 50 cm):** stem rounded or square in crosssection, warty or smooth; juvenile leaves opposite and sessile to shortly petiolate for 6 to 12 nodes then becoming alternate, elliptical to lanceolate, 4–10.5 cm long, 1.8–3.5 cm wide, base usually tapering to petiole, blue-green and crenulate at first but soon green and with entire margin.

Adult leaves alternate, petiole 1–3.5 cm long; blade lanceolate to falcate, 9–24.5 cm long, 1.3– 4 cm wide, base tapering to petiole, concolorous, glossy, green, side-veins usually greater than 45° to midrib, moderately to densely reticulate, intramarginal vein parallel to and well removed from margin, oil glands mostly island.

**Inflorescence** axillary unbranched, peduncles 0.2–0.9 cm long, buds 7 per umbel, pedicels 0.2–0.4 cm long. **Mature buds** ovoid to fusiform, 0.4–0.6 cm long, 0.3–0.4 cm wide, green, scar present, operculum conical, stamens inflexed, anthers cuboid to oblong, versatile, dorsifixed, dehiscing by longitudinal slits (non-confluent), style long, stigma blunt, locules 3 or 4, the placentae each with 4 vertical ovule rows. Flowers white.

**Fruit** pedicellate (pedicels 0.1–0.4 cm long), hemispherical or cup-shaped, 0.3–0.4 cm long, 0.4–0.6 cm wide, disc level, or disc raised-convex, annular or oblique, valves 3 or 4, near rim level or slightly exserted.

Seeds dark brown to black or grey, 1.2–2 mm long, ovoid or flattened-ovoid, often pointed at one end, surface more or less smooth, dorsal surface usually lacunose, hilum ventral.

## Cultivated seedlings (measured at ca node 10): cotyledons bilobed to oblong; stems rounded

or square in cross-section, smooth or slightly warty; leaves sessile, opposite and elliptic for ca 7 to 10 nodes, becoming alternate, shortly petiolate, ovate, 4–7 cm long, 1.2–3.2 cm wide, base rounded to tapering, margin entire or subcrenulate, apex rounded to pointed, dull, green.

## **Flowering Time**

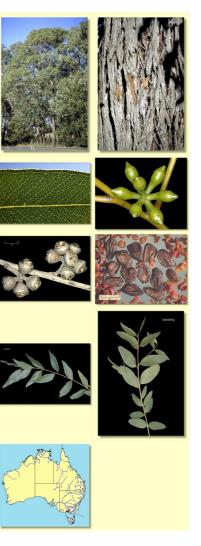
Flowering has been recorded in January and March.

#### Notes

A small to medium-sized tree of restricted distribution on heavy soils over sandstone east of Melbourne, Victoria, from east of Healesville and Woori Yallock to the Latrobe Valley near Driffield. *E. fulgens* has deeply furrowed rough bark like an ironbark and glossy green adult leaves.

*Eucalyptus fulgens* 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. fulgens* and five other species form series *Acaciiformes* diagnosed by the rough bark, juvenile leaves that are soon alternate, glandular adult leaves, non-swampy habitat, and small, rather flat-topped fruit. Three of these species, *E. fulgens, E. aromaphloia* and *E. ignorabilis*, are restricted to Victoria and far south-eastern New South Wales. The latter two species have dull adult leaves, not glossy. The remaining species in series *Acaciiformes* are *E. acaciaformis*, *E. nicholii and E. corticosa*, all from north-eastern New South Wales and all having linear-lanceolate seedling leaves.

## Origin of Name



Eucalyptus fulgens: Latin fulgens, bright, shining, referring to the green leaves.

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