

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Male catkins. Cultivated plant. Photographer Roger Spencer, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Female catkins. Cultivated plant. Photographer Roger Spencer, © 2021 Royal Botanic Gardens Board, Melbourne, Vic



Trunk. Photographer Miroslav Dertl, unknown place



Tree. Photographer Georgi Kunev, Bulgaria

## Common name

Silver Birch

## Family

Betulaceae

## Where found

Sometimes **naturalised**. Mainly tablelands. Doubtfully naturalised in the ACT. Occasionally elsewhere.

## Notes

**Introduced deciduous** tree to about 20 m high, sometimes multistemmed. Bark smooth, silvery white, shedding in sheets, not shedding freely. In older trees, the bark thickens, becoming irregular, dark and rugged. Branchlets usually weeping, hairless, sometimes sticky. Leaves **alternating** down the stems, 3–7.5 cm long, 15–60 mm wide, upper surface hairless, shiny green, lower surface densely **glandular**; margins toothed. Male and female flowers on the same tree. Flowers with 2–4 scale-like **sepals**, 0 **petals**, in many-flowered **catkins** with numerous overlapping **bracts**, each **bract subtending** 3 flowers. Female catkins 10–30 mm long, 8–10 mm wide, weeping. .

VICFLORA description: <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/0d2262da-8f24-44b4-8f35-3508367bdb16> (accessed 6 February 2021)

Description partly based on the Wikipedia description: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Betula\\_pendula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Betula_pendula) (accessed 6 February 2021)

Author: Betty Wood.

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