

# Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Flower clusters and leaves. Photographer Sam Kieschnick, Texas, USA



Opening seed cases. Photographer Zoya Akulova,



Tree. Photographer Linda Jo Conn, Texas, USA

## Common name

Chinese Tallowood, Chinese Tallow, Chinese Tallowtree

## Family

Euphorbiaceae

## Where found

Urban bushland, roadsides, and near streams. Illawarra and Sydney areas north from Appin.

## Notes

**Introduced deciduous** tree to 15 m high. Bark grey to brownish, longitudinally fissured. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, mostly 3–8 cm long, 30–75 mm wide, dark green above, paler below, becoming yellow, orange, purple and red in autumn before falling. Margins **entire**; tips pointed, stalk with 2 small **glands** at the tip. Trees with only male flowers, or male and female flowers on the same tree. Male flowers yellow-green, with 3 '**petals**' each about 0.5 mm long. Female flowers (when present) with '**petals**' about 2 mm long. Flowers in narrow elongated clusters 8–14 cm long. Flowering: November to February. Seed-cases 3-lobed, green when young, maturing to black. Seeds whitish, about 5 x 7 mm, up to 3 per seed case.

General Biosecurity Duty all NSW.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Triadica-sebifera> (accessed 10 February, 2021)

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