Callitris intratropica R.T. Baker & H.G. Sm.

**Family:**
Cupressaceae


**Common name:**
Cypress Pine; Pine, Cypress

**Stem**
Grows into a small tree usually less than 30 cm dbh, but also flowers and fruits as a shrub. Blaze aromatic, emitting a piney odour.

**Leaves**
Leaves scale-like, sessile, triangular, attached by a broad base and arranged in whorls of three.

**Flowers**
Inflorescence cones only about 3 mm long.

**Fruit**
Cones (resembling capsules) about 15-19 mm diam. Seeds numerous, each seed 2-winged, about 5-7 x 3-5 mm. Testa thick and woody. Embryo about 3 x 1 mm.

**Seedlings**
Cotyledons linear, about 12-20 x 1 mm, sessile, longitudinally veined or without any obvious venation. Cotyledons longer and wider than the first leaves. First pair of leaves opposite, next set of leaves in whorls of four. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves in whorls of four, each leaf shorter and narrower than the cotyledons. Leaves about 5-14 mm long and less than 1 mm wide, sessile. Seed germination time 19 to 62 days.

**Distribution and Ecology**
Endemic to Australia, occurs in WA, NT, CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 900 m. Usually grows in open forest but also found in healthy forest, vine thickets, monsoon forest and on rainforest edges.

**Natural History & Notes**
The taxonomy of Callitris still poses some difficulties, and in WA is included in *C. columellaris*. Usually found as a component of open forest but sometimes found on rainforest margins or in closed forest on old sand dunes.

The timber is very aromatic, resistant to termites and splits quite readily into fine chips or kindling for lighting cooking fires.

This species produces an essential oil in the stem which is apparently highly regarded.

Wood specific gravity 0.67. Cause et al. (1989).

**Synonyms**

**RFK Code**
1081