

Eucalyptus macrorhyncha subsp. *macrorhyncha* red stringybark

subgenus: *Eucalyptus*; section: *Capillulus*; series: *Pachyphloius*

AUTHORITY: *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* F.Muell. ex Benth., *Flora Australiensis* 3, 207 (1867).

Type: Macalister River, Vic., *F. Mueller* (syn: MEL); near Mt Ligar, Vic., Jan. 1863, *F. Mueller* (syn: MEL); Avon River, Vic., Mar. 1854, *F. Mueller* (syn: K, MEL); Newfield, Melbourne, Vic., 9 May 1856, *F. Adamson* 471 (syn: K).

NAME: From the Greek *macros* meaning 'large' and *rhynchos* meaning 'snout or beak', referring to the beaked operculum (bud cap).

DESCRIPTION: Tree, 7 to 30 metres tall, usually single-stemmed, forming a lignotuber. Bark rough throughout, stringy, coarsely fissured, grey-brown to red-brown. Juvenile leaves scabrid (rough with short bristles), dull and green. Adult leaves lanceolate, 12 to 25 mm wide, glossy and green. Buds and fruits on peduncles 7 to 16 mm long; occurring in groups of 7 to 11. Flower buds on pedicels, with a beaked operculum. Flowers white, occurring mainly in summer and autumn. Fruits on pedicels, top-shaped, 7 to 12 mm wide, with a broad ascending disc and exerted valves.

DISTRIBUTION & HABITAT: A widespread stringybark species, occurring from the Stawell area eastwards through the locally drier parts of the Great Dividing Range (especially the northern and western slopes) to Gippsland and northwards into New South Wales as far as the Inverell area. A very disjunct, small population also occurs near Sevenhill in South Australia. *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* grows on well-drained and often stony hills, slopes and ridges in woodland vegetation with species such as *E. blakelyi*, *E. nortonii* and *E. polyanthemos*, or sometimes in forest vegetation on somewhat higher rainfall sites.

CULTIVATION & USES: Occasionally cultivated for broadscale planting, where it is useful for shade and farm forestry. An important honey tree in Victoria. *Eucalyptus macrorhyncha* requires a well-drained soil and is useful for planting on rocky or stony sites. The species is not suited to limestone-based soils and is susceptible to waterlogging.

NOTES: A distinctive stringybark species because of the beaked operculum to the bud, the broad, raised disc to the fruit and the buds and fruits having peduncles and pedicels.

Eucalyptus macrorhyncha subsp. *macrorhyncha* is distinguished from subsp. *canonnii* (Capertee stringybark), of the Rylestone area in central N.S.W., in the smaller, non-angular buds and the smaller, non-flared fruits (fruit flared at the base of the disc in subsp. *canonnii*).

