



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Taxodium distichum* (TAd)

Common Name: Bald cypress, Swamp cypress

Species Description

- Deciduous
- Pyramidal shaped conifer with tapered trunk buttressed at the base; often seen with woody protuberances ('knees') from the roots up to 1 metre above the ground
- Attractive reddish-brown bark
- Fine, light green feathery foliage in spring, changing to rich brown at leaf fall in autumn
- Insignificant flowers
- Globe shaped cones

Height and width

20 metres tall by 10 metres wide

Species origin

USA, from Delaware to Florida

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 45\text{m}^3$
- Useful as a feature tree for wet areas, for example in groups around lake edges, and in parks and open spaces
- Not suitable for urban street tree planting or in town centres

Use considerations

- Grows best in Canberra in irrigated areas or areas of good soil moisture
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and moderate drought tolerance once established
- Prefers damp/wet locations such as lake edges, but this is not essential for satisfactory growth, however irrigation can be beneficial
- Prefers full sun
- [Long lived](#)
- Slow growth rate
- Medium flammability
- Produces pollen and seeds; attracts birds

Examples in Canberra

Lake Burley Griffin at Nerang Pool, Commonwealth Park and Black Mountain Peninsular; Lake Ginninderra at Diddams Close Park, Bimbi Beach and a superb example at the Yarralumla Nursery wholesale building

Availability

Commercially available

